TAMARUGITE

NaAl(SO₄)₂•6H₂O

An uncommon secondary mineral usually formed by acidic sulfate-bearing solutions reacting with alkalic aluminum-bearing rocks. Northern Peninsula.

Iron County: Homer-Wauseca mine, Iron River: As a massive white efflorescence intergrown with pickeringite and minor sideronatrite (q.v.); probably a post-mining mineral. Verified by X-ray diffraction and energy dispersion X-ray spectrometry. This is the first reported occurrence of tamarugite from Michigan.

UPDATE FROM: Robinson, G.W., and Carlson, S.M., 2013, Mineralogy of Michigan Update: published online by A.E. Seaman Mineral Museum, Houghton, MI, 46p.