

Mallinckrodt

POTASSIUM OXALATE

Material Safety Data Sheet

Mallinckrodt Inc.
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Emergency Telephone Number
314-982-5000

Effective Date: 08-15-83

PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION:

Synonyms: Oxalic acid, dipotassium salt; ethanedioic acid, dipotassium salt

Formula CAS No.: 6487-48-5 (Hydrated) Molecular Weight: 184.23

TSCA CAS No.: 583-52-8 (Anhydrous)

Hazardous Ingredients: Chemical Formula: $K_2C_2O_4 \cdot H_2O$

Not applicable.

PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES

DANGER! CAUSES SEVERE BURNS. MAY BE FATAL IF SWALLOWED. HARMFUL IF INHALED.

Do not get in eyes, on skin, or on clothing.

Avoid breathing dust.

Keep container closed.

Use with adequate ventilation.

Wash thoroughly after handling.

This substance is classified as a POISON under the Federal Caustic Poison Act.

EMERGENCY/FIRST AID

If swallowed, DO NOT INDUCE VOMITING! Give large quantities of water. Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person. If inhaled, remove to fresh air. If not breathing, give artificial respiration. If breathing is difficult, give oxygen. In case of contact, immediately flush skin or eyes with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes. In all cases call a physician.

SEE SECTION 5.

DOT Hazard Class: Not Regulated

Physical Data

SECTION 1

Appearance: Transparent, colorless crystals.

Odor: Odorless.

Solubility: 30 g in 100 g water.

Boiling Point: Not applicable.

Vapor Density (Air=1): No information found.

Melting Point: Loses water @ 160°C (320°F)

Vapor Pressure (mm Hg): No information found.

Specific Gravity: 2.13

Evaporation Rate: No information found.

Fire and Explosion Information

SECTION 2

Fire:

Not considered to be a fire hazard.

Explosion:

Not considered to be an explosion hazard.

Fire Extinguishing Media:

Use any means suitable for extinguishing surrounding fire.

Special Information:

In the event of a fire, wear full protective clothing and NIOSH-approved self-contained breathing apparatus with full facepiece operated in the pressure demand or other positive pressure mode.

Reactivity Data

SECTION 3

Stability:

Stable under ordinary conditions of use and storage.

Hazardous Decomposition Products:

Oxides of sulfur and the contained metal.

Hazardous Polymerization:

This substance does not polymerize.

Incompatibilities:

Strong oxidizers.

Leak/Spill Disposal Information

SECTION 4

Ventilate area of leak or spill. Clean-up personnel require protective clothing and respiratory protection from dust.

Spills: Pick up and place in a suitable container for reclamation or disposal in a method that does not generate dust.

Disposal: Whatever cannot be saved for reclamation may be disposed in an RCRA approved hazardous waste facility.

Ensure compliance with local, state and federal regulations.

Health Hazard Information

SECTION 5

A. Exposure/Health Effects

Inhalation:

Inhalation of dust is corrosive to mucous membranes. Oxalates can be absorbed through the lungs. Symptoms of poisoning include nervousness, cramps, central nervous system depression.

Ingestion:

Mean lethal dose for oxalates in adults is estimated at 15-30 grams with death within a few hours or even minutes. Corrosive action on the mucosa and severe gastroenteritis can occur with pain, vomiting, etc. Sharp reduction of serum calcium can cause dysfunction of head and brain. Calcium may be deposited in the kidneys and liver.

Skin Contact:

Corrosive. May cause irritation, redness, pain, and skin burns.

Eye Contact:

May cause irritation, redness, pain, blurred vision, and eye damage.

Chronic Exposure:

Circulatory failure or nervous system irregularities may follow prolonged calcium metabolism disturbances due to oxalation.

Aggravation of Pre-existing Conditions:

Persons with pre-existing skin disorders or eye problems, or impaired liver, kidney or respiratory function may be more susceptible to the effects of the substance.

B. FIRST AID

Inhalation:

Remove to fresh air. If not breathing, give artificial respiration. If breathing is difficult, give oxygen. Call a physician.

Ingestion:

If swallowed, do NOT induce vomiting. Give large quantities of water. Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person. Call a physician immediately.

Skin Exposure:

Remove any contaminated clothing. Wipe off excess from skin. Wash skin with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes. Get medical attention promptly.

Eye Exposure:

Wash eyes with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes, lifting lower and upper eyelids occasionally. Get medical attention immediately.

Occupational Control Measures

SECTION 6

Airborne Exposure Limits:

None established.

Ventilation System:

A local exhaust system which captures the contaminant at its source is recommended to prevent dispersion of the contaminant into the workroom air.

Personal Respirators:

A supplied air, full facepiece respirator, air-lined hood, or self-contained breathing apparatus is recommended.

Skin Protection:

Wear protective gloves and clean body-covering clothing.

Eye Protection:

Use chemical safety goggles and/or full face shield where dusting or splashing of solutions is possible. Contact lenses should not be worn when working with this material.

Maintain eye wash fountain and quick-drench facilities in work area.

Storage and Special Information

SECTION 7

Keep in a tightly closed container. Store in a cool, dry, ventilated area away from sources of heat or ignition. Protect against physical damage.

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C. TOXICITY DATA (RTECS, 1982)

No LD50/LC50 information found relating to normal routes of occupational exposure.