



Pesticide Fact Sheet

Name of Chemical: POTASSIUM BROMIDE
Reason for Issuance:
Date Issued: Sept. 30, 1984
Fact Sheet Number: 38

1. Description of Chemical

Generic Name: Potassium Bromide
Common Name: Potassium Bromide
Trade Name: Potassium Bromide
EPA Shaughnessy Code No. 041101
Chemical Abstracts Service No. 775802-3
Year of initial registration: 1960
Pesticide Type: Disinfectant
Chemical Family: Inorganic Halogen
U.S. and Foreign Producers: Many U.S. chemical supply houses, e.g. J. T. Baker Chemical Co., Mallinckrodt, etc. probably many foreign producers.

2. Use Patterns and Formulations

Application Sites: Food contact surfaces, food handling equipment, eating utensils in food processing establishments

Types of formulations: granular powder

Types and methods of application: Dipping utensils in a tank, or by spraying

Application Rates: 1 oz in 10 gallons of water

Usual Carriers: the granular product is mixed with other chemicals generally recognized as safe; the use solution is prepared with water

3. Science Findings:

Chemical Characteristics:

Physical State: solid
Color: White granules, colorless crystals
Odor: None
Melting Point: 730°C
Density: 2.75

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4. Toxicological Characteristics

Technical Grade of Potassium Bromide (99% KBr): large doses cause central nervous system depression; prolonged intake may cause mental deterioration, acneform skin eruptions (Merck Index, 4th Edition).

Chronic Toxicity: Evaluation of available information from the published literature raises no concerns related to chronic adverse effects

The registered product covered by the standard is in category II, based on the approved label.

5. Physiological and Biochemical Behavioral Characteristics

N/A

6. Environmental Characteristics

N/A

7. Ecological Characteristics

N/A

8. Tolerance Assessments

Potassium Bromide, together with other chemicals generally recognized as safe, is cleared for use as a final sanitizing rinse for food contact surfaces, food handling equipment and eating utensils, in food processing establishments, under Section 178.1010 of Title 21 of the Code of Federal Regulations, which is administered by the Food and Drug Administration. All end-use products proposed for registration under the standard must comply with the provisions of this section.

10. Problems with Chemical

The technical grade of the active ingredient is not registered as a manufacturing-use product. To register it for the use covered in the standard the registrant must satisfy the data requirements specified in Table A of the standard.

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End-Use Products: If a registrant qualifies for the formulator's exemption he or she may register the end-use product for the use covered by the standard by satisfying the data requirements listed in Table B of the standard. If a registrant does not qualify for the formulator's exemption he or she must address and satisfy the data requirements specified in Table A, for the technical grade of the active ingredient, as well as those specified in Table B, for the end-use product.

10. Summary Science Statement

A review of available information from the published literature on Potassium Bromide has not raised any concerns related to long term or chronic adverse effects for the registered use.

11. Summary of Regulatory Position and Rationale

Use Classification: General

Use, formulation, or geographical restrictions: The registered use is as a final sanitizing rinse on food contact surfaces; the formulated product must be substantially similar to the registered use covered in the standard; there are no geographical restrictions. There are no unique warning statements for the registered product.

The technical grade of Potassium Bromide is not registered as a manufacturing-use product. To register it for the use covered in the standard the registrant must address and satisfy the data requirements listed in Table A of the standard. These include acute toxicity data and ecological effects data. End-use product registrants who qualify under the formulator's exemption need only address and satisfy the data requirements listed in Table B of the standard. End-use product registrants who do not qualify under the formulator's exemption must address both sets of data requirements. Registrants must respond to the standard within 90 days from the date the standard is issued; and commit themselves to address and satisfy the data requirements within 6 months from the 90 day response date.

12. Summary of data gaps and dates when these data gaps are due to be filled.

Acute toxicity data and fish and wildlife data for the technical grade of Potassium Bromide as specified in Table A of the standard.

Acute toxicity data to register end-use products as specified in Table B of the standard.

13. EPA Contact:

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DISCLAIMER: The information presented in this Chemical Information Fact Sheet is for informational purposes only and may not be used to fulfill data requirements for pesticide registration and re-registration.
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