



## SAFETY DATA SHEET

This safety data sheet was created pursuant to the requirements of:  
Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006 and Regulation (EC) No. 1272/2008

Revision date 11-Jan-2022

Revision Number 1

### SECTION 1: Identification of the substance/mixture and of the company/undertaking

#### 1.1. Product identifier

**Product Code(s)** CAT 275  
**Product Name** Oxytetracycline Hydrochloride

*NOTE [8] - No registration number is given for this substance because it is under the threshold in REACH Article 6(1) and not subject to the registration requirements according to REACH Title II*

**EC No** 218-161-2  
**CAS No** 2058-46-0  
**Pure substance/mixture** Substance  
**Formula** C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>9</sub>.ClH  
**Molecular weight** 496.9

#### 1.2. Relevant identified uses of the substance or mixture and uses advised against

**Recommended use** Laboratory use  
**Uses advised against** No information available

#### 1.3. Details of the supplier of the safety data sheet

##### Supplier

British Pharmacopoeia Commission  
MHRA  
10 South Colonnade  
Canary Wharf  
London E14 4PU  
United Kingdom

Tel : +44 (0)20 3080 6561  
eMail: bpcrs@mhra.gov.uk

For further information, please contact

**E-mail address** bpcrs@mhra.gov.uk



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#### 1.4. Emergency telephone number

Emergency Telephone +44 (0)20 3080 6561 (Monday - Friday: 8am - 5pm)

Emergency Telephone - §45 - (EC)1272/2008	
Europe	112
Austria	No information available
Bulgaria	
Croatia	
Cyprus	
Czech Republic	
Denmark	
France	
Hungary	
Ireland	
Italy	
Lithuania	
Luxembourg	(+352) 8002 5500 Free telephone number with a 24/7 access in French, Dutch and English.
Netherlands	
Norway	
Portugal	
Romania	
Slovakia	
Slovenia	
Spain	
Sweden	
Switzerland	

## SECTION 2: Hazards identification

### 2.1. Classification of the substance or mixture

Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008

Skin corrosion/irritation	Category 2 - (H315)
Serious eye damage/eye irritation	Category 2 - (H319)
Reproductive toxicity	Category 2 - (H361)
Effects on or via lactation	Yes - (H362)
Specific target organ toxicity — single exposure	Category 3 - (H335)
Acute aquatic toxicity	Category 1 - (H400)
Chronic aquatic toxicity	Category 1 - (H410)



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#### 2.2. Label elements

Contains Oxytetracycline hydrochloride



#### Signal word

Warning

#### Hazard statements

H315 - Causes skin irritation  
H319 - Causes serious eye irritation  
H335 - May cause respiratory irritation  
H361 - Suspected of damaging fertility or the unborn child  
H361fd - Suspected of damaging fertility. Suspected of damaging the unborn child  
H362 - May cause harm to breast-fed children  
H410 - Very toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects

#### Precautionary Statements - EU (§28, 1272/2008)

P260 - Do not breathe dust/fume/gas/mist/vapours/spray  
P263 - Avoid contact during pregnancy and while nursing  
P264 - Wash face, hands and any exposed skin thoroughly after handling  
P273 - Avoid release to the environment  
P280 - Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection  
P391 - Collect spillage

#### 2.3. Other hazards

No information available.

This substance does not meet the PBT/vPvB criteria of REACH, annex XIII.

#### Endocrine Disruptor Information

Chemical name	EU - REACH (1907/2006) - Article 59(1) - Candidate List of Substances of Very High Concern (SVHC) for Authorisation	EU - REACH (1907/2006) - Endocrine Disruptor Assessment List of Substances
Oxytetracycline hydrochloride	-	-



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### SECTION 3: Composition/information on ingredients

#### 3.1 Substances

Chemical name	Weight-%	REACH registration number	EC No	Classification according to Regulation (EC) No. 1272/2008 [CLP]	Specific concentration limit (SCL)	M-Factor	M-Factor (long-term)
Oxytetracycline hydrochloride 2058-46-0	100	-	218-161-2	Skin Irrit. 2 (H315) Eye Irrit. 2 (H319) Repr. 2 (H361fd) Lact. (H362) STOT SE 3 (H335) Aquatic Acute 1 (H400) Aquatic Chronic 1 (H410)			

Full text of H- and EUH-phrases: see section 16

#### Acute Toxicity Estimate

No information available

This product does not contain candidate substances of very high concern at a concentration  $\geq 0.1\%$  (Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006 (REACH), Article 59)

### SECTION 4: First aid measures

#### 4.1. Description of first aid measures

##### General advice

Show this safety data sheet to the doctor in attendance.

##### Inhalation

Remove to fresh air. IF exposed or concerned: Get medical advice/attention. Get medical attention immediately if symptoms occur.

##### Eye contact

Rinse immediately with plenty of water, also under the eyelids, for at least 15 minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing. Keep eye wide open while rinsing. Do not rub affected area. Get medical attention if irritation develops and persists.

##### Skin contact

Wash off immediately with soap and plenty of water for at least 15 minutes. Get medical attention if irritation develops and persists.



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Ingestion	Do NOT induce vomiting. Rinse mouth. Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person. Call a doctor.
Self-protection of the first aider	Avoid contact with skin, eyes or clothing. Wear personal protective clothing (see section 8).
<b><u>4.2. Most important symptoms and effects, both acute and delayed</u></b>	
Symptoms	May cause redness and tearing of the eyes. Burning sensation.
<b><u>4.3. Indication of any immediate medical attention and special treatment needed</u></b>	
Note to doctors	Treat symptomatically.

## SECTION 5: Firefighting measures

### 5.1. Extinguishing media

Suitable Extinguishing Media	Use extinguishing measures that are appropriate to local circumstances and the surrounding environment.
Large Fire	CAUTION: Use of water spray when fighting fire may be inefficient.
Unsuitable extinguishing media	Do not scatter spilled material with high pressure water streams.

### 5.2. Special hazards arising from the substance or mixture

Specific hazards arising from the chemical	No information available.
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### 5.3. Advice for firefighters

Special protective equipment and precautions for fire-fighters	Firefighters should wear self-contained breathing apparatus and full firefighting turnout gear. Use personal protection equipment.
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## SECTION 6: Accidental release measures

### 6.1. Personal precautions, protective equipment and emergency procedures

Personal precautions	Ensure adequate ventilation. Use personal protective equipment as required. Evacuate personnel to safe areas. Avoid contact with skin, eyes or clothing.
Other information	Refer to protective measures listed in Sections 7 and 8.



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**For emergency responders** Use personal protection recommended in Section 8.

### 6.2. Environmental precautions

**Environmental precautions** Prevent further leakage or spillage if safe to do so.

### 6.3. Methods and material for containment and cleaning up

**Methods for containment** Prevent further leakage or spillage if safe to do so.

**Methods for cleaning up** Take up mechanically, placing in appropriate containers for disposal.

**Prevention of secondary hazards** Clean contaminated objects and areas thoroughly observing environmental regulations.

### 6.4. Reference to other sections

**Reference to other sections** See section 8 for more information. See section 13 for more information.

## SECTION 7: Handling and storage

### 7.1. Precautions for safe handling

**Advice on safe handling** Handle in accordance with good industrial hygiene and safety practice. Avoid contact with skin, eyes or clothing. Do not eat, drink or smoke when using this product. Remove contaminated clothing and shoes. Take off contaminated clothing and wash it before reuse. Ensure adequate ventilation. Avoid breathing vapours or mists. In case of insufficient ventilation, wear suitable respiratory equipment.

**General hygiene considerations** Wash hands before breaks and immediately after handling the product. Avoid contact with skin, eyes or clothing. Do not eat, drink or smoke when using this product. Wash hands before breaks and after work. Wear suitable gloves and eye/face protection.

### 7.2. Conditions for safe storage, including any incompatibilities

**Storage Conditions** Keep containers tightly closed in a dry, cool and well-ventilated place. Please refer to the manufacturer's certificate for specific storage and transport temperature conditions. Store only in the original receptacle unless other advice is given on the CoA.

### 7.3. Specific end use(s)

**Risk Management Methods (RMM)** The information required is contained in this Safety Data Sheet.



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## SECTION 8: Exposure controls/personal protection

### 8.1. Control parameters

#### Exposure Limits

This product, as supplied, does not contain any hazardous materials with occupational exposure limits established by the region specific regulatory bodies.

#### Biological occupational exposure limits

This product, as supplied, does not contain any hazardous materials with biological limits established by the region specific regulatory bodies

#### Derived No Effect Level (DNEL)

No information available.

#### Predicted No Effect Concentration (PNEC)

No information available.

### 8.2. Exposure controls

#### Personal protective equipment

##### Eye/face protection

If splashes are likely to occur, wear safety glasses with side-shields. Avoid contact with eyes. Wear safety glasses with side shields (or goggles).

##### Hand protection

Wear suitable gloves. Impervious gloves. The protective gloves to be used must comply with the specifications of EC Directive 89/686/EEC and the related standard EN374.

Gloves			
Duration of contact	PPE - Glove material	Glove thickness	Break through time
	Wear protective nitrile rubber gloves	0.11 mm	480 minutes

##### Skin and body protection

Long sleeved clothing. Wear suitable protective clothing.

##### Respiratory protection

No protective equipment is needed under normal use conditions. If exposure limits are exceeded or irritation is experienced, ventilation and evacuation may be required.

##### General hygiene considerations

Wash hands before breaks and immediately after handling the product. Avoid contact with skin, eyes or clothing. Do not eat, drink or smoke when using this product. Wash hands before breaks and after work. Wear suitable gloves and eye/face protection.

##### Environmental exposure controls

Do not allow into any sewer, on the ground or into any body of water.



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### SECTION 9: Physical and chemical properties

#### 9.1. Information on basic physical and chemical properties

Physical state	Solid
Appearance	Powder
Colour	yellow
Odour	No information available.
Odour threshold	No information available

Property	Values	Remarks • Method
Melting point / freezing point	184 - 185 °C	None known
Boiling point / boiling range	No data available	None known
Flammability (solid, gas)	No data available	None known
Flammability Limit in Air		None known
Upper flammability or explosive limits	No data available	
Lower flammability or explosive limits	No data available	
Flash point	No data available	None known
Autoignition temperature	No data available	None known
Decomposition temperature		None known
pH	No data available	None known
pH (as aqueous solution)	No data available	No information available
Kinematic viscosity	No data available	None known
Dynamic viscosity	No data available	None known
Water solubility	No data available	None known
Solubility(ies)	No data available	None known
Partition coefficient	-1.22	None known
Vapour pressure	No data available	None known
Relative density	No data available	None known
Bulk density	No data available	
Liquid Density	No data available	
Relative vapour density	No data available	None known
Particle characteristics		
Particle Size	No information available	
Particle Size Distribution	No information available	

#### 9.2. Other information

Molecular weight	496.9
Molecular formula	C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>24</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>9</sub> .ClH

9.2.1. Information with regards to physical hazard classes  
Not applicable





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9.2.2. Other safety characteristics  
No information available

### SECTION 10: Stability and reactivity

#### 10.1. Reactivity

Reactivity No information available.

#### 10.2. Chemical stability

Stability Stable under normal conditions.

#### Explosion data

Sensitivity to mechanical impact None.

Sensitivity to static discharge None.

#### 10.3. Possibility of hazardous reactions

Possibility of hazardous reactions None under normal processing.

#### 10.4. Conditions to avoid

Conditions to avoid None known based on information supplied.

#### 10.5. Incompatible materials

Incompatible materials Strong acids. Strong bases. Strong oxidising agents.

Hazardous decomposition products None known based on information supplied.

### SECTION 11: Toxicological information

#### 11.1. Information on hazard classes as defined in Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008

#### Information on likely routes of exposure

#### Product Information

Inhalation Specific test data for the substance or mixture is not available.

Eye contact Specific test data for the substance or mixture is not available. Causes serious eye irritation. (based on components). May cause redness, itching, and pain.



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#### Skin contact

Specific test data for the substance or mixture is not available. Causes skin irritation. (based on components).

#### Ingestion

Specific test data for the substance or mixture is not available. Ingestion may cause gastrointestinal irritation, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea.

#### Symptoms related to the physical, chemical and toxicological characteristics

##### Symptoms

Redness. May cause redness and tearing of the eyes.

#### Numerical measures of toxicity

No information available

#### Acute toxicity

#### Component Information

Chemical name	Oral LD50	Dermal LD50	Inhalation LC50
Oxytetracycline hydrochloride	=6696 mg/kg (Mouse)		

#### Delayed and immediate effects as well as chronic effects from short and long-term exposure

##### Skin corrosion/irritation

Classification based on data available for ingredients. Irritating to skin.

##### Serious eye damage/eye irritation

Classification based on data available for ingredients. Causes serious eye irritation.

##### Respiratory or skin sensitisation

No information available.

##### Germ cell mutagenicity

No information available.

##### Carcinogenicity

No information available.

##### Reproductive toxicity

Contains a known or suspected reproductive toxin. Classification based on data available for ingredients. May cause harm to breast-fed children. Suspected of damaging fertility or the unborn child.



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**STOT - single exposure** May cause respiratory irritation.

**STOT - repeated exposure** No information available.

**Aspiration hazard** No information available.

#### 11.2. Information on other hazards

##### 11.2.1. Endocrine disrupting properties

**Endocrine disrupting properties** No information available.

##### 11.2.2. Other information

**Other adverse effects** No information available.

### SECTION 12: Ecological information

#### 12.1. Toxicity

**Ecotoxicity** Very toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects.

Chemical name	Algae/aquatic plants	Fish	Toxicity to microorganisms	Crustacea
Oxytetracycline hydrochloride	EC50: 0.342 mg/L (72, Selenastrum capricornutum)	LC50: 116 mg/L (96h, Oncorhynchus mykiss)	-	EC50: 102 mg/L (48, Daphnia magna)

#### 12.2. Persistence and degradability

**Persistence and degradability** No information available.

#### 12.3. Bioaccumulative potential

**Bioaccumulation** No information available.

#### Component Information

Chemical name	Partition coefficient
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Oxytetracycline hydrochloride	-1.22
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### 12.4. Mobility in soil

Mobility in soil No information available.

### 12.5. Results of PBT and vPvB assessment

PBT and vPvB assessment No information available.

### 12.6. Endocrine disrupting properties

Endocrine disrupting properties No information available.

### 12.7. Other adverse effects

No information available.

## SECTION 13: Disposal considerations

### 13.1. Waste treatment methods

Waste from residues/unused products Dispose of in accordance with local regulations. Dispose of waste in accordance with environmental legislation.

Contaminated packaging Do not reuse empty containers.

## SECTION 14: Transport information

### IATA

14.1 UN number or ID number	UN3077
14.2 UN proper shipping name	Environmentally hazardous substances, solid, n.o.s. (Oxytetracycline hydrochloride)
14.3 Transport hazard class(es)	9
14.4 Packing group	III
Description	UN3077, Environmentally hazardous substances, solid, n.o.s. (Oxytetracycline hydrochloride), 9, III
14.5 Environmental hazards	Yes
14.6 Special precautions for user	
Special Provisions	A97, A158, A179, A197, A215
ERG Code	9L



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#### IMDG

14.1 UN number or ID number	UN3077
14.2 UN proper shipping name	Environmentally hazardous substances, solid, n.o.s. (Oxytetracycline hydrochloride)
14.3 Transport hazard class(es)	9
14.4 Packing group	III
Description	UN3077, Environmentally hazardous substances, solid, n.o.s. (Oxytetracycline hydrochloride), 9, III, Marine pollutant
14.5 Marine pollutant	P
Environmental hazards	Yes
14.6 Special precautions for user	
Special Provisions	274, 335, 966, 967, 969
EmS-No	F-A, S-F No information available
14.7 Maritime transport in bulk according to IMO instruments	No information available

#### RID

14.1 UN number or ID number	UN3077
14.2 UN proper shipping name	Environmentally hazardous substances, solid, n.o.s. (Oxytetracycline hydrochloride)
14.3 Transport hazard class(es)	9
14.4 Packing group	III
Description	UN3077, Environmentally hazardous substances, solid, n.o.s. (Oxytetracycline hydrochloride), 9, III
14.5 Environmental hazards	Yes
14.6 Special precautions for user	
Special Provisions	274, 335, 375, 601
Classification code	M7

#### ADR

14.1 UN number or ID number	UN3077
14.2 UN proper shipping name	Environmentally hazardous substances, solid, n.o.s. (Oxytetracycline hydrochloride)
14.3 Transport hazard class(es)	9
14.4 Packing group	III
Description	UN3077, Environmentally hazardous substances, solid, n.o.s. (Oxytetracycline hydrochloride), 9, III, (-)
14.5 Environmental hazards	Yes
14.6 Special precautions for user	
Special Provisions	274, 335, 601, 375
Classification code	M7
Tunnel restriction code	(-)

## SECTION 15: Regulatory information

### 15.1. Safety, health and environmental regulations/legislation specific for the substance or mixture



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**Water hazard class (WGK)** strongly hazardous to water (WGK 3)

#### Poland

SDS created according to the following Polish regulation: Act of February 25, 2011 on chemical substances and their mixtures (Journal of Laws of 2018, item 143, as amended). Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH), establishing the European Chemicals Agency (EC) as amended. Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on classification, labeling and packaging of substances and mixtures, as amended. Regulation of the Minister of Health of 10 August 2012 on the criteria and method of classifying chemical substances and their mixtures (Journal of Laws of 2012, item 1018). Regulation of the Minister of Health of 20 April 2012 on labeling packaging of hazardous substances and mixtures and some mixtures (Journal of Laws of 2012, item 445). Regulation of the Minister of Family, Labor and Social Policy of 12 June 2018 on the maximum allowable concentrations and intensities of factors harmful to health in the work environment (Journal of Laws of 2018, item 1286). Announcement of the Minister of Economy, Labor and Social Policy of August 28, 2003 on the publication of the unified text of the Ordinance of the Minister of Labor and Social Policy on general health and safety at work regulations (Journal of Laws of 2003, No. 169, item 1650). Regulation of the Minister of Health of 30 December 2004 on occupational safety and health related to the presence of chemical agents in the workplace (Journal of Laws of 2005, No. 11, item 86). Act of December 14, 2012 on waste (Journal of Laws of 2013, item 21) Regulation of the Minister of Health of December 30, 2004 on occupational health and safety related to the presence of chemical agents in the workplace (Journal U. of 2005, No. 11, item 86). Waste Act of December 14, 2012 (Journal of Laws of 2013, item 21). Act of 13 June 2013 on the management of packaging and packaging waste, Journal of Laws 2013, item 888). Government statement of September 24, 2002 - European Agreement on the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR) (Journal of Laws No. 194, item 1629 and Journal of Laws of 2003, No. 207, item 2013 and 2014).

#### European Union

Take note of Directive 98/24/EC on the protection of the health and safety of workers from the risks related to chemical agents at work.

#### Authorisations and/or restrictions on use:

This product does not contain substances subject to authorisation (Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006 (REACH), Annex XIV) This product does not contain substances subject to restriction (Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006 (REACH), Annex XVII)

#### DIRECTIVE (EU) 2021/1187 on the marketing and use of explosives precursors

Not applicable



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#### Persistent Organic Pollutants

Not applicable

#### Dangerous substance category per Seveso Directive (2012/18/EU)

E1 - Hazardous to the Aquatic Environment in Category Acute 1 or Chronic 1

#### Ozone-depleting substances (ODS) regulation (EC) 1005/2009

Not applicable

#### International Inventories

TSCA	Contact supplier for inventory compliance status
DSL/NDSL	Contact supplier for inventory compliance status
EINECS/ELINCS	Contact supplier for inventory compliance status
ENCS	Contact supplier for inventory compliance status
IECSC	Contact supplier for inventory compliance status
KECL	Contact supplier for inventory compliance status
PICCS	Contact supplier for inventory compliance status
AICS	Contact supplier for inventory compliance status

#### Legend:

**TSCA** - United States Toxic Substances Control Act Section 8(b) Inventory  
**DSL/NDSL** - Canadian Domestic Substances List/Non-Domestic Substances List  
**EINECS/ELINCS** - European Inventory of Existing Chemical Substances/European List of Notified Chemical Substances  
**ENCS** - Japan Existing and New Chemical Substances  
**IECSC** - China Inventory of Existing Chemical Substances  
**KECL** - Korean Existing and Evaluated Chemical Substances  
**PICCS** - Philippines Inventory of Chemicals and Chemical Substances  
**AICS** - Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances

#### 15.2. Chemical safety assessment

##### Chemical Safety Report

A Chemical Safety Assessment has been carried out for this substance

### SECTION 16: Other information

#### Key or legend to abbreviations and acronyms used in the safety data sheet

Full text of H-Statements referred to under section 3



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H315 - Causes skin irritation  
H319 - Causes serious eye irritation  
H335 - May cause respiratory irritation  
H361fd - Suspected of damaging fertility. Suspected of damaging the unborn child  
H362 - May cause harm to breast-fed children  
H400 - Very toxic to aquatic life  
H410 - Very toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects

#### Legend

SVHC: Substances of Very High Concern for Authorisation:

#### Legend Section 8: Exposure controls/personal protection

TWA TWA (time-weighted average) STEL STEL (Short Term Exposure Limit)  
Ceiling Maximum limit value \* Skin designation

Classification procedure	
Classification according to Regulation (EC) No. 1272/2008 [CLP]	Method Used
Acute oral toxicity	Calculation method
Acute dermal toxicity	Calculation method
Acute inhalation toxicity - gas	Calculation method
Acute inhalation toxicity - Vapour	Calculation method
Acute inhalation toxicity - dust/mist	Calculation method
Skin corrosion/irritation	Calculation method
Serious eye damage/eye irritation	Calculation method
Respiratory sensitisation	Calculation method
Skin sensitisation	Calculation method
Mutagenicity	Calculation method
Carcinogenicity	Calculation method
STOT - single exposure	Calculation method
STOT - repeated exposure	Calculation method
Acute aquatic toxicity	Calculation method
Chronic aquatic toxicity	Calculation method
Aspiration hazard	Calculation method
Ozone	Calculation method

#### Key literature references and sources for data used to compile the SDS

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ChemView Database  
European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)  
EPA (Environmental Protection Agency)  
Acute Exposure Guideline Level(s) (AELG(s))  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency High Production Volume Chemicals  
Food Research Journal





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Hazardous Substance Database  
International Uniform Chemical Information Database (IUCLID)  
Japan GHS Classification  
Australian National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS)  
NIOSH (National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health)  
National Library of Medicine's ChemID Plus (NLM CIP)  
National Library of Medicine's PubMed database (NLM PUBMED)  
National Toxicology Program (NTP)  
New Zealand's Chemical Classification and Information Database (CCID)  
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Environment, Health, and Safety Publications  
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development High Production Volume Chemicals Programme  
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Screening Information Data Set  
World Health Organization

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This material safety data sheet complies with the requirements of Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006

#### Disclaimer

The information in this safety data sheet (SDS) has been prepared with due care and is true and accurate to the best of our knowledge. The user must determine the suitability of the information for its particular purpose, ensure compliance with existing laws and regulations, and be aware that other or additional safety or performance considerations may arise when using, handling and/ or storing the material. The information in this SDS does not purport to be all inclusive or a guarantee as to the properties of the material supplied, and should be used only as a guide. British Pharmacopoeia Commission Office makes no warranties or representations as to the accuracy and completeness of the information contained herein, shall not be held responsible for the suitability of this information for the user's intended purposes or the consequences of such use, and shall not be liable for any damage or loss, howsoever arising, direct or otherwise.

**End of Safety Data Sheet**