

DESCRIPTIVE MODEL OF BEDDED BARITE

By Greta J. Orris

APPROXIMATE SYNONYM Stratiform barite.

DESCRIPTION Stratiform deposits of barite interbedded with dark-colored cherty and calcareous sedimentary rocks.

GEOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

Rock Types Generally dark-colored chert, shale, mudstone, limestone or dolostone. Also with quartzite, argillite, and greenstone.

Age Range Proterozoic and Paleozoic.

Depositional Environment Epicratonic marine basins or embayments (often with smaller local restricted basins).

Tectonic Setting(s) Some deposits associated with hinge zones controlled by synsedimentary faults.

Associated Deposit Types Sedimentary exhalative Zn-Pb (see fig. 158).

DEPOSIT DESCRIPTION

Mineralogy Barite ± minor witherite ± minor pyrite, galena, or sphalerite. Barite typically contains several percent organic matter plus some H₂S in fluid inclusions.

Texture/Structure Stratiform, commonly lensoid to poddy; ore laminated to massive with associated layers of barite nodules or rosettes; barite may exhibit primary sedimentary features. Small country rock inclusions may show partial replacement by barite.

Alteration Secondary barite veining; weak to moderate sericitization has been reported in or near some deposits in Nevada.

Ore Controls Deposits are localized in second- and third-order basins.

Weathering Indistinct, generally resembling limestone or dolostone; occasionally weathered-out rosettes or nodules.

Geochemical Signature Ba; where peripheral to sediment-hosted Zn-Pb, may have lateral (Cu)-Pb-Zn-Ba zoning or regional manganese haloes. High organic C content.

EXAMPLES

Meggen, GRMY	(Krebs, 1981)
Magnet Cove, USAR	(Scull, 1958)
Northumberland, USNV	(Shawe and others, 1969)

GRADE AND TONNAGE MODEL OF BEDDED BARITE

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COMMENTS See figs. 164-165.

DEPOSITS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Country</u>
Ballynoe	IRLD	Brookfield	CNNS
Barite Mtn.	CNYT	Castle Island	USAK
Barite (Mouse)	CNYT	Cathy (Walt)	CNYT
Barite Valley	SAFR	Cirque Barite	CNBC
Baw Hin Khao	THLD	Greystone	USNV

Gurranda	AUNS	Mountain Springs	USNV
Kempfield	AUNS	Nimiuktuk	USAK
Khuzdar	PKTN	Rammelsberg Barite	GRMY
Magnet Cove	USAR	Snake Mountain	USNV
Mangampetta N.	INDA	Tea	CNYT
Mangampetta S.	INDA	Uribe	USWA
Meggen Barite	GRMY	Weedaroo	AUSA
Mel Barite	CNYT		

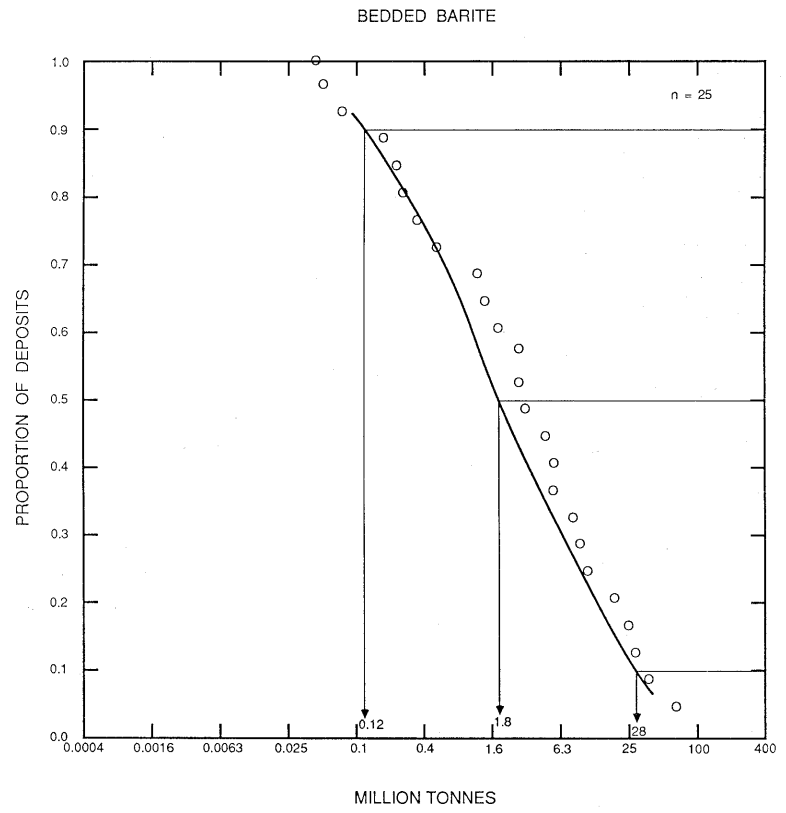


Figure 164. Tonnages of bedded barite deposits.

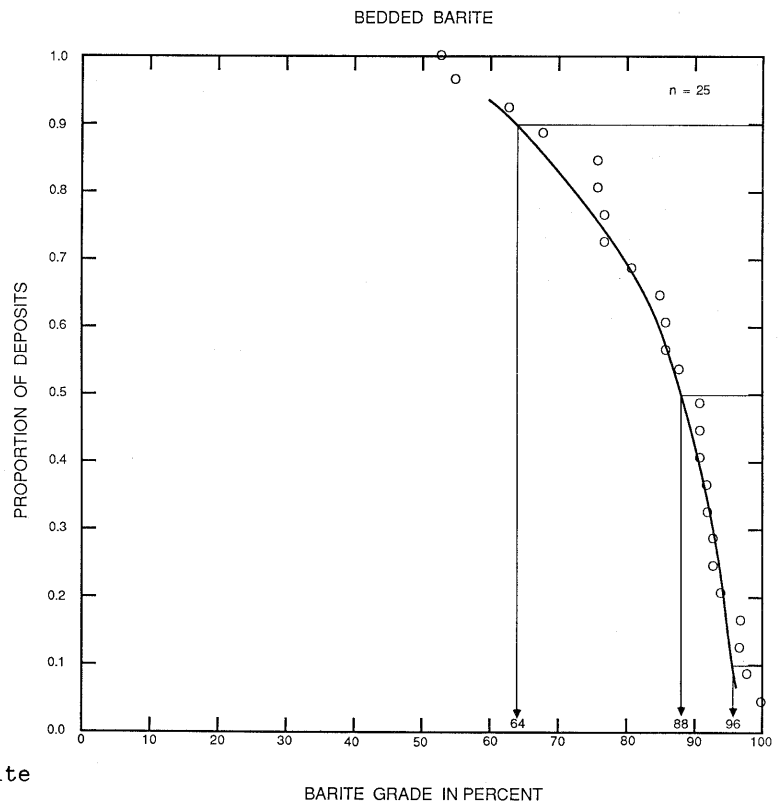


Figure 165. Barite grades of bedded barite deposits.