

Lithium tetraborate

sc-203113

Material Safety Data Sheet



The Power is Question

Hazard Alert Code Key:

EXTREME

HIGH

MODERATE

LOW

Section 1 - CHEMICAL PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

PRODUCT NAME

Lithium tetraborate

STATEMENT OF HAZARDOUS NATURE

CONSIDERED A HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE ACCORDING TO OSHA 29 CFR 1910.1200.

NFPA



SUPPLIER

Company: Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Inc.

Address:

2145 Delaware Ave

Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Telephone: 800.457.3801 or 831.457.3800

Emergency Tel: CHEMWATCH: From within the US and Canada:
877-715-9305

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(1-800-CHEMCALL) or call +613 9573 3112

PRODUCT USE

Ceramics, vacuum spectroscopy, metal refining and degassing. Spectroscopic fluxing agent.

SYNONYMS

B4-Li2-O7, Li2B4O7, "boron lithium oxide", "lithium borate", "lithium baborate", "dilithium tetraborate", "boric acid (H2B4O7), dilithium salt", B4Li2O7.5H2O, "boron lithium oxide pentahydrate", "boric acid (H2B4O7), dilithium salt pentahydrate", pentahydrate

Section 2 - HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

CANADIAN WHMIS SYMBOLS



EMERGENCY OVERVIEW

RISK

May impair fertility.

May cause harm to the unborn child.

Irritating to eyes, respiratory system and skin.

POTENTIAL HEALTH EFFECTS

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ACUTE HEALTH EFFECTS

SWALLOWED

- Accidental ingestion of the material may be damaging to the health of the individual.
- Lithium, in large doses, can cause dizziness and weakness. If a low salt diet is in place, kidney damage can result. There may be dehydration, weight loss, skin effects and thyroid disturbances. Central nervous system effects include slurred speech, blurred vision, numbness, inco-ordination and convulsions. Repeated exposure can cause diarrhea, vomiting, tremor, muscle jerks and very brisk reflexes.
- Borate poisoning causes nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and pain in the upper abdomen. Often persistent vomiting occurs, and there may be blood in the feces. There may also be weakness, lethargy, headache, restlessness, tremors and convulsions. All borates cause similar effects; the lethal dose is over 30 grams. Poisoning initially stimulates the central nervous system before causing depression, as well as disturbing the digestive system, causing skin eruptions, and damage to the liver and kidneys. Borate is mostly eliminated from the body via the kidneys.

EYE

- This material can cause eye irritation and damage in some persons.

SKIN

- This material can cause inflammation of the skin oncontact in some persons.
- The material may accentuate any pre-existing dermatitis condition.
- Skin contact is not thought to have harmful health effects, however the material may still produce health damage following entry through wounds, lesions or abrasions.
- Open cuts, abraded or irritated skin should not be exposed to this material.
- Entry into the blood-stream, through, for example, cuts, abrasions or lesions, may produce systemic injury with harmful effects. Examine the skin prior to the use of the material and ensure that any external damage is suitably protected.

INHALED

- The material can cause respiratory irritation in some persons. The body's response to such irritation can cause further lung damage.
- Persons with impaired respiratory function, airway diseases and conditions such as emphysema or chronic bronchitis, may incur further disability if excessive concentrations of particulate are inhaled.
- Borates, as represented by borax, may act as simple respiratory irritants. In a study of the respiratory effects of borax dust on active borax workers, the incidence of respiratory symptoms, pulmonary function and abnormalities of chest radiographs were related to estimated exposures. Dryness of the mouth, nose or throat, dry cough, nose bleeds, sore throat, productive cough, shortness of breath and chest tightness were related to exposures of 4 mg/m³ or more.

CHRONIC HEALTH EFFECTS

- Long-term exposure to respiratory irritants may result in disease of the airways involving difficult breathing and related systemic problems. Ample evidence exists from experimentation that reduced human fertility is directly caused by exposure to the material. Ample evidence exists, from results in experimentation, that developmental disorders are directly caused by human exposure to the material. Limited evidence suggests that repeated or long-term occupational exposure may produce cumulative health effects involving organs or biochemical systems.
- Lithium compounds can affect the nervous system and muscle. This can cause tremor, inco-ordination, spastic jerks and very brisk reflexes. They may cause birth defects and should not be used when pregnancy is suspected. They are effective in treating manic episodes of bipolar disorder. Restricting sodium in the diet increases the risks of taking lithium.
- Long term exposure to high dust concentrations may cause changes in lung function i.e. pneumoconiosis; caused by particles less than 0.5 micron penetrating and remaining in the lung. Prime symptom is breathlessness; lung shadows show on X-ray.
- Borate can accumulate in the testes and deplete germ cells and cause withering of the testicles, according to animal testing. Hair loss, skin inflammation, stomach ulcer and anemia can all occur. Repeated swallowing or inhalation irritates the stomach, causes a loss of appetite, disturbed digestion, nausea and vomiting, red rash, dry skin and mucous membranes, reddening of the tongue, cracking of the lips, inflamed conjunctiva, swelling of the eyelids and kidney injury. Prolonged ingestion causes effects to the reproductive system in both males and females.

Section 3 - COMPOSITION / INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

HAZARD RATINGS

	Min	Max
Flammability:	0	■
Toxicity:	2	■
Body Contact:	2	■
Reactivity:	0	■

Min/Nil=0
Low=1
Moderate=2
High=3
Extreme=4



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Chronic: 3 

NAME	CAS RN	%
lithium tetraborate (as pentahydrate)	12007-60-2	>98

Section 4 - FIRST AID MEASURES

SWALLOWED

-
- If swallowed do NOT induce vomiting.
- If vomiting occurs, lean patient forward or place on left side (head-down position, if possible) to maintain open airway and prevent aspiration.
- Observe the patient carefully.
- Never give liquid to a person showing signs of being sleepy or with reduced awareness; i.e. becoming unconscious.
- Give water to rinse out mouth, then provide liquid slowly and as much as casualty can comfortably drink.
- Seek medical advice.

EYE

- If this product comes in contact with the eyes:
 - Wash out immediately with fresh running water.
 - Ensure complete irrigation of the eye by keeping eyelids apart and away from eye and moving the eyelids by occasionally lifting the upper and lower lids.
 - If pain persists or recurs seek medical attention.
 - Removal of contact lenses after an eye injury should only be undertaken by skilled personnel.

SKIN

- If skin contact occurs:
 - Immediately remove all contaminated clothing, including footwear
 - Flush skin and hair with running water (and soap if available).
 - Seek medical attention in event of irritation.

INHALED

-
- If fumes or combustion products are inhaled remove from contaminated area.
- Lay patient down. Keep warm and rested.
- Prostheses such as false teeth, which may block airway, should be removed, where possible, prior to initiating first aid procedures.
- Apply artificial respiration if not breathing, preferably with a demand valve resuscitator, bag-valve mask device, or pocket mask as trained. Perform CPR if necessary.
- Transport to hospital, or doctor, without delay.

NOTES TO PHYSICIAN

- For acute or repeated short term exposures to boron and its compounds:
 - Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and epigastric pain, hematemesis and blue-green discoloration of both feces and vomitus characterize adult boron intoxication.
 - Assess and correct any abnormalities found in airway and circulation.
 - A tidal volume of 10-15 mg/kg should be maintained.
 - Emesis should be induced unless the patient is in coma, is experiencing seizures or has lost the gag reflex. If any of these are present, gastric lavage should be performed with a large-bore tube after endotracheal intubation or in the presence of continuous respiratory action.
 - Activated charcoal is probably not of value though its use might be indicated following gastric evacuation. Catharsis might be useful to eliminate any borates remaining in the gastro-intestinal tract (magnesium sulfate: adults, 30gms: children 250 mg/kg).
 - Peritoneal dialysis and hemodialysis remove some borates.

[Ellenhorn and Barceloux: Medical Toxicology].

Clinical effects of lithium intoxication appear to relate to duration of exposure as well as to level.

- Lithium produce a generalized slowing of the electroencephalogram; the anion gap may increase in severe cases.
- Emesis (or lavage if the patient is obtunded or convulsing) is indicated for ingestions exceeding 40 mg (Li)/Kg.
- Overdose may delay absorption; decontamination measures may be more effective several hours after cathartics.
- Charcoal is not useful. No clinical data are available to guide the administration of catharsis.

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- Haemodialysis significantly increases lithium clearance; indications for hemodialysis include patients with serum levels above 4 mEq/L 6. There are no antidotes. [Ellenhorn and Barceloux: Medical Toxicology].

Section 5 - FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

Vapour Pressure (mmHG):	Not applicable.
Upper Explosive Limit (%):	Not applicable
Specific Gravity (water=1):	Not available.
Lower Explosive Limit (%):	Not applicable

EXTINGUISHING MEDIA

-
- There is no restriction on the type of extinguisher which may be used. Use extinguishing media suitable for surrounding area.

FIRE FIGHTING

-
- Alert Emergency Responders and tell them location and nature of hazard.
- Wear breathing apparatus plus protective gloves for fire only.
- Prevent, by any means available, spillage from entering drains or water course.
- Use fire fighting procedures suitable for surrounding area.
- Do not approach containers suspected to be hot.
- Cool fire exposed containers with water spray from a protected location.
- If safe to do so, remove containers from path of fire.
- Equipment should be thoroughly decontaminated after use.

GENERAL FIRE HAZARDS/HAZARDOUS COMBUSTIBLE PRODUCTS

-
- Non combustible.
- Not considered to be a significant fire risk, however containers may burn. May emit poisonous fumes. May emit corrosive fumes.

FIRE INCOMPATIBILITY

- None known.

PERSONAL PROTECTION

Glasses:
Chemical goggles.
Gloves:
Respirator:
Particulate

Section 6 - ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

MINOR SPILLS

-
- Remove all ignition sources.
- Clean up all spills immediately.
- Avoid contact with skin and eyes.
- Control personal contact by using protective equipment.
- Use dry clean up procedures and avoid generating dust.
- Place in a suitable, labelled container for waste disposal.

MAJOR SPILLS

- Moderate hazard.
- CAUTION: Advise personnel in area.
- Alert Emergency Responders and tell them location and nature of hazard.

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- Control personal contact by wearing protective clothing.
- Prevent, by any means available, spillage from entering drains or water courses.
- Recover product wherever possible.
- IF DRY: Use dry clean up procedures and avoid generating dust. Collect residues and place in sealed plastic bags or other containers for disposal. IF WET: Vacuum/shovel up and place in labelled containers for disposal.
- ALWAYS: Wash area down with large amounts of water and prevent runoff into drains.
- If contamination of drains or waterways occurs, advise emergency services.

ACUTE EXPOSURE GUIDELINE LEVELS (AEGL) (in ppm)

AEGL 1: The airborne concentration of a substance above which it is predicted that the general population, including susceptible individuals, could experience notable discomfort, irritation, or certain asymptomatic nonsensory effects. However, the effects are not disabling and are transient and reversible upon cessation of exposure.

AEGL 2: The airborne concentration of a substance above which it is predicted that the general population, including susceptible individuals, could experience irreversible or other serious, long-lasting adverse health effects or an impaired ability to escape.

AEGL 3: The airborne concentration of a substance above which it is predicted that the general population, including susceptible individuals, could experience life-threatening health effects or death.

Section 7 - HANDLING AND STORAGE

PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING

- - Avoid all personal contact, including inhalation.
 - Wear protective clothing when risk of exposure occurs.
 - Use in a well-ventilated area.
 - Prevent concentration in hollows and sumps.
 - DO NOT enter confined spaces until atmosphere has been checked.
 - DO NOT allow material to contact humans, exposed food or food utensils.
 - Avoid contact with incompatible materials.
 - When handling, DO NOT eat, drink or smoke.
 - Keep containers securely sealed when not in use.
 - Avoid physical damage to containers.
 - Always wash hands with soap and water after handling.
 - Work clothes should be laundered separately.
 - Launder contaminated clothing before re-use.
 - Use good occupational work practice.
 - Observe manufacturer's storing and handling recommendations.
 - Atmosphere should be regularly checked against established exposure standards to ensure safe working conditions are maintained.

RECOMMENDED STORAGE METHODS

- Glass container.
 - Polyethylene or polypropylene container.
 - Check all containers are clearly labelled and free from leaks.

STORAGE REQUIREMENTS

- - Store in original containers.
 - Keep containers securely sealed.
 - Store in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area.
 - Store away from incompatible materials and foodstuff containers.
 - Protect containers against physical damage and check regularly for leaks.
 - Observe manufacturer's storing and handling recommendations.

SAFE STORAGE WITH OTHER CLASSIFIED CHEMICALS

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X X + X X +

X: Must not be stored together
 O: May be stored together with specific preventions
 +: May be stored together

Section 8 - EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

EXPOSURE CONTROLS

Source	Material	TWA ppm	TWA mg/m ³	STEL ppm	STEL mg/m ³	Peak ppm	Peak mg/m ³	TWA F/CC	Notes
US ATSDR Minimal Risk Levels for Hazardous Substances (MRLs)	lithium tetraborate (BORON AND COMPOUNDS)		0.01						
Canada - Alberta Occupational Exposure Limits	lithium tetraborate (Borates, tetra, sodium salts, Anhydrous)		1	3					
Canada - Ontario Occupational Exposure Limits	lithium tetraborate (Borate compounds, Inorganic, inhalable - Anhydrous)		2		6				
US - Tennessee Occupational Exposure Limits - Limits For Air Contaminants	lithium tetraborate (Borates, tetra, sodium salts Anhydrous)		10						
US - Alaska Limits for Air Contaminants	lithium tetraborate (Borates, tetra, sodium salts - Anhydrous)		10						
US - Michigan Exposure Limits for Air Contaminants	lithium tetraborate (Borates, Tetra, Sodium Salts Anhydrous)		10						
US NIOSH Recommended Exposure Limits (RELs)	lithium tetraborate (Borates, tetra, sodium salts (Anhydrous))		1						
US - Oregon Permissible Exposure Limits (Z3)	lithium tetraborate (Inert or Nuisance Dust: (d) Total dust)		10						*
US OSHA Permissible Exposure Levels (PELs) - Table Z3	lithium tetraborate (Inert or Nuisance Dust: (d) Respirable fraction)		5						
US OSHA Permissible Exposure Levels (PELs) - Table Z3	lithium tetraborate (Inert or Nuisance Dust: (d) Total dust)		15						
US - Hawaii Air Contaminant Limits	lithium tetraborate (Particulates not other wise regulated - Total dust)		10						
US - Hawaii Air Contaminant Limits	lithium tetraborate (Particulates not other wise regulated - Respirable fraction)		5						
US - Oregon Permissible Exposure Limits (Z3)	lithium tetraborate (Inert or Nuisance Dust: (d) Respirable fraction)		5						*
US - Tennessee Occupational Exposure Limits - Limits For Air Contaminants	lithium tetraborate (Particulates not otherwise regulated Respirable fraction)		5						

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US - Wyoming Toxic and Hazardous Substances Table Z1 Limits for Air Contaminants lithium tetraborate (Particulates not otherwise regulated (PNOR)(f)-Respirable fraction) 5

US - Michigan Exposure Limits for Air Contaminants lithium tetraborate (Particulates not otherwise regulated, Respirable dust) 5

MATERIAL DATA

LITHIUM TETRABORATE:

■ It is the goal of the ACGIH (and other Agencies) to recommend TLVs (or their equivalent) for all substances for which there is evidence of health effects at airborne concentrations encountered in the workplace.

At this time no TLV has been established, even though this material may produce adverse health effects (as evidenced in animal experiments or clinical experience). Airborne concentrations must be maintained as low as is practically possible and occupational exposure must be kept to a minimum.

NOTE: The ACGIH occupational exposure standard for Particles Not Otherwise Specified (P.N.O.S) does NOT apply.

Sensory irritants are chemicals that produce temporary and undesirable side-effects on the eyes, nose or throat. Historically occupational exposure standards for these irritants have been based on observation of workers' responses to various airborne concentrations. Present day expectations require that nearly every individual should be protected against even minor sensory irritation and exposure standards are established using uncertainty factors or safety factors of 5 to 10 or more. On occasion animal no-observable-effect-levels (NOEL) are used to determine these limits where human results are unavailable. An additional approach, typically used by the TLV committee (USA) in determining respiratory standards for this group of chemicals, has been to assign ceiling values (TLV C) to rapidly acting irritants and to assign short-term exposure limits (TLV STELs) when the weight of evidence from irritation, bioaccumulation and other endpoints combine to warrant such a limit. In contrast the MAK Commission (Germany) uses a five-category system based on intensive odour, local irritation, and elimination half-life. However this system is being replaced to be consistent with the European Union (EU) Scientific Committee for Occupational Exposure Limits (SCOEL); this is more closely allied to that of the USA.

OSHA (USA) concluded that exposure to sensory irritants can:

- cause inflammation
- cause increased susceptibility to other irritants and infectious agents
- lead to permanent injury or dysfunction
- permit greater absorption of hazardous substances and
- acclimate the worker to the irritant warning properties of these substances thus increasing the risk of overexposure.

For inorganic borates and tetraborates:

No data are currently available to establish a causal link between inhalation exposures to sodium tetraborates and chronic respiratory and/or systemic effects.

An occupationally important toxic effect of the sodium tetraborates is their acute irritant effect when in contact with skin and the mucous membranes of the eyes, nose and other sites of the respiratory tract. The irritant properties increase with decreasing water of hydration due to the exothermic effect of hydration. The TLV-TWA of 1 mg/m³ for the anhydrous and pentahydrate forms and 5 mg/m³ for the decahydrate is thought to be protective against the acute irritant effects.

CEL TWA: 1 mg/m³

PERSONAL PROTECTION



Consult your EHS staff for recommendations

EYE

-
- Safety glasses with side shields.
- Chemical goggles.
- Contact lenses pose a special hazard; soft lenses may absorb irritants and all lenses concentrate them. DO NOT wear contact lenses.

HANDS/FEET

- Suitability and durability of glove type is dependent on usage. Important factors in the selection of gloves include: such as:
 - frequency and duration of contact,
 - chemical resistance of glove material,

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- glove thickness and
- dexterity

Select gloves tested to a relevant standard (e.g. Europe EN 374, US F739).

- When prolonged or frequently repeated contact may occur, a glove with a protection class of 5 or higher (breakthrough time greater than 240 minutes according to EN 374) is recommended.
- When only brief contact is expected, a glove with a protection class of 3 or higher (breakthrough time greater than 60 minutes according to EN 374) is recommended.
- Contaminated gloves should be replaced.

Gloves must only be worn on clean hands. After using gloves, hands should be washed and dried thoroughly. Application of a non-perfumed moisturiser is recommended.

Experience indicates that the following polymers are suitable as glove materials for protection against undissolved, dry solids, where abrasive particles are not present.

- polychloroprene
- nitrile rubber
- butyl rubber
- fluorocautchouc
- polyvinyl chloride

Gloves should be examined for wear and/ or degradation constantly.

OTHER

-
- Overalls.
- P.V.C. apron.
- Barrier cream.
- Skin cleansing cream.
- Eye wash unit.
-
- Respirators may be necessary when engineering and administrative controls do not adequately prevent exposures.
- The decision to use respiratory protection should be based on professional judgment that takes into account toxicity information, exposure measurement data, and frequency and likelihood of the worker's exposure - ensure users are not subject to high thermal loads which may result in heat stress or distress due to personal protective equipment (powered, positive flow, full face apparatus may be an option).
- Published occupational exposure limits, where they exist, will assist in determining the adequacy of the selected respiratory . These may be government mandated or vendor recommended.
- Certified respirators will be useful for protecting workers from inhalation of particulates when properly selected and fit tested as part of a complete respiratory protection program.
- Use approved positive flow mask if significant quantities of dust becomes airborne.
- Try to avoid creating dust conditions.

RESPIRATOR

Protection Factor	Half-Face Respirator	Full-Face Respirator	Powered Air Respirator
10 x PEL	P1 Air-line*	-	PAPR-P1 -
50 x PEL	Air-line**	P2	PAPR-P2
100 x PEL	-	P3 Air-line*	-
100+ x PEL	-	Air-line**	PAPR-P3

* - Negative pressure demand ** - Continuous flow

Explanation of Respirator Codes:

Class 1 low to medium absorption capacity filters.

Class 2 medium absorption capacity filters.

Class 3 high absorption capacity filters.

PAPR Powered Air Purifying Respirator (positive pressure) cartridge.

Type A for use against certain organic gases and vapors.

Type AX for use against low boiling point organic compounds (less than 65°C).

Type B for use against certain inorganic gases and other acid gases and vapors.

Type E for use against sulfur dioxide and other acid gases and vapors.

Type K for use against ammonia and organic ammonia derivatives

Class P1 intended for use against mechanically generated particulates of sizes most commonly encountered in industry, e.g. asbestos, silica.

Class P2 intended for use against both mechanically and thermally generated particulates, e.g. metal fume.

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Class P3 intended for use against all particulates containing highly toxic materials, e.g. beryllium.

The local concentration of material, quantity and conditions of use determine the type of personal protective equipment required.

Use appropriate NIOSH-certified respirator based on informed professional judgement. In conditions where no reasonable estimate of exposure can be made, assume the exposure is in a concentration IDLH and use NIOSH-certified full face pressure demand SCBA with a minimum service life of 30 minutes, or a combination full facepiece pressure demand SAR with auxiliary self-contained air supply. Respirators provided only for escape from IDLH atmospheres shall be NIOSH-certified for escape from the atmosphere in which they will be used.

ENGINEERING CONTROLS

- Local exhaust ventilation is required where solids are handled as powders or crystals; even when particulates are relatively large, a certain proportion will be powdered by mutual friction.
- If in spite of local exhaust an adverse concentration of the substance in air could occur, respiratory protection should be considered.

Such protection might consist of:

(a): particle dust respirators, if necessary, combined with an absorption cartridge;

(b): filter respirators with absorption cartridge or canister of the right type;

(c): fresh-air hoods or masks

Air contaminants generated in the workplace possess varying "escape" velocities which, in turn, determine the "capture velocities" of fresh circulating air required to effectively remove the contaminant.

Type of Contaminant:	Air Speed:
direct spray, spray painting in shallow booths, drum filling, conveyer loading, crusher dusts, gas discharge (active generation into zone of rapid air motion)	1-2.5 m/s (200-500 f/min.)
grinding, abrasive blasting, tumbling, high speed wheel generated dusts (released at high initial velocity into zone of very high rapid air motion).	2.5-10 m/s (500-2000 f/min.)

Within each range the appropriate value depends on:

Lower end of the range	Upper end of the range
1: Room air currents minimal or favorable to capture	1: Disturbing room air currents
2: Contaminants of low toxicity or of nuisance value only.	2: Contaminants of high toxicity
3: Intermittent, low production.	3: High production, heavy use
4: Large hood or large air mass in motion	4: Small hood-local control only

Simple theory shows that air velocity falls rapidly with distance away from the opening of a simple extraction pipe. Velocity generally decreases with the square of distance from the extraction point (in simple cases). Therefore the air speed at the extraction point should be adjusted, accordingly, after reference to distance from the contaminating source. The air velocity at the extraction fan, for example, should be a minimum of 4-10 m/s (800-2000 f/min) for extraction of crusher dusts generated 2 meters distant from the extraction point. Other mechanical considerations, producing performance deficits within the extraction apparatus, make it essential that theoretical air velocities are multiplied by factors of 10 or more when extraction systems are installed or used.

Section 9 - PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Solid.

Mixes with water.

State	Divided solid	Molecular Weight	259.2
Melting Range (°F)	392 (-2H ₂ O)	Viscosity	Not available
Boiling Range (°F)	Not applicable.	Solubility in water (g/L)	Miscible
Flash Point (°F)	Not applicable	pH (1% solution)	> 7
Decomposition Temp (°F)	Not available.	pH (as supplied)	Not applicable
Autoignition Temp (°F)	Not applicable	Vapour Pressure (mmHG)	Not applicable.
Upper Explosive Limit (%)	Not applicable	Specific Gravity (water=1)	Not available.
Lower Explosive Limit (%)	Not applicable	Relative Vapor Density (air=1)	Not applicable.
Volatile Component (%vol)	Not applicable	Evaporation Rate	Not applicable

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APPEARANCE

White, crystalline powder; mixes with water. Insoluble in alcohol. Available as anhydrous CAS RN 12007-60-2; pentahydrate CAS RN 1303-94-2.

Section 10 - CHEMICAL STABILITY

CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO INSTABILITY

-
- Presence of incompatible materials.
- Product is considered stable.
- Hazardous polymerization will not occur.

STORAGE INCOMPATIBILITY

- None known.

For incompatible materials - refer to Section 7 - Handling and Storage.

Section 11 - TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

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TOXICITY AND IRRITATION

- unless otherwise specified data extracted from RTECS - Register of Toxic Effects of Chemical Substances.
- Asthma-like symptoms may continue for months or even years after exposure to the material ceases. This may be due to a non-allergenic condition known as reactive airways dysfunction syndrome (RADS) which can occur following exposure to high levels of highly irritating compound. Key criteria for the diagnosis of RADS include the absence of preceding respiratory disease, in a non-atopic individual, with abrupt onset of persistent asthma-like symptoms within minutes to hours of a documented exposure to the irritant. A reversible airflow pattern, on spirometry, with the presence of moderate to severe bronchial hyperreactivity on methacholine challenge testing and the lack of minimal lymphocytic inflammation, without eosinophilia, have also been included in the criteria for diagnosis of RADS. RADS (or asthma) following an irritating inhalation is an infrequent disorder with rates related to the concentration of and duration of exposure to the irritating substance. Industrial bronchitis, on the other hand, is a disorder that occurs as result of exposure due to high concentrations of irritating substance (often particulate in nature) and is completely reversible after exposure ceases. The disorder is characterised by dyspnea, cough and mucus production.

No data of toxicological significance identified in literature search.

Section 12 - ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Refer to data for ingredients, which follows:

LITHIUM TETRABORATE:

- For boron and borates:

Environmental fate:

Boron is generally found in nature bound to oxygen and is never found as the free element. Atmospheric boron may be in the form of particulate matter or aerosols as borides, boron oxides, borates, boranes, organoboron compounds, trihalide boron compounds, or borazines. Borates are relatively soluble in water, and will probably be removed from the atmosphere by precipitation and dry deposition. The half-life of airborne particles is usually on the order of days, depending on the size of the particle and atmospheric conditions.

Boron readily hydrolyses in water to form the electrically neutral, weak monobasic acid boric acid (H₃BO₃) and the monovalent ion, B(OH)₄⁻. In concentrated solutions, boron may polymerise, leading to the formation of complex and diverse molecular arrangements. Because most environmentally relevant boron minerals are highly soluble in water, it is unlikely that mineral equilibria will control the fate of boron in water. Boron was found to not be significantly removed during the conventional treatment of waste water. Boron may, however, be co-precipitated with aluminum, silicon, or iron to form hydroxyborate compounds on the surfaces of minerals.

Waterborne boron may be adsorbed by soils and sediments. Adsorption-desorption reactions are expected to be the only significant mechanism that will influence the fate of boron in water. The extent of boron adsorption depends on the pH of the water and the chemical composition of the soil. The greatest adsorption is generally observed at pH 7.5-9.0. the single most important property of soil that will influence the mobility of boron is the abundance of amorphous aluminum oxide. The extent of boron adsorption has also been attributed to the levels of iron oxide, and to a lesser extent, the organic matter present in the soil, although other studies found that the amount of organic matter present was not important. The adsorption of boron may not be reversible in some soils. The lack of reversibility may be the result of solid-phase formation on mineral surfaces and/or the slow release of boron by diffusion from the interior of clay minerals.

It is unlikely that boron is bioconcentrated significantly by organisms from water. A bioconcentration factor (BCF) relates the concentration of

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a chemical in the tissues of aquatic and terrestrial animals or plants to the concentration of the chemical in water or soil. The BCFs of boron in marine and freshwater plants, fish, and invertebrates were estimated to be <100. Experimentally measured BCFs for fish have ranged from 52 to 198. These BCFs suggest that boron is not significantly bioconcentrated.

As an element, boron itself cannot be degraded in the environment; however, it may undergo various reactions that change the form of boron (e.g., precipitation, polymerization, and acid-base reactions) depending on conditions such as its concentration in water and pH. In nature, boron is generally found in its oxygenated form. In aqueous solution, boron is normally present as boric acid and borate ions, with the dominant form of inorganic boron in natural aqueous systems as undissociated boric acid. Boric acid acts as an electron acceptor in aqueous solution, accepting an hydroxide ion from water to form (B(OH)₄)⁻ion. In dilute solution, the favored form of boron is B(OH)₄. In more concentrated solutions (>0.1 M boric acid) and at neutral to alkaline pH (6– 11), polymeric species are formed (e.g., B₃O₃(OH)₄⁻, B₅O₆(OH)₄⁻, B₃O₃(OH)₅²⁻, and B₄O₅(OH)₄²⁻)

Most boron compounds are transformed to borates in soil due to the presence of moisture. Borates themselves are not further degraded in soil. However, borates can exist in a variety of forms in soil. Borates are removed from soils by water leaching and by assimilation by plants.

The most appreciable boron exposure to the general population is likely to be ingestion of food and to a lesser extent in water. As boron is a natural component of the environment, individuals will have some exposure from foods and drinking water

Boron-containing salts (borates) are ubiquitous in the environment. Surface soil, unpolluted waterways and seawater all typically contain significant amounts of boron as borate. Boron is an essential micronutrient for healthy growth of plants, however, it can be harmful to boron sensitive plants in higher quantities. In some areas such as the American Southwest, boron occurs naturally in surface waters in concentrations that have been shown to be toxic to commercially important plants.

Based on the collected information regarding aquatic toxicity, boron is not regarded as dangerous to aquatic organisms. The concentration in treated municipal waste water is a factor 100 lower than the NOEC-value for Daphnia magna.

No quality criteria exist for the concentration of boron in soil and compost. Boron is added to farmland when sewage sludge is applied as a soil improving agent, but there is not sufficient data to evaluate its effect on soil organisms. Being an essential micro-nutrient, no adverse effects of boron are expected at low concentrations.

Ecotoxicity:

In aquatic environments low concentrations of borates generally promote the growth of algae, whereas higher concentrations inhibited algal growth. In a growth inhibition test with *Scenedesmus subspicatus*, an EC₅₀ value of 34 mg B/l was determined. Boric acid toxicity in Daphnia 48 h-LC₅₀ (static test) was found to be 95 mg B/l. In a separate study it was concluded that chronic effects of boron to Daphnia may occur at a concentration of > 10 mg/l.

The toxicity of boron in fish is often higher in soft water than in hard water. The acute toxicity of boron towards *Danio rerio* (96 h-LC₅₀) has been determined to 14.2 mg B/l. In a fish early life stage test with rainbow trout NOEC levels of boron have been determined in the range between 0.009 and 0.103 mg B/l, whereas the EC₅₀ ranged from 27 to 100 mg B/l dependent on the water hardness.

■ For lithium (anion):

Environmental fate:

Experiments with experimental animals have shown that lithium can have reprotoxic effects, and increasing consumption might therefore result in adverse effects on health and environment. Lithium has significant bioavailability only when administered as a partially soluble salt such as lithium carbonate. Lithium is not a dietary mineral for plants but it does stimulate plant growth.

Ecotoxicity:

Fish LC₅₀ (28, 35 days) rainbow trout 9.28, 1.4 mg/l (salt)

Fish LC₅₀ (96 h): fathead minnow 42 mg/l; NOEC 13 mg/l (salt)

Daphnia magna EC₅₀ (48 h): 24 mg/l; NOEC 11 mg/l

Lithium is not expected to bioaccumulate in mammals and its human and environmental toxicity are low. Lithium does accumulate in several species of fish, molluscs and crustaceans where it stored in the digestive tract and exoskeleton

Methanogenesis of granular anaerobic sludge (initial COD 5750 mg/l O₂, pH 7.2) was stimulated at lithium ion concentration 10-20 mg/l, slightly inhibited at lithium ion concentration 350 mg/l and seriously inhibited at lithium ion concentration > 500 mg/l.

Microinjection of lithium chloride into prospective ventral blastomeres of a 32-cell *Xenopus* larvis embryo gives rise to duplication of dorsoanterior structures such as the notochord, neural tube and eyes.

■ DO NOT discharge into sewer or waterways.

Section 13 - DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

Disposal Instructions

All waste must be handled in accordance with local, state and federal regulations.

! Puncture containers to prevent re-use and bury at an authorized landfill.

Legislation addressing waste disposal requirements may differ by country, state and/ or territory. Each user must refer to laws operating in their area. In some areas, certain wastes must be tracked.

A Hierarchy of Controls seems to be common - the user should investigate:

- Reduction
- Reuse
- Recycling
- Disposal (if all else fails)

Lithium tetraborate

sc-203113

Material Safety Data Sheet



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This material may be recycled if unused, or if it has not been contaminated so as to make it unsuitable for its intended use. Shelf life considerations should also be applied in making decisions of this type. Note that properties of a material may change in use, and recycling or reuse may not always be appropriate.

DO NOT allow wash water from cleaning equipment to enter drains. Collect all wash water for treatment before disposal.

- Recycle wherever possible or consult manufacturer for recycling options.
- Consult Waste Management Authority for disposal.
- Bury residue in an authorized landfill.
- Recycle containers where possible, or dispose of in an authorized landfill.

Section 14 - TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

NOT REGULATED FOR TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS: DOT, IATA, IMDG

Section 15 - REGULATORY INFORMATION

lithium tetraborate (CAS: 12007-60-2,1303-94-2) is found on the following regulatory lists;

"Canada Domestic Substances List (DSL)", "Canada Toxicological Index Service - Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System - WHMIS (English)", "Canada Toxicological Index Service - Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System - WHMIS (French)", "US DOE Temporary Emergency Exposure Limits (TEELs)", "US Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) - Inventory"

Section 16 - OTHER INFORMATION

LIMITED EVIDENCE

- Ingestion may produce health damage*.
- Cumulative effects may result following exposure*.
- Possible risk of harm to breastfed babies*.

* (limited evidence).

Ingredients with multiple CAS Nos

Ingredient Name	CAS
lithium tetraborate	12007-60-2, 1303-94-2

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■ Classification of the mixture and its individual components has drawn on official and authoritative sources as well as independent review by the Chemwatch Classification committee using available literature references.

A list of reference resources used to assist the committee may be found at:
www.chemwatch.net/references.

■ The (M)SDS is a Hazard Communication tool and should be used to assist in the Risk Assessment. Many factors determine whether the reported Hazards are Risks in the workplace or other settings. Risks may be determined by reference to Exposures Scenarios. Scale of use, frequency of use and current or available engineering controls must be considered.

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