Serpentine

Benjamin Bass

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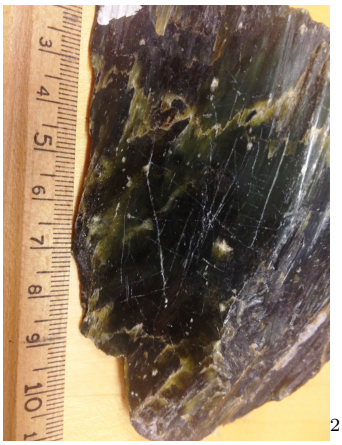
 [1]

 [2]

General Mineral Formula: $Mg_3Si_4O_{10}(OH)_2$
Mineral Chemical Class: Phylosilicates
Specific Gravity: 2.5-3.2
Hardness: 2-5
Cleavage: Usually not discernaable because of crystal development. Maybe basal cleavage in Chrysotile
Luster: Greasy, Waxy, or silky
Streak: White
Characteristic Color(s): White, yellow, green. Sometimes multicolored, especially green and yellow.
Crystal System: Monoclinic
Crystal Class: $2/m$

Crystal Description (common forms, habit, etc.): Antigorite, Clinochrysotile. Fibrous veins may be straight, more often curved. Some soft forms resemble wool. Often presents as wavy green almost amorphous looking aggregates. It has a range of drab olive green colors and a soapy look and feel. Noteworthy polymorphs include: **Chrysotile**, **Antigorite**, **Lizardite**.

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Environment (where you find the material: Fairly common in many environments and is an important rock forming mineral in many metamorphic environments

Common Mineral Associations (in samples, also consult text, notes: Talc, Magnesite, Dolomite, Brucite, Olivine, Calcite, Magnetite.

Scientific Usage/Significance: Keeps science building from burning down. (None).

Industrial or Social Use/Significance: Primary source of industrial asbestos. 95% of all asbestos.

Environmental Significance: Common as hydration product of ultramafic minerals/rocks.