

TABLE 1

	Crystal system	Habit	Cleavage	Optical character	Optical orientation	Index of refraction	Birefringence	Sp. gr.
Litharge	Orth.?	Tablets		Biaxial +	X (possibly Y) normal to plates	2.61 ^a	Very strong	
Artificial yellow modification (litharge) ^b	Orth.?	Tablets (100)	(001) Perfect	Biaxial +	Y (?) normal to cleav.	2.61	Very strong	9.290
Massicot	Tet.?	Tablets (001)		Uniaxial -		2.64 ^a	Very strong	
Artificial red modification ^b	Tet.	Tablets (001)	(110)	Uniaxial -				9.125

^a The value of n , 1.735, given for massicot by Scott in *Min. Mag.* **17**, 143, 1914, is obviously in error. A lead mineral with the specific gravity of massicot and so low an index of refraction would be very remarkable.

^b See Groth, *Chem. Krystallographie.* I, 76, 1906.

NOTE ON THE NOMENCLATURE OF THE LEAD MONOXIDE MINERALS. EDGAR T. WHERRY.—The principle of making mineral names (except those like quartz, which have great antiquity) end uniformly in *ite* has for many years dominated American mineralogical nomenclature, and seems worth applying to all new or reestablished species, unless some very cogent reason for exception exists. "Massicot" and "litharge" as such are chemists' names for artificial products; but both admit of adding the mineralogical termination without essential change. *Massicotite* was indeed proposed by D'Achiardi in 1883; and it is now recommended that the form of lead monoxide corresponding to artificial litharge, above shown by Mr. Larsen to deserve separate recognition as a mineral species, be known to mineralogists as *lithargite*.