



MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

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MSDS No.: SS0990
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Approved by: James A. Bertsch

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Section 1 Chemical Product and Company Information

Product STEARICACID

Synonyms Octadecanoic Acid

CHEMTREC 24 Hour Emergency Phone Number (800) 424-9300

Section 2 Hazards Identification

Emergency Overview

CAUTION!

MAY CAUSE IRRITATION.

Avoid contact with skin and eyes. Do not inhale dusts.

Target organs: None known.

0 = Minimal
1 = Slight
2 = Moderate
3 = Serious
4 = Severe

Health	1
Fire	1
Reactivity	1
Contact	2

HMIS *

Section 3 Composition / Information on Ingredients

Chemical Name	CAS #	%	TLV Units
Stearic acid	57-11-4	100%	None established. (ACGIH 2001)

Section 4 First Aid Measures

INGESTION: Call physician or Poison Control Center immediately. Induce vomiting only if advised by appropriate medical personnel. Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person.

INHALATION: Remove to fresh air. If not breathing, give artificial respiration. If breathing is difficult, give oxygen. Get medical attention.

EYE CONTACT: Check for and remove contact lenses. Flush thoroughly with water for at least 15 minutes, lifting upper and lower eyelids occasionally. Get immediate medical attention.

SKIN CONTACT: Remove contaminated clothing. Flush thoroughly with mild soap and water. If irritation occurs, get medical attention.

Section 5 Fire Fighting Measures

General information: In fire conditions, wear a NIOSH/MSHA-approved self-contained breathing apparatus and full protective gear. During a fire, irritating and highly toxic gases may be generated by thermal decomposition or combustion. Use water spray to keep fire-exposed containers cool. Dust dispersed in air becomes explosive when exposed to ignition source. Melted stearic acid should be handled like a grease fire with knowledge that it can float on water and spread.

Extinguishing Media: Carbon dioxide, dry chemical, water spray, alcohol foam.

Flash Point: 190°C (374°F) COC

Autoignition temperature: N/A

Explosion Limits: Lower: N/A Upper: N/A

Section 6 Accidental Release Measures

Use proper personal protective equipment as indicated in Section 8. Remove all sources of ignition. Provide adequate ventilation. Recover for use if not contaminated. Sweep or vacuum up and place in a suitable container for proper disposal. Wash spill area with soap and water. Avoid runoff into storm sewers and ditches which lead to waterways.

0 = Minimal
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3 = Serious
4 = Severe



None listed.

Section 7 Handling & Storage

GENERAL STORAGE CODE GREEN

Read label on container before using. Do not wear contact lenses when working with chemicals. Keep container tightly closed. For laboratory use only. Not for drug, food or household use. Keep out of reach of children.

Handling: Use with adequate ventilation. Avoid contact with eyes, skin and clothing. Avoid ingestion. Do not inhale dusts. Wash thoroughly after handling. Remove and wash clothing before reuse.

Storage: Store in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area away from incompatible substances. Keep away from ignition sources.

Section 8 Exposure Controls / Personal Protection

Engineering controls: Facilities storing or utilizing this material should be equipped with an eyewash facility and a safety shower and fire extinguishing material. Personnel should wear safety glasses, goggles, or faceshield, lab coat or apron, appropriate protective gloves. Use adequate ventilation to keep airborne concentrations low.

Respiratory protection: None should be needed in normal laboratory handling at room temperatures. If dusty conditions prevail, work in fume hood or wear a NIOSH/MSHA-approved respirator.

Section 9 Physical & Chemical Properties

Physical state: Solid.

Appearance: White flakes or powder.

Odor: Tallow-like odor.

pH: N/A

Vapor pressure (mm Hg): N/A.

Vapor Density (Air = 1): N/A

Evaporation rate (= 1): N/A

Viscosity: N/A

Boiling point: >315°C (600°F)

Freezing / Melting point: 53-56°C (127-133°F)

Decomposition temperature: N/A

Solubility: Insoluble.

Specific gravity (H₂O = 1): 0.847 @ 20°C

Percent volatile (%): N/A

Molecular formula: 284.49

Molecular weight: CH₃(CH₂)₁₆COOH

Section 10 Stability & Reactivity

Chemical stability: Stable

Hazardous polymerization: Will not occur.

Conditions to avoid: Avoid excessive temperatures. Slowly volatilizes @ 90-100°C.

Incompatibilities with other materials: Strong oxidizers and bases.

Hazardous decomposition products: Oxides of carbon.

Section 11 Toxicological Information

Effects of overexposure: May cause irritation of the upper respiratory tract. May cause irritation of the eyes. Exercise appropriate procedure to minimize potential hazards.

RTECS #: W12900000

ORL-RAT LD50: N/A

INV-MUS LD50: 23 mg/kg

INV-RAT LD50: 2.5 mg/kg

Section 12 Ecological Information

Data not yet available.

Section 13 Disposal Considerations

These disposal guidelines are intended for the disposal of catalog-size quantities only. Federal regulations may apply to empty container. State and/or local regulations may be different. Dispose of in accordance with all local, state and federal regulations or contract with a licensed chemical disposal agency.

Section 14 Transport Information

UN/NA number: N/A

Shipping name: Not Regulated.

Hazard class: N/A

Packing group: N/A

Exceptions: N/A

Section 15 Regulatory Information

TSCA-listed, EINECS-listed (200-313-4)

Section 16 Additional Information

The information contained herein is furnished without warranty of any kind. Employers should use this information only as a supplement to other information gathered by them and must make independent determinations of suitability and completeness of information from all sources to assure proper use of these materials and the safety and health of employees. * Hazardous Materials Industrial Standards.