

Safety Data Sheet

According to: The Regulations for Hazardous Chemical Agents, 2021 and Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) Rev. 9.



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Reg. No. 1974/000531/07

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Agricultural division:  

SECTION 1: Identification of the substance / mixture and of the supplier

1.1 Product identifiers

Product (trade) name : Zinc Oxide
Act No. 36 of 1947 Registration number : B4394 (Fertilizer) / V24576 (Feed)
Grade : Fertilizer / Feed
Product range : Fertion (Fertilizer) / Animade (Feed)
Synonyms : Zinc white

1.2 Relevant identified uses of the substance or mixture and restrictions on use

Relevant identified uses

Used in the manufacturing of animal feeds and fertilizers.

Restrictions on use

Avoid release into the environment; use personal protective equipment.

1.3 Details of the supplier of the safety data sheet

Company : Kimleigh Chemicals SA (Pty) Ltd
Address : 11 Jasper van der Westhuizen Street, Potchindustria, Potchefstroom 2531, North West province, South Africa
Telephone : +27 18 293 1028; +27 18 285 1014
E-mail address : sheq@kimleigh.co.za

1.4 Emergency telephone number

Emergency phone number: +27 18 293 1028; +27 18 285 1014

Monday to Thursday from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 14:00 p.m.

SECTION 2: Hazards identification

2.1 Classification of the substance or mixture

Classification according to Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) Rev.9 and Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008

GHS Hazard class	GHS Hazard category	GHS Hazard statement codes
Hazardous to the aquatic environment, short-term (Acute)	1	H400
Hazardous to the aquatic environment, long-term (Chronic)	2	H411

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2.2 Label elements

Labelling according to Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) Rev.9 and Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008

Pictogram(s)	
Signal word(s)	Warning

Hazard statement(s)

H400 : Very toxic to aquatic life.

H411 : Toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects.

Precautionary statement(s)

P273 : Avoid release to the environment.

P391 : Collect spillage.

P501 : Dispose of contents/container in accordance with national regulations.

2.3 Other hazards

This substance/mixture contains no components considered to be either persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic (PBT), or very persistent and very bioaccumulative (vPvB) at levels of 0.1% or higher.

SECTION 3: Composition / Information on ingredients

3.1 Substances

Chemical identity : Zinc oxide

(IUPAC / CAS name)

Common name : Zinc oxide

Synonyms : Zinc white

Formula : ZnO

Molecular weight : 81.38 g/mol

Appearance : White crystalline powder, odourless

Purity : ≥ 98 % w/w

Compound	Concentration	CAS No.	EC No.	Index No.
Zinc oxide	≤ 100 %	1314-13-2	215-222-5	030-013-00-7

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Agricultural division:  *Growing with* 

SECTION 4: First-aid measures

4.1 Description of first-aid measures

General advice

Consult a physician in case of emergency. Show this safety data sheet to the doctor in attendance.

If inhaled

Following inhalation, move the affected person to fresh air. If not breathing, give artificial respiration. If difficulty breathing, give oxygen. Seek medical attention immediately.

In case of skin contact

In case of contact, immediately rinse skin with copious amounts of cold water, while removing contaminated clothes and shoes. Cover the irritated skin with an emollient. Wash exposed clothing and shoes before reuse. Seek medical attention if irritation persists.

In case of eye contact

In case of contact, remove any contact lenses and rinse eyes with copious amounts of water for at least 15 minutes. Cold water may be used. Seek immediate medical attention.

If swallowed

Following ingestion, rinse mouth with copious amounts of water. Seek immediate medical attention. Do not induce vomiting unless directed otherwise by a medical practitioner. Never administer anything by mouth to an unconscious person.

4.2 Most important symptoms and effects, both acute and delayed

If inhaled

Coughing; dry throat; irritation of nasal and respiratory passages; shortness of breath. Zinc oxide dust is considered a nuisance dust: adverse effects are unlikely when exposures are kept under reasonable control.

In case of skin contact

Prolonged skin contact can produce a severe dermatitis called oxide pox.

In case of eye contact

Redness; watering; itching; blurred vision.

If swallowed

Metallic taste in mouth; thirst; nausea; vomiting; headaches; chills; fever; sweats; muscle aches.

After ingestion of large quantities: fatigue; weakness; bronchitis; pneumonia with a bluish tint to the skin; reversible liver enzyme abnormalities.

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4.3 Indication of any immediate medical attention and special treatment needed

Physician should treat symptomatically.

SECTION 5: Firefighting measures

5.1 Extinguishing media

Suitable extinguishing media

Use dry chemicals, carbon dioxide (CO₂), alcohol-resistant foam, water spray or fog. The product is non-combustible.

Unsuitable extinguishing media

No limitations on extinguishing agents are available.

5.2 Special hazards arising from the substance or mixture

Produces oxides of zinc on combustion or thermal decomposition. May explode when mixed with chlorinated rubber. Zinc oxide and magnesium / aluminium can react explosively when heated.

5.3 Special PPE and precautions for firefighters

In the event of fire, wear positive-pressure self-contained breathing apparatus and appropriate protective clothing. Prevent fire extinguishing water from contaminating surface and ground water reservoirs by containing and keeping the run-off water separate.

SECTION 6: Accidental release measures

6.1 Personal precautions, protective equipment and emergency procedures

For non-emergency personnel

Wear respiratory protection. Avoid dust formation. Avoid inhalation of dust, vapours, mist or gas. Ensure adequate ventilation. Avoid contact with skin and eyes. Evacuate personnel to safe areas.

For personal protection, please see section 8.

6.2 Environmental precautions

Avoid release into the environment. Do not discharge into drains, sewage systems or onto the ground. Avoid spillage or run-off entering drains, sewage systems or watercourses. Immediately report uncontrolled spillage or discharges to an appropriate regulatory body.

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6.3 Methods and materials for containment and cleaning up

Cover drains. Collect dry powder using a special dust vacuum cleaner or carefully sweep into suitable waste disposal container and seal securely. Avoid generating dust. Label the container appropriately and remove from the area as soon as possible.

SECTION 7: Handling and storage

7.1 Precautions for safe handling

Handle with care in accordance with good industrial hygiene and safety practices. Do not swallow or inhale dust, spray, mist or vapours. Avoid contact with eyes, skin and any form of ingestion. Avoid the formation of dust and aerosols. Wear suitable protective clothing such as overalls, boots, rubber gloves, safety goggles, nose and mouth protection. Wash contaminated clothing daily. Provide appropriate ventilation where dust formation might occur. If skin or eye contact occurs, wash thoroughly with water.

Do not eat, drink or smoke when using this substance. Avoid contamination of food, foodstuffs, eating utensils and drinking water by washing-up before entering eating areas. Do not discharge product residues into the environment.

7.2 Conditions for safe storage, including any incompatibilities

Storage conditions

Store in an airtight container in a cool, dry and well-ventilated place. Keep away from food, foodstuffs, incompatible substances, steel structures or steel components. Close container tightly after opening.

Store only in sealed polypropylene or stainless-steel containers. Minimize dust generation and accumulation. Store away from direct sunlight, moisture, heat and oxidisers.

Moisture sensitive; hygroscopic; handle and store under inert gas, if possible.

Store under lock and key, and keep out of reach of children, uninformed persons and livestock.

Storage class (TRGS 510) : Non-combustible Solids

SECTION 8: Exposure controls / Personal protection

8.1 Control parameters

Occupational exposure limits (OEL)

European Agency for Occupational Safety and Health at Work (OSHA) (TWA over 8 hours) : The permissible exposure limit (PEL) is 5 mg/m³ for the inhalable fraction and 15 mg/m³ for total dust.

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National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health (NIOSH) (TWA over 10 hours) : The recommended exposure limit (REL) is 5 mg/m³ for the inhalable fractions, fumes and dusts.

GN 280 of 29 March 2021; Regulations for Hazardous Chemical Agents, Government Gazette, RSA. : The OEL eight-hour TWA is 4 mg/m³ for zinc oxide respirable fraction (fume), and 20 mg/m³ for the OEL-STEL of the same fraction.

8.2 Appropriate engineering controls

Provide adequate general and local exhaust ventilation to ensure that the airborne levels remain below the recommended exposure limits. Mechanical ventilation should be used if dust formation occurs. Avoid contact with eyes, skin and clothing. Wash hands immediately after handling the product. Comply with good industrial hygiene practices. Provide an eyewash station and a safety shower in case of emergency.

8.3 Personal protective equipment

Eye/Face protection : Use a face shield and tightly fitting safety goggles as equipment for eye/face protection that are approved under appropriate governmental standards such as NIOSH (US) or EN 166 (EU).

Skin protection : Wear nitrile rubber gloves when handling the substance. Gloves must be inspected prior to use and properly removed after handling this substance, to prevent skin contact. Dispose of contaminated gloves after use in accordance with applicable regulatory guidelines and good laboratory practices. Wash and dry hands. Wear safety boots as well.
Recommendations for gloves:
Nitrile rubber; thickness > 0.11 mm; breakthrough time > 480 minutes.

Body protection : Use a full acid resistant suit protecting against chemicals.

Respiratory protection : Wear an appropriate dust respirator when ventilation is inadequate. Use a full-face particle respirator fitted with an N99 (US) or type P2 (EN 143) filter cartridge.

Control of environmental exposure : Do not let the substance enter drains or sewage systems and prevent leakages or spillage or any form of discharge into the environment. Do not allow the substance to contaminate ground water systems.

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SECTION 9: Physical and chemical properties

Physical state	: Crystalline powder
Colour	: White
Odour	: Odourless
pH	: 6.7
Melting point/freezing point	: 1975 °C
Initial boiling point and boiling range	: No data available
Flammability	: Not flammable
Lower and upper explosion limit / flammability limit	: No data available
Flash point	: Not applicable. The substance is an inorganic solid.
Auto-ignition temperature	: No data available.
Decomposition temperature	: No data available.
Kinematic viscosity	: No data available.
Solubility	: Poorly soluble in water at 0.0029 g/L at 20 °C.
Partition coefficient (n-octanol/water)	: Not applicable. The substance is an inorganic solid.
Vapour pressure	: Not applicable. Substance is a solid.
Density	: 5.6 g/cm ³ at 20 °C
Relative vapour density	: Not applicable. Substance is a solid.
Particle characteristics	: < 500 µm.

SECTION 10: Stability and reactivity

10.1 Reactivity

The substance is hygroscopic.

10.2 Chemical stability

The substance is chemically stable under standard ambient conditions (room temperature). No decomposition will occur if the substance is used and stored according to specifications.

10.3 Possibility of hazardous reactions

The substance reacts violently with aluminium and magnesium powders, and with chlorinated rubber.

10.4 Conditions to avoid

Exposure to moisture and heat. Avoid dust formation.

10.5 Incompatible materials

Avoid contact with strong oxidizing agents, alkali metals, alkaline earth metals, hydrogen peroxide and linseed oil.

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10.6 Hazardous decomposition products

Zinc oxides.

SECTION 11: Toxicological information

11.1 Information on toxicological effects

Classification according to Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) Rev.9, The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008

Acute toxicity:

Route of exposure	Dose / concentration; test subject	Numerical measures	ATE Actual / Converted
Ingestion (oral)	LD ₅₀ ; rat	> 5000 mg/kg bw	Not applicable
Inhalation	LC ₅₀ ; rat	> 5.7 mg/L	Not applicable
Dermal	LD ₅₀ ; rat	> 2000 mg/kg bw	2500 mg/kg bw

Skin corrosion / irritation:

Rabbit skin clipped sites (5 cm²) – 0.5 mL of 20 % w/v zinc oxide suspension (5-day exposure)

Result – No skin irritation; therefore, not a skin irritant.

Predates OECD guidelines

Serious eye damage / eye irritation:

White rabbit eyes – 0.1 mL of 64 mg into conjunctival sac (24 to 72 h exposure)

Result – No corneal opacity or epithelial damage, slight conjunctival redness and chemosis, but at 1 h only; therefore, not an eye irritant.

OECD Test Guideline 405

Respiratory or skin sensitization:

No data available for respiratory sensitization.

For skin sensitization:

Guinea pig maximisation test: intradermally injected with 20% and epidermally exposed to 50% (24 h exposure).

Result – Negative; therefore, not sensitizing.

OECD Test Guideline 406

Germ cell mutagenicity:

The Ames test *in vitro* using *Salmonella typhimurium*

Result – Negative; therefore, no mutagenicity.

OECD Test Guideline 471

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In vivo mammalian gene mutation test on mouse bone marrow cells

Result – Negative; therefore, no mutagenicity.

OECD Test Guideline 476

Carcinogenicity:

No data is available for Zinc oxide in this regard.

Reproductive toxicity:

No reliable data is available for Zinc oxide in this regard.

Specific target organ toxicity (STOT) - single exposure:

No data is available for zinc oxide in this regard.

Specific target organ toxicity (STOT) - repeated exposure:

Rat 90-day inhalation study (0.3; 1.5 and 4.5 mg/m³)

Result – No systemic toxicity effects; very slight bronchiolo-alveolar hyperplasia and alveolar granulocyte infiltration which is fully reversible.

OECD Test Guideline 413

Rat 4-week study (75; 180 and 360 mg/kg bw)

Result – No systemic effects and no dermal toxicity.

OECD Test Guideline 410

Aspiration hazard:

No data is available for zinc oxide.

11.2 Additional Information

In vivo exposure of rats to Zinc oxide (ZnO) nanoparticles caused an oxidative injury in their lungs and disorders in regulating the cytokine network. This suggests that oxidative stress may play a role in the respiratory immunotoxicity of ZnO nanoparticles.

Zinc is essential for human growth and development, neurological functions and immunocompetence. In fact, the main clinical manifestations of zinc deficiency adversely affect growth retardation, sexual maturation and infection susceptibility (ECHA, 2022).

SECTION 12: Ecological information

12.1 Toxicity

Classification according to Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) Rev.9, The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008

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Type of toxicity	Dose / concentration administered	Numerical measures	References
Short-term (acute) aquatic hazard	LC ₅₀ in Fish EC ₅₀ in Algae	0.17 mg/L/96h 0.14 mg/L/72h	ECHA, 2022
Long-term (chronic) aquatic hazard	NOEC in Fish NOEC in Crustacea NOEC in Algae	0.044 - 0.530 mg Zn/L 0.014 - 0.400 mg Zn/L 0.019 mg Zn/L	ECHA, 2022

12.2 Persistence and degradability

Biodegradation tests are not applicable to inorganic substances like zinc. As an alternative, the concept of "removal from the water column" was developed. Rapid removal (defined as > 70% removal within 28 days) is considered equivalent to rapid degradability. Zinc is rapidly removed from the water column; therefore, Zinc is considered as equivalent to being rapidly degradable for the purpose of chronic aquatic classification (ECHA, 2022).

12.3 Bioaccumulative potential

Due to homeostatic control measures, Zinc oxide is unlikely to bioaccumulate.

12.4 Mobility in soil

Seeing as this substance is rapidly removed from the water column, it spreads easily throughout the environment via water systems.

12.5 Other adverse effects

Care should be taken to minimize the amount of Zinc oxide released into the environment. Even though Zinc is an essential micronutrient for healthy plant growth, it can be harmful to Zinc-sensitive plants in higher quantities. This substance does not contribute to ozone depletion, ozone formation, global warming or acidification.

SECTION 13: Disposal considerations

The generation of waste should be restricted or minimized wherever possible. Any form of discharge or leakage into the environment, should be avoided. Do not dispose of this substance in the drain. Dispose of this substance in accordance with the regulations stipulated in the National Environmental Management Waste Act 2008 of South Africa.

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Agricultural division:



SECTION 14: Transport information

	Land transport (UN TDG/ADR)	Sea transport (IMDG)	Air transport (IATA-DGR)
14.1 UN Number	3077	3077	3077
14.2 UN Proper shipping name	ENVIRONMENTALLY HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE, SOLID, N.O.S. (includes Zinc oxide)	ENVIRONMENTALLY HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE, SOLID, N.O.S. (includes Zinc oxide)	ENVIRONMENTALLY HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE, SOLID, N.O.S. (includes Zinc oxide)
14.3 Transport hazard class(es)	9	9	9
14.4 Packing group	III	III	III
14.5 Environmental hazards	Yes	Marine pollutant: yes	Yes

14.6 Transport in bulk according to IMO instruments

Maritime transport in bulk is not intended.

14.7 Special precautions for user

Ensure that packaging remains intact. Dust formation should be restricted wherever possible.

SECTION 15: Regulatory information

15.1 Safety, health and environmental regulations specific for the substance or mixture

This material safety data sheet complies with the requirements stipulated in The Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS), 9th revised edition, United Nations: New York and Geneva, 2021.

National legislation

Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 - Hazardous Chemical Agent Regulations 2021.

Other regulations

European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (OSHA) guidelines.

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) guidelines.

15.2 Chemical Safety Assessment

No chemical safety assessment was carried out for this substance.

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Agricultural division:



SECTION 16: Other information

List of abbreviations

ACGIH	: The American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists
ADR	: European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road
ATE	: Acute toxicity estimate
bw	: Body weight
CAS	: Chemical Abstracts Service
EC	: European Community
ECHA	: European Chemicals Agency
EN	: European Nations
EPA	: Environmental Protection Agency
EU	: European Union
FIFRA	: Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act
GHS	: Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals
GLP	: Good laboratory practice
IATA	: International Air Transport Association
IMDG	: International Maritime Dangerous Goods
IMO	: International Maritime Organization
IUPAC	: International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry
LC ₅₀	: Lethal Concentration to 50% of a test population
LD ₅₀	: Lethal Dose to 50% of a test population (Median Lethal Dose)
NIOSH	: The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
No.	: Number
NOEC	: No observed effect concentration
OECD	: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OEL	: Occupational exposure limit
OSHA	: The Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PBT	: Persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic
PEL	: Permissible exposure limit
Pow	: Partition coefficient n-Octanol/Water
PPE	: Personal protective equipment
REACH	: Registration, evaluation, authorisation and restriction of chemicals
STEL	: Short term exposure limits
STOT	: Specific target organ toxicity
SVHC	: Substances of Very High Concern
TDG	: Transport of Dangerous Goods
TLV	: Threshold limit value
TWA	: Threshold weighted average
UK	: United Kingdom

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UN : United Nations
US : United States
vPvB : Very persistent and very bioaccumulative

References:

ECHA. 2022. Zinc oxide. Available at: <https://echa.europa.eu/registration-dossier/-/registered-dossier/16139> (Accessed: 06.10.2022).

GHS. 2021. The Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS), 9th revised edition, United Nations: New York and Geneva. p. 550.

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