

Special Issue

Thallium: Mineralogy, Geochemistry and Ore Processes

Message from the Guest Editors

Thallium ($Z = 81$) is either chalcophile or lithophile. It is widely distributed within the Earth's continental crust and is more abundant than other well-known elements, such as Ag, Sb, and Hg. Nonetheless, its availability is limited due to its tendency to substitute alkaline metals in rock-forming minerals. Consequently, the occurrence of thallium minerals or the presence of high-thallium concentrations within rocks should be considered as exceptional. Such occurrences are of outstanding significance for both the environment and global economy. Indeed, thallium is toxic to living organisms, being more toxic to humans than other heavy elements. Notwithstanding its toxicity, thallium is a high-valued element (7200 \$-kg⁻¹ in 2015), owing to its applications in current and future high-tech industry. Therefore, it is fascinating chemistry, its high toxicity, and its increasing economic value make the element thallium and its compounds of particular interest and of environmental concern.

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Minerals welcomes submissions that report basic and applied research in mineralogy. Research areas of traditional interest are mineral deposits, mining, mineral processing and environmental mineralogy. The journal footprint also includes novel uses of elemental and isotopic analyses of minerals for petrology, geochronology and thermochronology, thermobarometry, ore genesis and sedimentary provenance. Contributions are encouraged in emerging research areas such as applications of quantitative mineralogy to the oil and gas, manufacturing, forensic science, climate change, geohazard and health sectors.

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