

Zeitschrift: Schweizerische mineralogische und petrographische Mitteilungen =
Bulletin suisse de minéralogie et pétrographie

Band: 55 (1975)

Heft: 2

Vereinsnachrichten: IUGS Commission on Systematics in Petrology

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IUGS COMMISSION ON SYSTEMATICS IN PETROLOGY

The *IUGS Subcommittee on the Systematics of Igneous Rocks* and its Working group on effusive and pyroclastic rocks held a meeting in connection with the IUGG Congress, Grenoble, September 2-4, 1975. The participants were: F. CHAYES (USA), A. DUDEK (CSSR), J. HONNOREZ (USA), R. IVANOV (Bulgaria), M. J. LE BAS (UK), R. W. LE MAÎTRE (Australia), N. P. MIKHAILOV (USSR), H. DE LA ROCHE (France), P. A. SABINE (UK), R. SCHMID (Switzerland), A. STRECKEISEN (Switzerland), P. M. VINCENT (France), B. ZANNETTIN (Italy). After having discussed the principles of the classification of volcanic rocks, the participants unanimously approved the following recommendations and suggestions:

1. The classification of volcanic rocks should be consistent with the classification of plutonic rocks. Consequently, it should be based in the first instance on mineral parameters, either modal or normative.
2. Further subdivision of any major group (e.g., basalt, andesite, rhyolite, etc.) can be achieved by using supplementary criteria. Suggestions as to suitable criteria would be very welcome.
3. We also feel the need to investigate classifications based on oxides or functions of oxides, that ideally should correspond as closely as possible to classifications by mineral parameters.
4. To test the relationships between modal mineral contents and the various classification methods that are suggested, it is proposed to circulate to interested colleagues sets of chemical and modal data of selected rocks.
5. To further test the viability of any normative calculation or any system of classification based on oxides or functions of oxides, it is proposed to circulate the suggested methods to various centers where volcanic data files exist, to determine their consistency with existing usage of nomenclature.
6. We feel that agreement should be sought to standardize the usage of chemical qualifiers such as, e.g., low-K, high-K, low-Si, etc. Suggestions from colleagues commonly using such terms would be very welcome.

Suggestions may be sent to the chairman, Prof. A. STRECKEISEN, Mineralog.-Petrograph. Institut, Sahlistrasse 6, CH-3012 Berne, Switzerland.

A special *Working group on pyroclastic rocks* has been formed in order to discuss their classification and nomenclature and to prepare suitable recommendations. Interested colleagues may address themselves to the chairman, Dr. R. SCHMID, Institut für Kristallographie und Petrographie ETH, Sonneggstrasse 5, CH-8006 Zürich, Switzerland.