

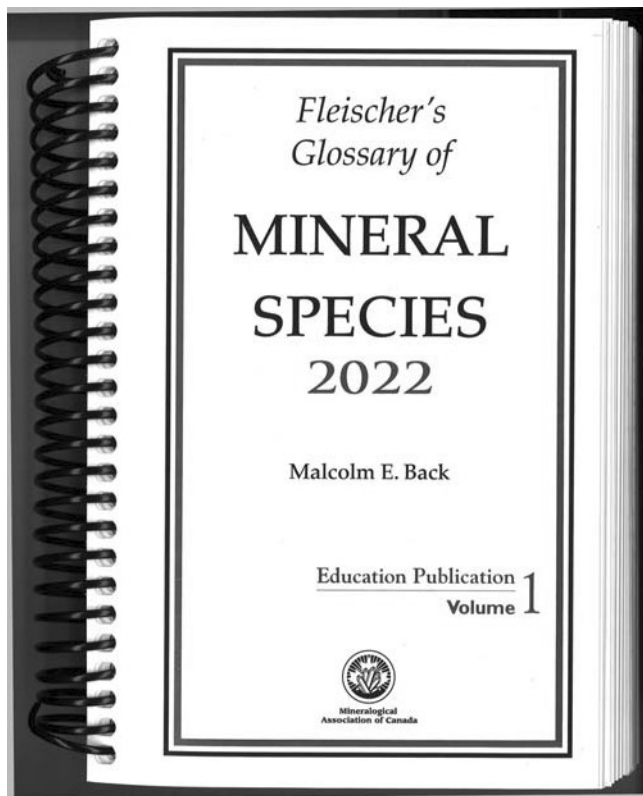
BOOK REVIEWS

Fleischer's Glossary of Mineral Species 2022

By Malcolm E. Back

This latest edition of Fleischer's Glossary has the familiar feel of an old friend, admittedly much heavier with age, as well as sporting a new production organization. The Mineralogical Record is no longer the producer, but rather the Mineralogical Association of Canada has fortunately taken on the mantle.

The first edition, published back in 1971, was a skinny affair, compiled by Michael Fleischer. It was a mere 103 pages, plus a 17 page appendix, perfect bound, and relatively inexpensive, listing just accepted mineral names and chemical formula. Under Joe Mandarino, it evolved into "the species collectors' bible", with little boxes to check adjacent to each mineral name, with more and more data added.



The current edition is weighty, spiral bound, and 431 pages! There are seven pages of journal abbreviations, as well as brief discussions about groups and series. Each mineral now has chemical formula, crystal system, type locality, at least one published reference, and an indication of what mineral group/supergroup to which it belongs. The explosion of new minerals has contributed to the 2022 edition's size, but so has the amount of data presented for each mineral. Thankfully, that little box to check is still there, too.

Other improvements include recently discredited mineral names, those minerals that are considered as questionable, six pages (!) of approved but as yet unpublished new minerals, and an astounding 107 page appendix devoted to the latest rendering of mineral groups, as approved by the IMA.

I am delighted that MAC has taken over the publication of the glossary, presented to the world as their Education Publication Volume 1. The 2022 edition is available from the Mineralogical Association of Canada via their website for \$45.00 (Cnd in Canada, US\$ in USA) plus shipping: (<https://www.mineralogicalassociation.ca/publications/education-publications/fleichers-glossary-of-mineral-species-2022/>), and MAC members qualify for a 20% discount, or from the Mineralogical Record (https://mineralogicalrecord.com/book_list/fleichers-glossary-of-mineral-species-2022/) at the same \$45.00 plus shipping price.

While one might argue that on-line resources such as Mindat.org have rendered paper unnecessary, I still find comfort in having a quick reference at my side without the need of a computer. The Glossary is a viable and useful reference work, easily carried to shows, and an essential tool when curating or cataloging one's collection.

Tony Nikischer

Mineral Identification Manual *Clues from Their Geological Provenance*

By George W. & Susan M. Robinson
and Jeffrey R. Chiarenzelli

This is the Mineralogical Association of Canada's Volume 2 in its newly launched Education Publication Series. Like Fleischer's Glossary 2022 (which was Volume 1), this title is a MAC exclusive, and an important step in expanding MAC's outreach to collectors. Numbering just over 200 pages, it is spiral bound in an 8 x10 inch format, with glossy cover and color images throughout. The work takes a new approach to an old issue of mineral identification, adding the logical and critically important step of adding geological context to the usual equation of common physical properties.

In the opening five-page preface, the authors note that understanding the physical and chemical conditions operative in different geological environments enables one to predict which minerals are likely to be present in a given rock, and which will not. This aspect of mineral formation understanding is typically missing in virtually all previous "process of elimination" attempts to provide collectors with tables of physical properties in order to reach a tentative identification of an unknown mineral.

The authors have compiled 15 different geological environments, resulting in 15 different physical property tables that
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