

# Ethidium Bromide Solution

sc-286960



The Power is Question

Material Safety Data Sheet

Hazard Alert Code Key:

EXTREME

HIGH

MODERATE

LOW

## Section 1 - CHEMICAL PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

### PRODUCT NAME

Ethidium Bromide Solution

### STATEMENT OF HAZARDOUS NATURE

CONSIDERED A HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE ACCORDING TO OSHA 29 CFR 1910.1200.

### NFPA



### SUPPLIER

Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Inc.  
2145 Delaware Avenue  
Santa Cruz, California 95060  
800.457.3801 or 831.457.3800

### EMERGENCY

ChemWatch  
Within the US & Canada: 877-715-9305  
Outside the US & Canada: +800 2436 2255  
(1-800-CHEMCALL) or call +613 9573 3112

## Section 2 - HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

### CHEMWATCH HAZARD RATINGS

	Min	Max
Flammability:	0	■
Toxicity:	3	■
Body Contact:	0	■
Reactivity:	0	■
Chronic:	3	■

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



### CANADIAN WHMIS SYMBOLS



### EMERGENCY OVERVIEW

#### RISK

Toxic by inhalation.  
May cause heritable genetic damage.

Limited evidence of a carcinogenic effect.

## POTENTIAL HEALTH EFFECTS

### ACUTE HEALTH EFFECTS

#### SWALLOWED

- Accidental ingestion of the material may be damaging to the health of the individual.

#### EYE

- Although the liquid is not thought to be an irritant, direct contact with the eye may produce transient discomfort characterized by tearing or conjunctival redness (as with windburn).

#### SKIN

- Skin contact is not thought to produce harmful health effects (as classified using animal models).

Systemic harm, however, has been identified following exposure of animals by at least one other route and the material may still produce health damage following entry through wounds, lesions or abrasions.

- 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

- Inhalation of vapors or aerosols (mists, fumes), generated by the material during the course of normal handling, may produce toxic effects.

### CHRONIC HEALTH EFFECTS

- There has been concern that this material can cause cancer or mutations, but there is not enough data to make an assessment.

Based on experiments and other information, there is ample evidence to presume that exposure to this material can cause genetic defects that can be inherited.

Chronic intoxication with ionic bromides, historically, has resulted from medical use of bromides but not from environmental or occupational exposure; depression, hallucinosis, and schizophreniform psychosis can be seen in the absence of other signs of intoxication. Bromides may also induce sedation, irritability, agitation, delirium, memory loss, confusion, disorientation, forgetfulness (aphasias), dysarthria, weakness, fatigue, vertigo, stupor, coma, decreased appetite, nausea and vomiting, diarrhoea, hallucinations, an acne like rash on the face, legs and trunk, known as bronchoderma (seen in 25-30% of case involving bromide ion), and a profuse discharge from the nostrils (coryza). Ataxia and generalised hyperreflexia have also been observed. Correlation of neurologic symptoms with blood levels of bromide is inexact. The use of substances such as brompheniramine, as antihistamines, largely reflect current day usage of bromides; ionic bromides have been largely withdrawn from therapeutic use due to their toxicity. Several cases of foetal abnormalities have been described in mothers who took large doses of bromides during pregnancy.

## Section 3 - COMPOSITION / INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

NAME	CAS RN	%
<a href="#">ethidium bromide</a>	1239-45-8	0.1-1
<a href="#">water</a>	7732-18-5	>60

## Section 4 - FIRST AID MEASURES

#### SWALLOWED

· IF SWALLOWED, REFER FOR MEDICAL ATTENTION, WHERE POSSIBLE, WITHOUT DELAY. · Where Medical attention is not immediately available or where the patient is more than 15 minutes from a hospital or unless instructed otherwise:

#### EYE

- If this product comes in contact with the eyes: · Immediately hold eyelids apart and flush the eye continuously with 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.

#### SKIN

- If skin or hair contact occurs: · 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.

#### NOTES TO PHYSICIAN

- Treat symptomatically.

for poisons (where specific treatment regime is absent):

-----BASIC TREATMENT

-----  
· Establish a patent airway with suction where necessary.  
· Watch for signs of respiratory insufficiency and assist ventilation as necessary.

## Section 5 - FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

Vapor Pressure (mmHg):	17.251 @20C
Upper Explosive Limit (%):	Not Applicable
Specific Gravity (water=1):	1.0

Lower Explosive Limit (%): Not Applicable

### EXTINGUISHING MEDIA

- Water spray or fog.
- Foam.

### FIRE FIGHTING

- Alert Emergency Responders and tell them location and nature of hazard.
  - Wear full body protective clothing with breathing apparatus.
- When any large container (including road and rail tankers) is involved in a fire, consider evacuation by 800 metres in all directions.

### GENERAL FIRE HAZARDS/HAZARDOUS COMBUSTIBLE PRODUCTS

- Non combustible.
- Not considered to be a significant fire risk, however containers may burn.

### FIRE INCOMPATIBILITY

- None known.

### PERSONAL PROTECTION

Glasses:

Chemical goggles.

Gloves:

1.BUTYL 2.NEOPRENE 3.VITON

Respirator:

Particulate

## Section 6 - ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

### MINOR SPILLS

- Clean up all spills immediately.
- Avoid breathing vapors and contact with skin and eyes.

### MAJOR SPILLS

- Clear area of personnel and move upwind.
- Alert Emergency Responders and tell them location and nature of hazard.

## Section 7 - HANDLING AND STORAGE

### PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING

- Avoid all personal contact, including inhalation.
- Wear protective clothing when risk of exposure occurs.

### RECOMMENDED STORAGE METHODS

- Lined metal can, Lined metal pail/drum
- Plastic pail.

For low viscosity materials

- Drums and jerricans must be of the non-removable head type.
- Where a can is to be used as an inner package, the can must have a screwed enclosure.

### STORAGE REQUIREMENTS

- Store in original containers.
- Keep containers securely sealed.

## Section 8 - EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

### EXPOSURE CONTROLS

The following materials had no OELs on our records

- ethidium bromide: CAS:1239-45-8
- water: CAS:7732-18-5

### PERSONAL PROTECTION



### RESPIRATOR

- particulate.

Consult your EHS staff for recommendations

## EYE

- Safety glasses with side shields
- Chemical goggles.

## 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,
  - 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.

Wear chemical protective gloves, eg. PVC.

## OTHER

- Overalls.
- Eyewash unit.

## ENGINEERING CONTROLS

- Local exhaust ventilation usually required. If risk of overexposure exists, wear an approved respirator.

## Section 9 - PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

### PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Liquid.

Mixes with water.

Toxic or noxious vapours/gas.

State	Liquid	Molecular Weight	394.31
Melting Range (°F)	32	Viscosity	Not Available
Boiling Range (°F)	212	Solubility in water (g/L)	Miscible
Flash Point (°F)	Not Applicable	pH (1% solution)	Not Available
Decomposition Temp (°F)	Not Available	pH (as supplied)	Not Available
Autoignition Temp (°F)	Not Applicable	Vapor Pressure (mmHg)	17.251 @20C
Upper Explosive Limit (%)	Not Applicable	Specific Gravity (water=1)	1.0
Lower Explosive Limit (%)	Not Applicable	Relative Vapor Density (air=1)	Not Available
Volatile Component (%vol)	99.0	Evaporation Rate	Not Available

### APPEARANCE

Colourless odourless liquid with a characteristic odour; miscible with water.

## Section 10 - CHEMICAL STABILITY

### CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO INSTABILITY

- Presence of incompatible materials.
- Product is considered stable.

### STORAGE INCOMPATIBILITY

- None known.

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

## Section 11 - TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Bio-Rad Ethidium Bromide Solution

### TOXICITY AND IRRITATION

BIO-RAD ETHIDIUM BROMIDE SOLUTION:

- Not available. Refer to individual constituents.

ETHIDIUM BROMIDE:

- unless otherwise specified data extracted from RTECS - Register of Toxic Effects of Chemical Substances.

TOXICITY	IRRITATION
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Subcutaneous (mouse) LD50: 110 mg/kg Nil Reported

Intraperitoneal (Mouse) LD: 20 mg/kg

Oral (Rat) LD50: 1503 mg/kg \*

Inhalation (Rat) LC50: 118 mg/m<sup>3</sup>/4h \*

- Most undiluted cationic surfactants satisfy the criteria for classification as Harmful (Xn) with R22 and as Irritant (Xi) for skin and eyes with R38 and R41.

#### For quaternary ammonium compounds (QACs):

Quaternary ammonium compounds (QACs) are cationic surfactants. They are synthetic organically tetra-substituted ammonium compounds, where the R substituents are alkyl or heterocyclic radicals. A common characteristic of these synthetic compounds is that one of the R's is a long-chain hydrophobic aliphatic residue

The cationic surface active compounds are in general more toxic than the anionic and non-ionic surfactants. The positively-charged cationic portion is the functional part of the molecule and the local irritation effects of QACs appear to result from the quaternary ammonium cation.

Due to their relative ability to solubilise phospholipids and cholesterol in lipid membranes, QACs affect cell permeability which may lead to cell death. Further QACs denature proteins as cationic materials precipitate protein and are accompanied by generalised tissue irritation.

It has been suggested that the experimentally determined decrease in acute toxicity of QACs with chain lengths above C16 is due to decreased water solubility.

In general it appears that QACs with a single long-chain alkyl groups are more toxic and irritating than those with two such substitutions,

The straight chain aliphatic QACs have been shown to release histamine from minced guinea pig lung tissue. However, studies with benzalkonium chloride have shown that the effect on histamine release depends on the concentration of the solution. When cell suspensions (11% mast cells) from rats were exposed to low concentrations, a decrease in histamine release was seen. When exposed to high concentrations the opposite result was obtained.

In addition, QACs may show curare-like properties (specifically benzalkonium and cetylpyridinium derivatives, a muscular paralysis with no involvement of the central nervous system. This is most often associated with lethal doses Parenteral injections in rats, rabbits and dogs have resulted in prompt but transient limb paralysis and sometimes fatal paresis of the respiratory muscles. This effect seems to be transient. From human testing of different QACs the generalised conclusion is obtained that all the compounds investigated to date exhibit similar toxicological properties.

Acute toxicity: Studies in rats have indicated poor intestinal absorption of QACs. Acute toxicity of QACs varies with the compound and, especially, the route of administration. For some substances the LD50 value is several hundreds times lower by the i.p. or i.v. than the oral route, whereas toxicities between the congeners only differ in the range of two to five times.

At least some QACs are significantly more toxic in 50% dimethyl sulfoxide than in plain water when given orally

Probably all common QAC derivatives produce similar toxic reactions, but as tested in laboratory animals the oral mean lethal dose varies with the compound .

Oral toxicity: LD50 values for QACs have been reported within the range of 250-1000 mg/kg for rats, 150-1000 mg/kg for mice, 150-300 mg/kg for guinea pigs and about 500 mg/kg b.w. for rabbits and dogs . The ranges observed reflect differences in the study designs of these rather old experiments as well as differences between the various QACs.

The oral route of administration was characterised by delayed deaths, gastrointestinal lesions and respiratory and central nervous system depression. It was also found that given into a full stomach, the QACs lead to lower mortality and fewer gastrointestinal symptoms. This support the suggestion of an irritating effect

Dermal toxicity: It has been concluded that the maximum concentration that did not produce irritating effect on intact skin is 0.1%. Irritation became manifest in the 1-10% range. Concentrations below 0.1% have caused irritation in persons with contact dermatitis or broken skin.

Although the absorption of QACs through normal skin probably is of less importance than by other routes , studies with excised guinea pig skin have shown that the permeability constants strongly depends on the exposure time and type of skin

Sensitisation: Topical mucosal application of QACs may produce sensitisation. Reports on case stories and patch test have shown that compounds such as benzalkonium chloride , cetalkonium chloride and cetrimide may possibly act as sensitisers . However, in general it is suggested that QACs have a low potential for sensitising man It is difficult to distinguish between an allergic and an irritative skin reaction due to the inherent skin irritating effect of QACs.

#### Long term/repeated exposure:

Inhalation: A group of 196 farmers (with or without respiratory symptoms) were evaluated for the relationship between exposure to QACs (unspecified, exposure levels not given) and respiratory disorders by testing for lung function and bronchial responsiveness to histamine. After histamine provocation statistically significant associations were found between the prevalence of mild bronchial responsiveness (including asthma-like symptoms) and the use of QACs as disinfectant. The association seems even stronger in people without respiratory symptoms.

Genetic toxicity: QACs have been investigated for mutagenicity in microbial test systems. In Ames tests using Salmonella typhimurium with and without metabolic activation no signs of mutagenicity has been observed. Negative results were also obtained in E. coli reversion and B. subtilis rec assays. However, for benzalkonium chloride also positive and equivocal results were seen in the B. subtilis rec assays.

NOTE: Substance has been shown to be mutagenic in at least one assay, or belongs to a family of chemicals producing damage or change to cellular DNA.

\* JT Baker MSDS (nhalation figure did include time of exposure)

Mammalian cell mutagen Genotoxic in a number of test systems including Ames, cell mutation, cell transformation and cytogenetic assays

#### WATER:

- No significant acute toxicological data identified in literature search.

## Section 12 - ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

This material and its container must be disposed of as hazardous waste.

#### Ecotoxicity

Ingredient	Persistence: Water/Soil	Persistence: Air	Bioaccumulation	Mobility
Bio-Rad Ethidium Bromide Solution	No Data Available	No Data Available		
ethidium bromide	HIGH	No Data Available	LOW	LOW

## 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)

This material may be recycled if unused, or if it has not been contaminated so as to make it unsuitable for its intended use. If it has been contaminated, it may be possible to reclaim the product by filtration, distillation or some other means. 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.

## Section 14 - TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

DOT:

Symbols: None Hazard class or Division: 6.1

Identification Numbers: UN2810 PG: III

Label Codes: 6.1 Special provisions: IB3, T7, TP1, TP28

Packaging: Exceptions: 153 Packaging: Non- bulk: 203

Packaging: Exceptions: 153 Quantity limitations: 60 L

Passenger aircraft/rail:

Quantity Limitations: Cargo 220 L Vessel stowage: Location: A aircraft only:

Vessel stowage: Other: 40

Hazardous materials descriptions and proper shipping names:

Toxic, liquids, organic, n.o.s.

### Air Transport IATA:

ICAO/IATA Class: 6.1 ICAO/IATA Subrisk: None

UN/ID Number: 2810 Packing Group: III

Special provisions: A3

Cargo Only

Packing Instructions: 220 L Maximum Qty/Pack: 663

Passenger and Cargo Passenger and Cargo

Packing Instructions: 60 L Maximum Qty/Pack: 655

Passenger and Cargo Limited Quantity Passenger and Cargo Limited Quantity

Packing Instructions: 2 L Maximum Qty/Pack: Y642

Shipping Name: TOXIC LIQUID, ORGANIC, N.O.S. \* (CONTAINS ETHIDIUM BROMIDE)

### Maritime Transport IMDG:

IMDG Class: 6.1 IMDG Subrisk: None

UN Number: 2810 Packing Group: III

EMS Number: F-A , S-A Special provisions: 223 274

Limited Quantities: 5 L

Shipping Name: TOXIC LIQUID, ORGANIC, N.O.S.(contains ethidium bromide)

## Section 15 - REGULATORY INFORMATION

### Regulations for ingredients

**ethidium bromide (CAS: 1239-45-8) is found on the following regulatory lists;**

"US DOE Temporary Emergency Exposure Limits (TEELs)"

**water (CAS: 7732-18-5) is found on the following regulatory lists;**

"Canada Toxicological Index Service - Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System - WHMIS (English)", "IMO IBC Code Chapter 18: List of products to which the Code does not apply", "International Fragrance Association (IFRA) Survey: Transparency List", "OECD Representative List of High Production Volume (HPV) Chemicals", "US - Pennsylvania - Hazardous Substance List", "US DOE Temporary Emergency Exposure Limits (TEELs)", "US NFPA 30B Manufacture and Storage of Aerosol Products - Chemical Heat of Combustion", "US Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) - Inventory", "US TSCA Section 8 (a) Inventory Update Rule (IUR) - Partial Exemptions"

**No data for Bio-Rad Ethidium Bromide Solution (CW: 04-0745)**

## Section 16 - OTHER INFORMATION

*Reasonable care has been taken in the preparation of this information, but the author makes no warranty of*

*merchantability or any other warranty, expressed or implied, with respect to this information. The author makes no representations and assumes no liability for any direct, incidental or consequential damages resulting from its use. For additional technical information please call our toxicology department on +800 CHEMCALL.*

■ Classification of the preparation 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](http://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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