

AGAROSE

GHS Safety Data Sheet

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Section 1 - CHEMICAL PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

PRODUCT NAME

AGAROSE

OTHER NAMES

agaran, "agarose polysaccharide", polysaccharide, "low eeo agarose", "medium eeo agarose", "low gelling agarose", "high gelling agarose", "ultra low gelling agarose"

PRODUCT USE

Used in electrophoresis, immunoelectrophoresis and immunodiffusion studies.

SUPPLIER

Company: S D FINE - CHEM LIMITED

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Section 2 - HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

HAZARD RATINGS



EMERGENCY OVERVIEW

HAZARD

Not hazardous

Section 3 - COMPOSITION / INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

NAME	CAS RN	%
agarose	9012-36-6	>90
water	7732-18-5	<10
residuals may include		

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sulphate	<0.35
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Section 4 - FIRST AID MEASURES

SWALLOWED

- Immediately give a glass of water.
- First aid is not generally required. If in doubt, contact a Poisons Information Centre or a doctor.

EYE

- If this product comes in contact with eyes:
 - Wash out immediately with water.
 - If irritation continues, seek medical attention.
 - Removal of contact lenses after an eye injury should only be undertaken by skilled personnel.

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 dust is inhaled, remove from contaminated area.
- Encourage patient to blow nose to ensure clear passage of breathing.
- If irritation or discomfort persists seek medical attention.

NOTES TO PHYSICIAN

- Treat symptomatically.

Section 5 - FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

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 Fire Brigade 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 courses.
- 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.

FIRE/EXPLOSION HAZARD

- Combustible solid which burns but propagates flame with difficulty; it is estimated that most organic dusts are combustible (circa 70%) - according to the circumstances under which the combustion process occurs, such materials may cause fires and / or dust explosions.
- 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 (420 micron or less) may burn rapidly and fiercely if ignited - particles exceeding this limit will generally not form flammable dust clouds.; once initiated, however, larger particles up to 1400 microns diameter will contribute to the propagation of an explosion.
- In the same way as gases and vapours, dusts in the form of a cloud are only ignitable over a range of concentrations; in principle, the concepts of lower explosive limit (LEL) and upper explosive limit

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(UEL).are applicable to dust clouds but only the LEL is of practical use; - this is because of the inherent difficulty of achieving homogeneous dust clouds at high temperatures (for dusts the LEL is often called the "Minimum Explosible Concentration", MEC)

- A dust explosion may release of large quantities of gaseous products; this in turn creates a subsequent pressure rise of explosive force capable of damaging plant and buildings and injuring people.
 - Usually the initial or primary explosion takes place in a confined space such as plant or machinery, and can be of sufficient force to damage or rupture the plant. If the shock wave from the primary explosion enters the surrounding area, it will disturb any settled dust layers, forming a second dust cloud, and often initiate a much larger secondary explosion. All large scale explosions have resulted from chain reactions of this type.
 - Dry dust can be charged electrostatically by turbulence, pneumatic transport, pouring, in exhaust ducts and during transport.
 - Build-up of electrostatic charge may be prevented by bonding and grounding.
 - Powder handling equipment such as dust collectors, dryers and mills may require additional protection measures such as explosion venting.
 - All movable parts coming in contact with this material should have a speed of less than 1-meter/sec
 - A sudden release of statically charged materials from storage or process equipment, particularly at elevated temperatures and/ or pressure, may result in ignition especially in the absence of an apparent ignition source
 - One important effect of the particulate nature of powders is that the surface area and surface structure (and often moisture content) can vary widely from sample to sample, depending of how the powder was manufactured and handled; this means that it is virtually impossible to use flammability data published in the literature for dusts (in contrast to that published for gases and vapours).
 - Autoignition temperatures are often quoted for dust clouds (minimum ignition temperature (MIT)) and dust layers (layer ignition temperature (LIT)); LIT generally falls as the thickness of the layer increases.
- Combustion products include: carbon monoxide (CO), carbon dioxide (CO₂), sulfur oxides (SO_x), other pyrolysis products typical of burning organic material.
May emit poisonous fumes.

FIRE INCOMPATIBILITY

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

PERSONAL PROTECTION

Glasses:
Chemical goggles.

Respirator:
Particulate

Section 6 - ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

MINOR SPILLS

- Clean up all spills immediately.
- Avoid breathing dust and contact with skin and eyes.
- Wear protective clothing, gloves, safety glasses and dust respirator.
- Use dry clean up procedures and avoid generating dust.
- Sweep up, shovel up or
- Vacuum up (consider explosion-proof machines designed to be grounded during storage and use).
- Place spilled material in clean, dry, sealable, labelled container.

MAJOR SPILLS

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

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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.

Personal Protective Equipment advice is contained in Section 8 of the MSDS.

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.

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.

SUITABLE CONTAINER

- Glass container is suitable for laboratory quantities.
- Polyethylene or polypropylene container.
- Check all containers are clearly labelled and free from leaks.

STORAGE INCOMPATIBILITY

- Avoid strong acids, bases.
- Avoid reaction with oxidising agents.

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



+



+



+



+



X



+

+: May be stored together

O: May be stored together with specific preventions

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Section 7 - HANDLING AND STORAGE

X: *Must not be stored together*

Section 8 - EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

EXPOSURE CONTROLS

The following materials had no OELs on our records

- agarose: CAS:9012- 36- 6
- water: CAS:7732- 18- 5

MATERIAL DATA

AGAROSE:

■ 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.

WATER:

- No exposure limits set by NOHSC or ACGIH.

PERSONAL PROTECTION



EYE

- Safety glasses with side shields
- Chemical goggles.
- Contact lenses may pose a special hazard; soft contact lenses may absorb and concentrate irritants. A written policy document, describing the wearing of lens or restrictions on use, should be created for each workplace or task. This should include a review of lens absorption and adsorption for the class of chemicals in use and an account of injury experience. Medical and first-aid personnel should be trained in their removal and suitable equipment should be readily available. In the event of chemical exposure, begin eye irrigation immediately and remove contact lens as soon as practicable. Lens should be removed at the first signs of eye redness or irritation - lens should be removed in a clean environment only after workers have washed hands thoroughly. [CDC NIOSH Current Intelligence Bulletin 59].

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

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(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
- fluorocarbon
- 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 ES	P1 Air- line*	- -	PAPR- P1 -
50 x ES	Air- line**	P2	PAPR- P2
100 x ES	-	P3	-
		Air- line*	-
100+ x ES	-	Air- line**	PAPR- P3

* - Negative pressure demand

** - Continuous flow.

The local concentration of material, quantity and conditions of use determine the type of personal protective equipment required. For further information consult your Occupational Health and Safety Advisor.

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;

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Section 8 - EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

(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:

direct spray, spray painting in shallow booths, drum filling, conveyer loading, crusher dusts, gas discharge (active generation into zone of rapid air motion)
grinding, abrasive blasting, tumbling, high speed wheel generated dusts (released at high initial velocity into zone of very high rapid air motion).

Air Speed:

1- 2.5 m/s (200- 500 f/min.)

2.5- 10 m/s (500- 2000 f/min.)

Within each range the appropriate value depends on:

Lower end of the range

- 1: Room air currents minimal or favourable to capture
- 2: Contaminants of low toxicity or of nuisance value only.
- 3: Intermittent, low production.
- 4: Large hood or large air mass in motion

Upper end of the range

- 1: Disturbing room air currents
- 2: Contaminants of high toxicity
- 3: High production, heavy use
- 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 metres 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

APPEARANCE

White to cream crystals, soluble in water. Forms a gel matrix in water. Odourless and tasteless. Available in several grades of varying sulfate content, gel strength, gel temperature properties, which makes no effect on hazard.

Agarose is a purified galactan hydrocolloid isolated from agar or agar-bearing marine algae.

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Solid.

Mixes with water.

State	Divided solid	Molecular Weight	Not available.
Melting Range (°C)	95	Viscosity	Not Applicable
Boiling Range (°C)	Not available.	Solubility in water (g/L)	Miscible
Flash Point (°C)	Not applicable	pH (1% solution)	7
Decomposition Temp (°C)	Not available.	pH (as supplied)	Not applicable
Autoignition Temp (°C)	Not available.	Vapour Pressure (kPa)	Negligible

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Section 9 - PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Upper Explosive Limit (%)	Not available.	Specific Gravity (water=1)	1.7 approx.
Lower Explosive Limit (%)	Not available.	Relative Vapour Density (air=1)	Not applicable
Volatile Component (%vol)	<10	Evaporation Rate	Not applicable

Section 10 - CHEMICAL STABILITY AND REACTIVITY INFORMATION

CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO INSTABILITY

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

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

Section 11 - TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

POTENTIAL HEALTH EFFECTS

ACUTE HEALTH EFFECTS

SWALLOWED

■ The material has NOT been classified by EC Directives or other classification systems as "harmful by ingestion". This is because of the lack of corroborating animal or human evidence. The material may still be damaging to the health of the individual, following ingestion, especially where pre-existing organ (eg. liver, kidney) damage is evident. Present definitions of harmful or toxic substances are generally based on doses producing mortality rather than those producing morbidity (disease, ill-health). Gastrointestinal tract discomfort may produce nausea and vomiting. In an occupational setting however, ingestion of insignificant quantities is not thought to be cause for concern.

■ Polysaccharides are not easily absorbed from the digestive tract, but may produce a laxative effect. Larger doses may produce intestinal or stomach blockage. Methylcellulose may temporarily increase flatulence. Obstruction of the oesophagus may occur if the material is swallowed dry. Ingestion of hetastarch (hydroxyethyl amylopectin) has reportedly produced fever, chills, urticaria and salivary gland enlargement. Large volumes of hetastarch taken by mouth may interfere with blood clotting, and increase the risk of bleeding. Anaphylaxis has occurred. Infusion of dextrans may occasionally produce allergic reactions, such as urticaria, low blood pressure and spasm of the bronchi. Severe anaphylactic reactions may occasionally occur and death may result from stoppage of the heart and breathing. Similarly, allergic reactions have been reported following ingestion or inhalation of tragacanth gums.

EYE

■ Although the material is not thought to be an irritant (as classified by EC Directives), direct contact with the eye may cause transient discomfort characterised by tearing or conjunctival redness (as with windburn). Slight abrasive damage may also result. The material may produce foreign body irritation in certain individuals.

SKIN

■ The material is not thought to produce adverse health effects or skin irritation following contact (as classified by EC Directives using animal models). Nevertheless, good hygiene practice requires that exposure be kept to a minimum and that suitable gloves be used in an occupational setting.

■ Repeated exposure may cause skin cracking, flaking or drying following normal handling and use.

■ 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.

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Section 11 - TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

INHALED

- The material is not thought to produce adverse health effects or irritation of the respiratory tract (as classified by EC Directives using animal models). Nevertheless, good hygiene practice requires that exposure be kept to a minimum and that suitable control measures be used in an occupational setting.
- 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. If prior damage to the circulatory or nervous systems has occurred or if kidney damage has been sustained, proper screenings should be conducted on individuals who may be exposed to further risk if handling and use of the material result in excessive exposures.
- Not normally a hazard due to non-volatile nature of product.

CHRONIC HEALTH EFFECTS

- Prolonged or repeated skin contact may cause drying with cracking, irritation and possible dermatitis following. Substance accumulation, in the human body, may occur and may cause some concern following repeated or long-term occupational exposure. 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. Studies indicate that diets containing large amounts of non-absorbable polysaccharides, such as cellulose, might decrease absorption of calcium, magnesium, zinc and phosphorus.

TOXICITY AND IRRITATION

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

TOXICITY

Oral (rat) LD50: 11000 mg/kg
Data for agar only

IRRITATION

Nil Reported

WATER:

- No significant acute toxicological data identified in literature search.

Section 12 - ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Refer to data for ingredients, which follows:

AGAROSE:

- Sugar-based compounds (saccharides), including polysaccharides are generally easily decomposed by biodegradation. Not all polysaccharides decompose with equal rapidity, and polysaccharides are also synthesised by microorganisms during, for example, the compost maturation phases. Water-insoluble species such as cellulose take longer to decompose and those with a significant degree of branching also take longer.
- DO NOT discharge into sewer or waterways.

Ecotoxicity

Ingredient	Persistence: Water/Soil	Persistence: Air	Bioaccumulation	Mobility
water	LOW		LOW	HIGH

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Section 13 - DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

■ 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 or process equipment to enter drains.
- It may be necessary to collect all wash water for treatment before disposal.
- In all cases disposal to sewer may be subject to local laws and regulations and these should be considered first.
- Where in doubt contact the responsible authority.
- Recycle wherever possible.
- Consult manufacturer for recycling options or consult local or regional waste management authority for disposal if no suitable treatment or disposal facility can be identified.
- Dispose of by: burial in a land-fill specifically licenced to accept chemical and / or pharmaceutical wastes or Incineration in a licenced apparatus (after admixture with suitable combustible material)
- Decontaminate empty containers. Observe all label safeguards until containers are cleaned and destroyed.

Section 14 - TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

HAZCHEM:

☐ None

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

Section 15 - REGULATORY INFORMATION

REGULATIONS

agarose (CAS: 9012-36-6) is found on the following regulatory lists;

"Australia Inventory of Chemical Substances (AICS)"
Regulations for ingredients

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

"Australia Inventory of Chemical Substances (AICS)", "IMO IBC Code Chapter 18: List of products to which the Code does not apply", "OECD Representative List of High Production Volume (HPV) Chemicals"

Section 16 - OTHER INFORMATION

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

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■ 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.

The above information is believed to be accurate and represent the best information currently available to us, but does not represent any warranty expressed or implied of the properties of the product. User should make their own investigation to determine the suitability of the information for their particular purpose.

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