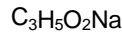


SODIUM PROPIONATE



Sodium Propionate is available as a white agglomerate or, on request, as white powder. These two versions are chemically identical and differ only in physical form. The agglomerate offers the properties of non-dustiness with improved wettability, higher bulk density and improved flowability.

COMMERCIAL INFORMATION

Specifications

Grade		Food
Appearance		white powder or agglomerate
Assay	% mass min.	99
Water	% mass max.	1
Insoluble in water	% mass max.	0.02
Chloride (Cl)	% mass max.	0.02
Sulphate (SO ₄)	ppm max.	100
Iron (Fe)	ppm max.	5
Lead (Pb)	ppm max.	2
Arsenic (As)	ppm max.	2
Mercury	ppm max.	1
pH (1% solution)		8.0 – 9.5

Conforms to: FCC5
the criteria of purity of the EC (specified for E281)
FAO/WHO specifications for identity and purity of food additives
NF 24
Japanese standards of food additives
BP2004

Methods of analysis

Details of test methods can be supplied on request.

Packing

Sodium Propionate is supplied in polyethylene lined paper bags.

Storage and handling

The product should be stored and handled in its original packaging or in a suitable sealed container and kept in a clean and dry place. Storage conditions should preferably be a sheltered environment with limited temperature variations and low humidity levels.

Direct contact of the package with water or any other liquid is likely to cause the product to cake. Pallets should not be stacked. Under normal conditions, the use of this product does not cause any undue health hazard. Precautions should be taken to prevent eye- and prolonged or repeated skin contact with the solid product or its solutions.

First aid

Eye contact: In the event of eye contact occurring, immediately irrigate with copious quantities of clean water, holding the eye open if necessary. Obtain medical attention.

Skin contact: Wash with water. Remove contaminated clothing, which should be washed before re-use. Ingestion: Wash out mouth with water. Obtain medical attention.

Fire hazard

Sodium Propionate presents little fire hazard.

Applications

Preservation of bread

Sodium Propionate is an effective inhibitor of the growth of certain moulds and some bacteria. It is widely employed in bread to prevent mould and extend the normal shelf life of the product. It is easy to handle and easy to incorporate into flour.

The need for preservatives

High moisture content of bread encourages the growth of moulds. Moulds are killed during the baking process, but airborne contamination of the bread occurs when it leaves the oven and mould spores are subsequently picked up from the atmosphere, during and after cooling, and from equipment. Although strict attention to bakery hygiene can greatly reduce contamination, it is not completely eliminated. The use of a preservative is therefore beneficial in extending the mould-free shelf life of the product. The rate of mould growth on bread is affected by the number and type of spores present. It is accelerated by high storage temperatures and humidity and is also influenced by the recipe employed. Wrapped sliced bread is particularly susceptible to mould.

Methods of use

Since there are many factors affecting the mould growth rate on bread, the levels of used Sodium Propionate cannot be correlated precisely with the extension of the shelf life.

In general, however, for standard bread recipes, a concentration of 0.2-0.5% Sodium Propionate on the mass of flour is recommended. Although the odour of Sodium Propionate at this concentration may be noticed when the bread is still hot, it rapidly disappears during cooling.

At the start of dough making, Sodium Propionate should be added to the other dry ingredients of the loaf. A small reduction in volume of the finished loaf may result from the use of Sodium Propionate but this can usually be overcome by the addition of some extra yeast. Sodium Propionate can also be added at the end of the dough making.

In all cases it is advisable to carry out an initial baking test, so that the precise effects on odour, flavour and bread volume can be determined. When adding Sodium Propionate to the bread, the rope bacillus is effectively controlled at the same time.

Other applications

Sodium Propionate can be used for prevention of microbial deterioration of products other than foodstuffs. It has advantages over other fungicides in being of low toxicity and of relatively low cost. It has been proven to be of value in pharmaceutical preparations used for the treatment of athletes' foot and rashes.

Kemira ChemSolutions b.v.

Papesteeg 91
P.O. Box 60, 4000 AB Tiel
The Netherlands

Tel. +31 344 61 52 24
Fax +31 344 61 14 75
ChemSolutions@kemira.com
www.kemira.com

Bank ABN Amro 43.42.37.833
Trade register Tiel
Registration no. 11044303
VAT NL807461817B01

PROPERTIES

Physical properties

Molecular mass		96.07
Flash point	°C	>250
Solubility in water: at 20°C	g/100 ml	99.9
: at 80°C	g/100 ml	127

Physiological properties

The solid or solutions may cause irritation to the eyes. Prolonged or repeated skin contact may cause slight irritation. Exposure to the dust at high concentrations or ingestion may cause irritation to the nose, throat and upper respiratory tract.

LIABILITY

Information contained in this publication is accurate to the best of the knowledge of Kemira ChemSolution b.v. The Company does not accept any liability whatsoever in respect of the use of this information nor in respect of the use, application, adaptation or processing of any product(s) described herein.

CERTIFICATION

Kemira ChemSolutions b.v. has an ongoing quality system certified according ISO 9001:2000

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Kemira ChemSolutions b.v.

Papesteeg 91
P.O. Box 60, 4000 AB Tiel
The Netherlands

Tel. +31 344 61 52 24
Fax +31 344 61 14 75
ChemSolutions@kemira.com
www.kemira.com

Bank ABN Amro 43.42.37.833
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Registration no. 11044303
VAT NL807461817B01