

# Potassium formate solution

sc-301590



The Power is Question

Material Safety Data Sheet

Hazard Alert Code Key: **EXTREME** **HIGH** **MODERATE** **LOW**

## Section 1 - CHEMICAL PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

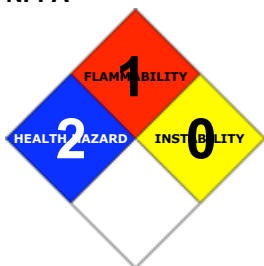
### PRODUCT NAME

Potassium formate 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

### SYNONYMS

HCO<sub>2</sub>K, "formic acid, potassium salt"

## Section 2 - HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

### CHEMWATCH HAZARD RATINGS

	Min	Max
Flammability:	1	
Toxicity:	2	
Body Contact:	2	
Reactivity:	1	
Chronic:	2	

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



### CANADIAN WHMIS SYMBOLS



## EMERGENCY OVERVIEW

### RISK

Irritating to eyes, respiratory system and skin.

### POTENTIAL HEALTH EFFECTS

#### ACUTE HEALTH EFFECTS

##### SWALLOWED

- Accidental ingestion of the material may be damaging to the health of the individual.
- Acute potassium poisoning after swallowing is rare, because vomiting usually occurs and renal excretion is fast. Potassium causes a slow, weak pulse, irregularities in heart rhythm, heart block and an eventual fall in blood pressure.
- Formate ion may directly act on the brain to produce convulsions. Large quantities administered to animals produced retinal lesions.

##### EYE

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

##### SKIN

- This material can cause inflammation of the skin on contact 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.
- Solution of material in moisture on the skin, or perspiration, may increase irritant effects.
- 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.

#### CHRONIC HEALTH EFFECTS

■ Long-term exposure to respiratory irritants may result in disease of the airways involving difficult breathing and related systemic problems. Limited evidence suggests that repeated or long-term occupational exposure may produce cumulative health effects involving organs or biochemical systems.

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.

<p>

## Section 3 - COMPOSITION / INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

NAME	CAS RN	%
potassium formate	590-29-4	>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.

##### 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.

##### SKIN

■ If skin contact occurs: · Immediately remove all contaminated clothing, including footwear · Flush skin and hair with running water (and soap if available).

##### INHALED

· If fumes or combustion products are inhaled remove from contaminated area. · Lay patient down. Keep warm and rested.

#### NOTES TO PHYSICIAN

- Treat symptomatically.

## Section 5 - FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

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

## EXTINGUISHING MEDIA

- Water spray or fog.
- Foam.

## FIRE FIGHTING

- Alert Emergency Responders and tell them location and nature of hazard.
- Wear breathing apparatus plus protective gloves.

## GENERAL FIRE HAZARDS/HAZARDOUS COMBUSTIBLE PRODUCTS

- Combustible solid which burns but propagates flame with difficulty.
- Avoid generating dust, particularly clouds of dust in a confined or unventilated space as dusts may form an explosive mixture with air, and any source of ignition, i.e. flame or spark, will cause fire or explosion. Dust clouds generated by the fine grinding of the solid are a particular hazard; accumulations of fine dust may burn rapidly and fiercely if ignited.

Combustion products include: carbon monoxide (CO), carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), metal oxides, other pyrolysis products typical of burning organic material.

May emit poisonous fumes.

May emit corrosive fumes.

## FIRE INCOMPATIBILITY

- Avoid contamination with oxidizing agents i.e. nitrates, oxidizing acids, chlorine bleaches, pool chlorine etc. as ignition may result.

## 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.

## Section 7 - HANDLING AND STORAGE

### PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING

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

Empty containers may contain residual dust which has the potential to accumulate following settling. Such dusts may explode in the presence of an appropriate ignition source.

- Do NOT cut, drill, grind or weld such containers.

· In addition ensure such activity is not performed near full, partially empty or empty containers without appropriate workplace safety authorisation or permit.

### RECOMMENDED STORAGE METHODS

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

### STORAGE REQUIREMENTS

- Plastic bag
- NOTE: Bags should be stacked, blocked, interlocked, and limited in height so that they are stable and secure against sliding or collapse.
- Store in original containers.
- Keep containers securely sealed.

## Section 8 - EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

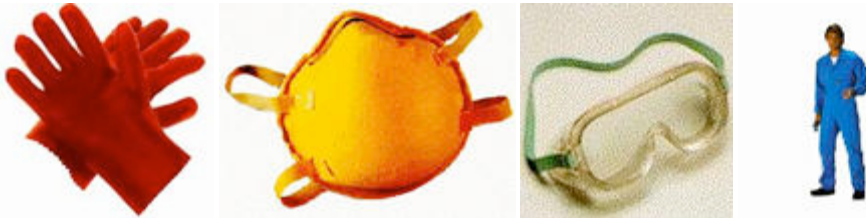
### EXPOSURE CONTROLS

Source	Material	TWA ppm	TWA mg/m <sup>3</sup>	STEL ppm	STEL mg/m <sup>3</sup>	Peak ppm	Peak mg/m <sup>3</sup>	TWA F/CC	Notes

US - California Permissible Exposure Limits for Chemical Contaminants	potassium formate (Particulates not otherwise regulated Respirable fraction)	5	(n)
US - Tennessee Occupational Exposure Limits - Limits For Air Contaminants	potassium formate (Particulates not otherwise regulated Respirable fraction)	5	
US - Wyoming Toxic and Hazardous Substances Table Z1 Limits for Air Contaminants	potassium formate (Particulates not otherwise regulated (PNOR)(f)-Respirable fraction)	5	
US - Michigan Exposure Limits for Air Contaminants	potassium formate (Particulates not otherwise regulated, Respirable dust)	5	
Canada - Prince Edward Island Occupational Exposure Limits	potassium formate (Particles (Insoluble or Poorly Soluble) [NOS] Inhalable particles)	10	See Appendix B current TLV/BEI Book

ENDOELTABLE

**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.

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
- fluoroacoutchouc
- 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.

#### 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.
- Exhaust ventilation should be designed to prevent accumulation and recirculation of particulates in the workplace.

## Section 9 - PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

### PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Solid.

Mixes with water.

State	Divided solid	Molecular Weight	84.12
Melting Range (°F)	329- 334.4	Viscosity	Not Applicable
Boiling Range (°F)	Not applicable	Solubility in water (g/L)	Miscible
Flash Point (°F)	Not Available	pH (1% solution)	7
Decomposition Temp (°F)	Not available.	pH (as supplied)	Not applicable
Autoignition Temp (°F)	Not available.	Vapour Pressure (mmHG)	Negligible
Upper Explosive Limit (%)	Not Available	Specific Gravity (water=1)	Not available
Lower Explosive Limit (%)	Not Available	Relative Vapor Density (air=1)	Not applicable
Volatile Component (%vol)	Negligible	Evaporation Rate	Not applicable

### APPEARANCE

White, hygroscopic (water absorbing), crystalline powder.Slight odour of formic acid.

## Section 10 - CHEMICAL STABILITY

### CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO INSTABILITY

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

### STORAGE INCOMPATIBILITY

■ Avoid strong acids.

Avoid reaction with oxidizing agents.

Segregate from alcohol, water.

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

## Section 11 - TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

POTASSIUM FORMATE

### TOXICITY AND IRRITATION

POTASSIUM FORMATE:

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

TOXICITY	IRRITATION
Oral (mouse) LD50: 5500 mg/kg	Nil Reported
Intravenous (mouse) LD50: 95 mg/kg	

■ 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.

## Section 12 - ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

No data

### Ecotoxicity

Ingredient	Persistence: Water/Soil	Persistence: Air	Bioaccumulation	Mobility
potassium formate	LOW		LOW	HIGH

### GESAMP/EHS COMPOSITE LIST - GESAMP Hazard Profiles

Name / EHS TRN A1a A1b A1 A2 B1 B2 C1 C2 C3 D1 D2 D3 E1 E2 E3 Cas No / RTECS No \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Potassium 212 615 0 NI 0 R 0 NI (0) (0) (2) 2 2 D 2 formate 1 solution (75% or more) /  
CAS:590-29-4 / LQ9625000

Legend: EHS=EHS Number (EHS=GESAMP Working Group on the Evaluation of the Hazards of Harmful Substances Carried by Ships)  
NRT=Net Register Tonnage, A1a=Bioaccumulation log Pow, A1b=Bioaccumulation BCF, A1=Bioaccumulation, A2=Biodegradation,  
B1=Acuteaquatic toxicity LC/ECIC50 (mg/l), B2=Chronic aquatic toxicity NOEC (mg/l), C1=Acute mammalian oral toxicity LD50 (mg/kg),  
C2=Acutemammalian dermal toxicity LD50 (mg/kg), C3=Acute mammalian inhalation toxicity LC50 (mg/kg), D1=Skin irritation & corrosion,  
D2=Eye irritation& corrosion, D3=Long-term health effects, E1=Tainting, E2=Physical effects on wildlife & benthic habitats, E3=Interference  
with coastal amenities, For column A2: R=Readily biodegradable, NR=Not readily biodegradable. For column D3: C=Carcinogen,  
M=Mutagenic, R=Reprotoxic, S=Sensitising, A=Aspiration hazard, T=Target organ systemic toxicity, L=Lunginjury, N=Neurotoxic,  
I=Immunotoxic. For column E1: NT=Not tainting (tested), T=Tainting test positive. For column E2: Fp=Persistent floater, F=Floater,  
S=Sinking substances. The numerical scales start from 0 (no hazard), while higher numbers reflect increasing hazard. (GESAMP/EHS  
Composite List of Hazard Profiles - Hazard evaluation of substances transported by ships)

## Section 13 - DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

### Disposal Instructions

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

‡ 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. 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.
- Consult manufacturer for recycling options or consult Waste Management Authority for disposal if no suitable treatment or disposal facility can be identified.

## Section 14 - TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

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

## Section 15 - REGULATORY INFORMATION

### potassium formate (CAS: 590-29-4) is found on the following regulatory lists;

"Canada Domestic Substances List (DSL)", "Canada Toxicological Index Service - Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System - WHMIS (English)", "GESAMP/EHS Composite List - GESAMP Hazard Profiles", "IMO IBC Code Chapter 18: List of products to which the Code does not apply", "International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA) - High Production Volume List", "OECD Representative List of High Production Volume (HPV) Chemicals", "US DOE Temporary Emergency Exposure Limits (TEELs)", "US EPA High Production Volume Chemicals Additional List", "US Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) - Inventory"

## 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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