General notes
These thesaurus lists, lists A-R, are used by GeoRef indexers for selecting index terms and by searchers for additional information not necessarily found in individual term records in the body of the Thesaurus. In most cases, an hierarchical list is given. In some cases, an alphabetical or other list is provided.

The notes under Searching attempt to guide the searcher in the use of the list. Searchers might also read the notes on Indexing for further clues but should be aware that these notes reflect current practice which in some cases differs from past practice. Further notes on specific terms are in the body of the Thesaurus and additional notes on searching are in the GeoRef Thesaurus, 11th edition Introduction section on searching beginning on page x. Information specific to searching and the individual list topics is included, e.g., a section including igneous rocks begins on page xii.
Under Indexing the current indexing practice is given. These notes should be read along with the instructions under the individual terms in the body of the Thesaurus.

Igneous rocks
The igneous rocks hierarchy was revised in the 10th edition in accordance with Igneous rocks; a classification and glossary of terms, edited by R. W. Le Maitre, second edition, New York, Cambridge University Press, 2002. In the hierarchical list rock types which do not autopost are marked. See the alphabetical list for a listing of all igneous rocks and the major group name used with them. In this list, as well, igneous rocks which do not autopost a complete hierarchy are marked. The most specific name is preferred.

Searching
Search for specific rocks by name, truncated at the end to retrieve singular and plural forms.
To retrieve papers in which igneous rocks were a major topic, search igneous rocks. For more information on autoposted terms see specific rock names in the Thesaurus. Related topics such as intrusions, isotopes, magmas, phase equilibria, etc. can be searched separately.

Indexing
The most specific rock name should be used. Specific rock names which do not appear in the body of the Thesaurus should be used in the singular and indexed using the appropriate group from the hierarchical list.