



Health	2
Fire	0
Reactivity	0
Personal Protection	E

## Material Safety Data Sheet

### Potassium metabisulfite MSDS

#### Section 1: Chemical Product and Company Identification

**Product Name:** Potassium metabisulfite

**Catalog Codes:** SLP3214, SLP5026, SLP2203

**CAS#:** 16731-55-8

**RTECS:** TT4920000

**TSCA:** TSCA 8(b) inventory: Potassium metabisulfite

**CI#:** Not available.

**Synonym:** Dipotassium pyrosulfite; Dipotassium disulfite; Dipotassium metabisulfite; Potassium disulfite; Pyrosulfurous acid, dipotassium salt

**Chemical Name:** Potassium Pyrosulfite

**Chemical Formula:** K<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>

**Contact Information:**

**Sciencelab.com, Inc.**  
14025 Smith Rd.  
Houston, Texas 77396

US Sales: **1-800-901-7247**

International Sales: **1-281-441-4400**

Order Online: [ScienceLab.com](http://ScienceLab.com)

**CHEMTREC (24HR Emergency Telephone), call:**  
1-800-424-9300

**International CHEMTREC, call:** 1-703-527-3887

**For non-emergency assistance, call:** 1-281-441-4400

#### Section 2: Composition and Information on Ingredients

**Composition:**

Name	CAS #	% by Weight
Potassium metabisulfite	16731-55-8	100

**Toxicological Data on Ingredients:** Potassium metabisulfite LD50: Not available. LC50: Not available.

#### Section 3: Hazards Identification

**Potential Acute Health Effects:**

Hazardous in case of skin contact (irritant), of eye contact (irritant), of inhalation (lung irritant). Slightly hazardous in case of ingestion.

**Potential Chronic Health Effects:**

CARCINOGENIC EFFECTS: 3 (Not classifiable for human.) by IARC. MUTAGENIC EFFECTS: Not available. TERATOGENIC EFFECTS: Not available. DEVELOPMENTAL TOXICITY: Not available. Repeated or prolonged exposure is not known to aggravate medical condition.

#### Section 4: First Aid Measures

**Eye Contact:**

Check for and remove any contact lenses. In case of contact, immediately flush eyes with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes. Cold water may be used. Get medical attention.

**Skin Contact:**

In case of contact, immediately flush skin with plenty of water. Cover the irritated skin with an emollient. Remove contaminated clothing and shoes. Cold water may be used. Wash clothing before reuse. Thoroughly clean shoes before reuse. Get medical attention.

**Serious Skin Contact:**

Wash with a disinfectant soap and cover the contaminated skin with an anti-bacterial cream. Seek medical attention.

**Inhalation:**

If inhaled, remove to fresh air. If not breathing, give artificial respiration. If breathing is difficult, give oxygen. Get medical attention.

**Serious Inhalation:** Not available.

**Ingestion:**

Do NOT induce vomiting unless directed to do so by medical personnel. Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person. If large quantities of this material are swallowed, call a physician immediately. Loosen tight clothing such as a collar, tie, belt or waistband.

**Serious Ingestion:** Not available.

## Section 5: Fire and Explosion Data

**Flammability of the Product:** Non-flammable.

**Auto-Ignition Temperature:** Not applicable.

**Flash Points:** Not applicable.

**Flammable Limits:** Not applicable.

**Products of Combustion:** Not available.

**Fire Hazards in Presence of Various Substances:** Not applicable.

**Explosion Hazards in Presence of Various Substances:**

Risks of explosion of the product in presence of mechanical impact: Not available. Risks of explosion of the product in presence of static discharge: Not available.

**Fire Fighting Media and Instructions:** Not applicable.

**Special Remarks on Fire Hazards:**

When heated to decomposition it emits toxic fumes of sulfur oxides and potassium sulfate. It may ignite during milling or grinding (when powdering it).

**Special Remarks on Explosion Hazards:** Not available.

## Section 6: Accidental Release Measures

**Small Spill:**

Use appropriate tools to put the spilled solid in a convenient waste disposal container. Finish cleaning by spreading water on the contaminated surface and dispose of according to local and regional authority requirements.

**Large Spill:**

Use a shovel to put the material into a convenient waste disposal container. Finish cleaning by spreading water on the contaminated surface and allow to evacuate through the sanitary system.

## Section 7: Handling and Storage

**Precautions:**

Do not breathe dust. Wear suitable protective clothing. In case of insufficient ventilation, wear suitable respiratory equipment. If you feel unwell, seek medical attention and show the label when possible. Avoid contact with skin and eyes. Keep away from incompatibles such as oxidizing agents, acids.

**Storage:** Keep container tightly closed. Keep container in a cool, well-ventilated area.

### Section 8: Exposure Controls/Personal Protection

**Engineering Controls:**

Use process enclosures, local exhaust ventilation, or other engineering controls to keep airborne levels below recommended exposure limits. If user operations generate dust, fume or mist, use ventilation to keep exposure to airborne contaminants below the exposure limit.

**Personal Protection:**

Splash goggles. Lab coat. Dust respirator. Be sure to use an approved/certified respirator or equivalent. Gloves.

**Personal Protection in Case of a Large Spill:**

Splash goggles. Full suit. Dust respirator. Boots. Gloves. A self contained breathing apparatus should be used to avoid inhalation of the product. Suggested protective clothing might not be sufficient; consult a specialist BEFORE handling this product.

**Exposure Limits:** Not available.

### Section 9: Physical and Chemical Properties

**Physical state and appearance:** Solid. (Crystalline powder. Crystals solid.)

**Odor:** Sulfurous. Sulfur dioxide odor

**Taste:** Not available.

**Molecular Weight:** 222.31 g/mole

**Color:** White.

**pH (1% soln/water):** Not available.

**Boiling Point:** Not available.

**Melting Point:** Decomposition temperature: 150°C (302°F)

**Critical Temperature:** Not available.

**Specific Gravity:** Density: 2.34 (Water = 1)

**Vapor Pressure:** Not applicable.

**Vapor Density:** 2.3 (Air = 1)

**Volatility:** Not available.

**Odor Threshold:** Not available.

**Water/Oil Dist. Coeff.:** Not available.

**Ionicity (in Water):** Not available.

**Dispersion Properties:** See solubility in water.

**Solubility:**

Easily soluble in cold water, hot water. Soluble in acids and alkaline. Insoluble in alcohol

### Section 10: Stability and Reactivity Data

**Stability:** The product is stable.

**Instability Temperature:** Not available.

**Conditions of Instability:** Incompatible materials, moisture, air

**Incompatibility with various substances:** Reactive with oxidizing agents, acids.

**Corrosivity:** Non-corrosive in presence of glass.

**Special Remarks on Reactivity:**

Liberates sulfur dioxide in contact with acids. Air sensitive. Moisture sensitive. It oxidizes to in air to sulfate, more readily in presence of moisture.

**Special Remarks on Corrosivity:** Not available.

**Polymerization:** Will not occur.

## Section 11: Toxicological Information

**Routes of Entry:** Inhalation. Ingestion.

**Toxicity to Animals:**

LD50: Not available. LC50: Not available.

**Chronic Effects on Humans:** CARCINOGENIC EFFECTS: 3 (Not classifiable for human.) by IARC.

**Other Toxic Effects on Humans:**

Hazardous in case of skin contact (irritant), of inhalation (lung irritant). Slightly hazardous in case of ingestion.

**Special Remarks on Toxicity to Animals:** Not available.

**Special Remarks on Chronic Effects on Humans:**

May cause adverse reproductive effects based on animal test data. May affect genetic material (mutagenic)

**Special Remarks on other Toxic Effects on Humans:**

Acute Potential Health Effects: Skin: May cause skin irritation. Eyes: May cause eye irritation. Inhalation: May cause respiratory tract irritation. May cause asthmatic attacks due to allergic sensitization of the respiratory tract. Ingestion: May cause gastrointestinal tract irritation with abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. May cause allergic/hypersensitivity/anaphylactoid reaction. Some asthmatics are said to be sensitive to minute amounts of sulfites in foods. It may cause a worsening of asthma in asthmatics. Individuals sensitive to sulfides may experience stomach upset, tightness in the chest, or wheezing. Extremely large concentrations may produce central nervous system, seizures, hypotension, tachycardia, and cardiovascular collapse.

## Section 12: Ecological Information

**Ecotoxicity:** Not available.

**BOD5 and COD:** Not available.

**Products of Biodegradation:**

Possibly hazardous short term degradation products are not likely. However, long term degradation products may arise.

**Toxicity of the Products of Biodegradation:** The product itself and its products of degradation are not toxic.

**Special Remarks on the Products of Biodegradation:** Not available.

## Section 13: Disposal Considerations

**Waste Disposal:**

Waste must be disposed of in accordance with federal, state and local environmental control regulations.

### Section 14: Transport Information

**DOT Classification:** Not a DOT controlled material (United States).

**Identification:** Not applicable.

**Special Provisions for Transport:** Not applicable.

### Section 15: Other Regulatory Information

**Federal and State Regulations:** TSCA 8(b) inventory: Potassium metabisulfite

**Other Regulations:** EINECS: This product is on the European Inventory of Existing Commercial Chemical Substances.

**Other Classifications:**

**WHMIS (Canada):** Not yet classified under WHMIS (Canada)

**DSCL (EEC):**

R31- Contact with acids liberates toxic gas. R36/37/38- Irritating to eyes, respiratory system and skin. S26- In case of contact with eyes, rinse immediately with plenty of water and seek medical advice. S36- Wear suitable protective clothing.

**HMIS (U.S.A.):**

**Health Hazard:** 2

**Fire Hazard:** 0

**Reactivity:** 0

**Personal Protection:** E

**National Fire Protection Association (U.S.A.):**

**Health:** 2

**Flammability:** 0

**Reactivity:** 0

**Specific hazard:**

**Protective Equipment:**

Gloves. Lab coat. Dust respirator. Be sure to use an approved/certified respirator or equivalent. Splash goggles.

### Section 16: Other Information

**References:** Not available.

**Other Special Considerations:** Not available.

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