

IGNEOUS ROCK-FORMING MINERALS

54. Compositional zoning in plagioclase is common. If the crystal is more sodic toward the rim, it is said to be normally zoned; if it is more calcic, it is reversely zoned. If the composition fluctuates back and forth, the plagioclase has oscillatory zoning, as seen in this phenocryst in an andesite from Mount St. Helens. Crossed polars. Width of field 3.7 mm.

