Material Safety Data Sheet
Sodium tetraborate decahydrate

ACC# 21010

Section 1 - Chemical Product and Company Identification

**MSDS Name:** Sodium tetraborate decahydrate  
**Catalog Numbers:** AC205950000, AC205950010, AC419450000, AC419450010, AC419450250, AC419460000, AC419460010, B80, BP175-500, NC9269807, NC9522673, NC9974910, S246-12, S246-212, S246-250LB, S246-500, S248-10, S248-3, S248-500, S249-500, S249-500LC  
**Synonyms:** Borax; Sodium borate decahydrate; Disodium tetraborate decahydrate.  
**Company Identification:**  
Fisher Scientific  
1 Reagent Lane  
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410  
**For information, call:** 201-796-7100  
**Emergency Number:** 201-796-7100  
**For CHEMTREC assistance, call:** 800-424-9300  
**For International CHEMTREC assistance, call:** 703-527-3887

Section 2 - Composition, Information on Ingredients

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAS#</th>
<th>Chemical Name</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>EINECS/ELINCS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1303-96-4</td>
<td>Sodium tetraborate decahydrate</td>
<td>&gt;99</td>
<td>unlisted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Section 3 - Hazards Identification

**EMERGENCY OVERVIEW**

Appearance: white solid.  
**Warning!** Causes eye, skin, and respiratory tract irritation. May impair fertility. May cause harm to the unborn child.  
**Target Organs:** Respiratory system, eyes, reproductive system, skin.

**Potential Health Effects**  
**Eye:** Causes eye irritation.  
**Skin:** Causes skin irritation.  
**Ingestion:** May cause irritation of the digestive tract. Human fatalities have been reported from acute poisoning.  
**Inhalation:** Causes respiratory tract irritation.  
**Chronic:** Chronic exposure may cause reproductive disorders and teratogenic effects.
Section 4 - First Aid Measures

**Eyes:** Immediately flush eyes with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes, occasionally lifting the upper and lower eyelids. Get medical aid.

**Skin:** Flush skin with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes while removing contaminated clothing and shoes. Get medical aid if irritation develops or persists. Wash clothing before reuse.

**Ingestion:** Get medical aid. Do NOT induce vomiting. If conscious and alert, rinse mouth and drink 2-4 cupfuls of milk or water. Wash mouth out with water.

**Inhalation:** Remove from exposure and move to fresh air immediately. If not breathing, give artificial respiration. If breathing is difficult, give oxygen. Get medical aid if cough or other symptoms appear.

**Notes to Physician:** Treat symptomatically and supportively.

Section 5 - Fire Fighting Measures

**General Information:** As in any fire, wear a self-contained breathing apparatus in pressure-demand, MSHA/NIOSH (approved or equivalent), and full protective gear. During a fire, irritating and highly toxic gases may be generated by thermal decomposition or combustion. Runoff from fire control or dilution water may cause pollution.

**Extinguishing Media:** Use extinguishing media most appropriate for the surrounding fire.

**Flash Point:** Not applicable.

**Autoignition Temperature:** Not applicable.

**Explosion Limits, Lower:** Not available.

**Upper:** Not available.

**NFPA Rating:** (estimated) Health: 2; Flammability: 0; Instability: 0

Section 6 - Accidental Release Measures

**General Information:** Use proper personal protective equipment as indicated in Section 8.

**Spills/Leaks:** Vacuum or sweep up material and place into a suitable disposal container. Clean up spills immediately, observing precautions in the Protective Equipment section. Avoid generating dusty conditions. Provide ventilation.

Section 7 - Handling and Storage

**Handling:** Wash thoroughly after handling. Remove contaminated clothing and wash before reuse. Use with adequate ventilation. Minimize dust generation and accumulation. Avoid contact with eyes, skin, and clothing. Avoid breathing dust.

**Storage:** Store in a tightly closed container. Store in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area away from incompatible substances.

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. Use adequate general or local exhaust ventilation to keep airborne concentrations below the permissible exposure limits.

**Exposure Limits**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chemical Name</th>
<th>ACGIH</th>
<th>NIOSH</th>
<th>OSHA - Final PELs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sodium tetraborate decahydrate</td>
<td>2 mg/m3 TWA (inhalable fraction, listed under Borate compounds, inorganic); 6 mg/m3 STEL (inhalable fraction, listed under Borate compounds, inorganic)</td>
<td>5 mg/m3 TWA</td>
<td>none listed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OSHA Vacated PELs:** Sodium tetraborate decahydrate: 10 mg/m3 TWA

**Personal Protective Equipment**

**Eyes:** Wear appropriate protective eyeglasses or chemical safety goggles as described by OSHA's eye and face protection regulations in 29 CFR 1910.133 or European Standard EN166.

**Skin:** Wear appropriate protective gloves to prevent skin exposure.

**Clothing:** Wear appropriate protective clothing to prevent skin exposure.

**Respirators:** A respiratory protection program that meets OSHA's 29 CFR 1910.134 and ANSI Z88.2 requirements or European Standard EN 149 must be followed whenever workplace conditions warrant respirator use.

---

**Section 9 - Physical and Chemical Properties**

**Physical State:** Solid

**Appearance:** white

**Odor:** odorless

**pH:** 9.5 (5% aq soln)

**Vapor Pressure:** Not available.

**Vapor Density:** Not available.

**Evaporation Rate:** Not available.

**Viscosity:** Not available.

**Boiling Point:** 1575 deg C

**Freezing/Melting Point:** 741 deg C

**Decomposition Temperature:** Not available.

**Solubility:** soluble

**Specific Gravity/Density:** 1.7300g/cm3

**Molecular Formula:** B4Na2O7.10H2O

**Molecular Weight:** 381.36

---

**Section 10 - Stability and Reactivity**

**Chemical Stability:** Stable at room temperature in closed containers under normal storage and handling conditions.

**Conditions to Avoid:** Dust generation.

**Incompatibilities with Other Materials:** Alkaloid salts, metallic salts, strong acids.

**Hazardous Decomposition Products:** Oxides of boron.
Hazardous Polymerization: Will not occur.

Section 11 - Toxicological Information

RTECS#:  
CAS# 1303-96-4: VZ2275000

LD50/LC50:  
CAS# 1303-96-4:  
Oral, mouse: LD50 = 2 gm/kg;  
Oral, rat: LD50 = 2660 mg/kg;

Carcinogenicity:  
CAS# 1303-96-4: Not listed by ACGIH, IARC, NTP, or CA Prop 65.

Epidemiology: No information found

Teratogenicity: Developmental effects were observed in mice, rats and rabbits after oral administration of boric acid. However, these effects were considered secondary to maternal toxicity (increased liver and kidney weight).

Reproductive Effects: Adverse reproductive effects have occurred in experimental animals. Boric acid has selectively damaged the testes, sperm production and fertility in rats and dogs.

Mutagenicity: No information found

Neurotoxicity: No information found

Other Studies:

Section 12 - Ecological Information

No information available.

Section 13 - Disposal Considerations

Chemical waste generators must determine whether a discarded chemical is classified as a hazardous waste. US EPA guidelines for the classification determination are listed in 40 CFR Parts 261.3. Additionally, waste generators must consult state and local hazardous waste regulations to ensure complete and accurate classification.

RCRA P-Series: None listed.

RCRA U-Series: None listed.

Section 14 - Transport Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>US DOT</th>
<th>Canada TDG</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shipping Name</td>
<td>Not regulated.</td>
<td>Not Regulated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazard Class</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN Number</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Packing Group</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Section 15 - Regulatory Information

US FEDERAL

TSCA
   CAS# 1303-96-4 is listed on the TSCA inventory.

Health & Safety Reporting List
   None of the chemicals are on the Health & Safety Reporting List.

Chemical Test Rules
   None of the chemicals in this product are under a Chemical Test Rule.

Section 12b
   None of the chemicals are listed under TSCA Section 12b.

TSCA Significant New Use Rule
   None of the chemicals in this material have a SNUR under TSCA.

CERCLA Hazardous Substances and corresponding RQs
   None of the chemicals in this material have an RQ.

SARA Section 302 Extremely Hazardous Substances
   None of the chemicals in this product have a TPQ.

SARA Codes
   CAS # 1303-96-4: delayed.

Section 313
   No chemicals are reportable under Section 313.

Clean Air Act:
   This material does not contain any hazardous air pollutants.
   This material does not contain any Class 1 Ozone depletors.
   This material does not contain any Class 2 Ozone depletors.

Clean Water Act:
   None of the chemicals in this product are listed as Hazardous Substances under the CWA.
   None of the chemicals in this product are listed as Priority Pollutants under the CWA.
   None of the chemicals in this product are listed as Toxic Pollutants under the CWA.

OSHA:
   None of the chemicals in this product are considered highly hazardous by OSHA.

STATE
   CAS# 1303-96-4 can be found on the following state right to know lists: California, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Minnesota, Massachusetts.

California Prop 65

California No Significant Risk Level: None of the chemicals in this product are listed.

European/International Regulations

European Labeling in Accordance with EC Directives

Hazard Symbols:
   T

Risk Phrases:
   R 60 May impair fertility.
   R 61 May cause harm to the unborn child.

Safety Phrases:
   S 45 In case of accident or if you feel unwell, seek medical advice.
immediately (show the label where possible).
S 53 Avoid exposure - obtain special instructions before use.

**WGK (Water Danger/Protection)**
- CAS# 1303-96-4: 1

**Canada - DSL/NDSL**
- CAS# 1303-96-4 is listed on Canada's DSL List.

**Canada - WHMIS**
- This product has a WHMIS classification of D2A, D2B.
This product has been classified in accordance with the hazard criteria of the Controlled Products Regulations and the MSDS contains all of the information required by those regulations.

**Canadian Ingredient Disclosure List**
- CAS# 1303-96-4 is listed on the Canadian Ingredient Disclosure List.

---

### Section 16 - Additional Information

**MSDS Creation Date:** 7/06/1999  
**Revision #8 Date:** 2/15/2008

The information above is believed to be accurate and represents the best information currently available to us. However, we make no warranty of merchantability or any other warranty, express or implied, with respect to such information, and we assume no liability resulting from its use. Users should make their own investigations to determine the suitability of the information for their particular purposes. In no event shall Fisher be liable for any claims, losses, or damages of any third party or for lost profits or any special, indirect, incidental, consequential or exemplary damages, howsoever arising, even if Fisher has been advised of the possibility of such damages.