11 - Type minerals from Bolivia

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Bolivia is since the time of the spanish conquerors a region with intensive mining activities. Since the spanish silver boom in Potosi from 1545 also elements like tin, copper, tungsten, iron and zinc are produced from these ores. These extremeley rich mines led to the finding of even new minrals. Some of these are sulfosalts or other complex sulfide minerals. But also some secondary minerals of fluorides, arsenates, phosphates and hydroxides were described. Nowadays the rich lithium reserves in the Salar de Uyuni are also in the focus for further improvement due to the high demand for lithium in industry, but not producing new mineral type specimen. These high mining activities made it possible to find many different ores and also nice mineral specimen. Bolivia even has a lot of type localities for new minerals which were first found there and described from these mines in Bolivia. One oft he most well known is the polymorph of ZnS – wurtzite which was originally described from Oruro. A summarizing table of more than 40 new minerals described from Bolivia is given in table 1.

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Table 1. Minerals describe from Bolivia

 $Fe^{2+}Al_{6}(PO_{4})_{4}(OH)_{8} \cdot 4H_{2}O$ Aheylite

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