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# Scanning Electron Microscopic Study of Imogolite Formation from Plagioclase

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**Abstract:** Imogolite occurs as tiny bumps less than 0.05  $\mu\text{m}$  in diameter and about 0.3  $\mu\text{m}$  long on amorphous thin layers on the surface of weathered plagioclase. The bumps grow outward from the surface to form projections, which then develop into a fibrous imogolite. The fibers branch out and grow into widespread networks or thin films which finally cover the entire surface of the plagioclase grain. The fibers are about 0.05  $\mu\text{m}$  in diameter as seen by transmission electron microscopy.

**Key Words:** Alteration • Fiber • Imogolite • Plagioclase • SEM • Weathering

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