



1. Identification of Substance & Company

Product

Product name	Vermiculite (all grades)
HSNO approval	Non hazardous
Approval description	NA
UN number	NA
Proper Shipping Name	NA
Packaging group	NA
Hazchem code	NA
Uses	Hydroponic media

Company Details

Company	EGMONT COMMERCIAL
Address	PO Box 37-326 Christchurch 8245 New Zealand
Website	www.egmontcommercial.co.nz
Telephone	Auckland (09) 838 2960 Christchurch (03) 349 5546
Email	sales@egmontnz.com

2. Hazard Identification

Approval

This product is not considered hazardous under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act (HSNO), according to the criteria in the Hazardous substances (Hazard Classification) Notice 2020.

GHS Classes

none

Hazard Statements

SYMBOLS

None

Other Classifications

No other classification are known to apply

Precautionary Statements

None

3. Composition / Information on Ingredients

Component	CAS/ Identification	Conc (w/w %)
Vermiculite*	1318-00-9	>99.9-100%

This is a commercial product whose exact ratio of components may vary. Trace quantities of impurities are also likely.
Note from supplier: These products may contain naturally occurring Respirable Crystalline Silica (CAS #'s 14808-60-7 and 14464-46-1) at trace concentration levels below GHS hazard classification limits. Per XRC analysis, which combines the analytical capabilities of X-Ray Diffraction, Computer Controlled Scanning Electron Microscopy/Energy Dispersive Spectroscopy and Raman Spectroscopy to conduct particle-by particle inter-instrumental relocation and physicochemical/mineralogical analysis - naturally occurring trace level substances in these products, including Respirable Crystalline Silica are inextricably bound, environmentally unavailable and at de minimis concentrations. Thus, in the current and anticipated future physical state of these products, they are believed to be incapable of causing harm under normal conditions of use or as a result of extreme upset.

4. First Aid

General Information

If medical advice is needed, have product container or label at hand. You should call the National Poisons Centre if you feel that you may have been harmed or irritated by this product. The number is 0800 764 766 (0800 POISON) (24 hr emergency service).

Recommended first aid facilities Ready access to running water is required. Accessible eyewash is required.



Exposure

Swallowed	Do NOT induce vomiting. Give a glass of water to drink. Contact a doctor.
Eye contact	Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Apply continuous irrigation with water for at least 15 minutes holding eyelids apart. If eye irritation occurs: Get medical advice.
Skin contact	Wash with plenty of soap and water. If skin irritation occurs: get medical advice/attention. Take off contaminated clothing and wash before re-use.
Inhaled	If coughing, dizziness or shortness of breath is experienced, remove the patient to fresh air immediately. If patient is unconscious, place in the recovery position (on the side) for transport and contact a doctor.

Advice to Doctor

Treat symptomatically

5. Firefighting Measures

Fire and explosion hazards:	There are no specific risks for fire/explosion for this chemical. It is non-flammable.
Suitable extinguishing substances:	Carbon dioxide, extinguishing powder or water jet. Fight larger fires with water jet or alcohol resistant foam.
Unsuitable extinguishing substances:	Unknown.
Products of combustion:	Product does not burn. Dust may form irritating atmosphere.
Protective equipment:	No special measures are required.
Hazchem code:	NA

6. Accidental Release Measures

Containment	There is no current legal requirement for containment of this product.
Emergency procedures	In the event of large spillage alert the fire brigade to location and give brief description of hazard. Wear protective equipment to prevent skin, eye and respiratory exposure. Clear area of any unprotected personnel. Sweep up the solid. Avoid creating dust. If appropriate, use a gentle water spray to wet material to minimise dust generation.
Disposal	Sweep up and collect recoverable material into labelled containers for recycling or salvage. This material may be suitable for approved landfill. Dispose of only in accord with all regulations.
Precautions	Wear protective equipment to prevent skin and eye contamination and the inhalation of dusts. Work up wind or increase ventilation.

7. Storage & Handling

Storage	Stable under normal use and storage conditions.
Handling	Keep exposure to a minimum, and minimise the quantities kept in work areas. See section 8 with regard to personal protective equipment requirements. Do not breathe dust.

8. Exposure Controls / Personal Protective Equipment

Workplace Exposure Standards

A workplace exposure standard (WES) has not been established by WorkSafe NZ for this product. There is a general limit of 3mg/m³ for respirable particulates and 10mg/m³ for inhalable particulates when limits have not otherwise been established.

NZ Workplace Exposure Stds	Ingredient	WES-TWA	WES-STEL
	Vermiculite	data unavailable	-
	Crystalline silica (respirable dust) – carc 1	0.025mg/m ³	-

Engineering Controls

In industrial situations, it is expected that employee exposure to hazardous substances will be controlled to a level as far below the WES as practicable by applying the hierarchy of control required by the Health and Safety at Work Act (2015) and the Health and Safety at Work (General Risk and Workplace Management) Regulations 2016. Exposure can be reduced by process modification, use of local exhaust ventilation, capturing substances at the source, or other methods. If you believe air borne concentrations of mists, dusts or vapours are high, you are advised to modify processes or increase ventilation.



Personal Protective Equipment

Eyes	Protective eyewear is not normally necessary when using this product. However, it is always prudent to use protective eyewear if dust is likely.
Skin	Avoid repeated or prolonged skin contact. Wear overalls, rubber boots and impervious gloves. Replace frequently. Gloves should be checked for tears or holes before use. Remove protective clothing and wash exposed areas with soap and water prior to eating, drinking or smoking. Wash contaminated clothing before re-use.
Respiratory	To prevent irritation a well fitted dust mask should be used (this is not recommended when exposure is close to the WES). Use of a P2 dust mask or fine particulate half or full face respirator with an effective seal is recommended when airborne concentrations approach the WES (section 8). Fit testing and clear guidelines and training for use and maintenance of PPE are necessary.

WES Additional Information

Not applicable

9. Physical & Chemical Properties

Appearance	Granular solid, Colour: mixture of golden brown and white
Odour	Odourless
Odour threshold	No data
pH	6-9
Freezing / melting point	1200-1320°C
Boiling point	No data
Flash point	Not flammable
Flammability	Not combustible
Upper & lower flammable limits	No LEL or UEL
Vapour pressure	No data
Vapour density	No data
Specific gravity / density	Bulk density: 64-160kg/m ³ , Specific gravity: 2.4-2.7
Solubility	Soluble in strong mineral acids Insoluble in organic solvents. Insoluble in water
Partition Coefficient:	No data
Auto-ignition temperature	No data
Decomposition temperature	No data
Viscosity	Not applicable
Particle characteristics	1µm-16mm

10. Stability & Reactivity

Stability	Stable
Conditions to be avoided	Containers should be kept closed in order to avoid contamination. Avoid the creation of dust.
Incompatible groups	Strong acids and reducing agents.
Hazardous decomposition products	None known
Hazardous reactions	None known

11. Toxicological Information

Summary

IF IN EYES: Contact with eyes may cause mechanical irritation resulting in redness, lacrimation and pain. May cause mild abrasion.

IF ON SKIN: Prolonged contact with skin may cause irritation resulting in redness and itching. People with pre-existing skin conditions, such as dermatitis, should take extra care so as not to exacerbate the condition.

IF INHALED: Inhalation of airborne dust may cause irritation to the mucous membrane and upper airways. Symptoms can include coughing, sneezing and breathing difficulties.

IF SWALLOWED: Ingestion of large amounts may cause gastrointestinal disturbances. Symptoms can include nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain.



Supporting Data

Acute	Oral	Not considered acutely toxic if swallowed.
	Dermal	Not considered acutely toxic by dermal contact.
	Inhaled	The substance is not considered acutely toxic if inhaled, however there may be irritation of the respiratory tract if dust is inhaled.
	Eye	The mixture is not considered to be an eye irritant. Dust may be an eye irritant (mechanical irritation).
	Skin	The mixture is not considered to be a skin irritant.
Chronic	Sensitisation	No ingredient present at concentrations > 0.1% is considered a sensitizer.
	Mutagenicity	No ingredient present at concentrations > 0.1% is considered a mutagen.
	Carcinogenicity	No ingredient present at concentration >0.1% is considered a carcinogen.
	Reproductive / Developmental	No ingredient present at concentrations > 0.1% is considered a reproductive or developmental toxicant or have any effects on or via lactation.
	Systemic	No ingredient present at concentration >1% is considered a systemic toxicant.
	Aggravation of existing conditions	None known

12. Ecological Data

Summary

This product is not considered ecotoxic.

Supporting Data

Aquatic	Not ecotoxic in the aquatic environment.
Bioaccumulation	No data
Degradability	No data
Soil	No considered ecotoxic in the soil environment.
Terrestrial vertebrate	Not toxic towards terrestrial vertebrates
Terrestrial invertebrate	Not toxic towards terrestrial invertebrates
Biocidal	Not biocidal
Environmental effect levels	No EELs are available for this mixture or ingredients

13. Disposal Considerations

Restrictions	There are no product-specific restrictions, however, local council and resource consent conditions may apply, including requirements of trade waste consents.
Disposal method	Disposal of this product must comply with the requirements of the Resource Management Act for which approval should be sought from the Regional Authority.
Contaminated packaging	Rinse containers with water before disposal. Preferably re-cycle container, otherwise send to landfill or similar.

14. Transport Information

There are no specific restrictions for this product (not a dangerous good).

UN number:	NA	Proper shipping name:	NA
Class(es)	NA	Packing group:	NA
Precautions:	Not applicable.	Hazchem code:	NA

IMDG			
UN number:	NA	Proper shipping name:	NA
Class(es)	NA	Packing group:	NA
Precautions:	Not applicable.	EmS code:	NA

IATA			
UN number:	NA	Proper shipping name:	NA
Class(es)	NA	Packing group:	NA
Precautions:	Not applicable.		



15. Regulatory Information

This substance is not considered to be hazardous under HSNO. All ingredients appear on the NZIoC.

Specific Controls

SDS	Not required (non hazardous), but best practice to have the SDS available.
Inventory	An inventory of all hazardous substances must be prepared and maintained.
Packaging	All hazardous substances should be appropriately packaged including substances that have been decanted, transferred or manufactured for own use or have been supplied
Labelling	Must comply with the Hazardous Substances (Labelling) Notice 2017.
Emergency plan	Not required.
Certified handler	Not required.
Tracking	Not required.
Bundling & secondary containment	Not required.
Signage	Not required.
Location compliance certificate	Not required.
Flammable zone	Not required.
Fire extinguisher	Not required.

Note: The above workplace requirements apply if only this particular substance is present. The complete set of controls for a location will depend on the classification and total quantities of other substances present in that location.

Other Legislation

In New Zealand, the use of this product may come under the Resource Management Act and Regulations, the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 and the Health and Safety at Work (General Risk and Workplace Management) Regulations 2016, local Council Rules and Regional Council Plans.

16. Other Information

Abbreviations

Approval Code	not applicable – non hazardous.
CAS Number	Unique Chemical Abstracts Service Registry Number
EC₅₀	Ecotoxic Concentration 50% – concentration in water which is fatal to 50% of a test population (e.g. daphnia, fish species)
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
HAZCHEM Code	Emergency action code of numbers and letters that provide information to emergency services, especially fire fighters
HSNO	Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (Act and Regulations)
IARC	International Agency for Research on Cancer
LEL	Lower Explosive Limit
LD₅₀	Lethal Dose 50% – dose which is fatal to 50% of a test population (usually rats).
LC₅₀	Lethal Concentration 50% – concentration in air which is fatal to 50% of a test population (usually rats)
SDS	Safety Data Sheet
STEL	Short Term Exposure Limit - The maximum airborne concentration of a chemical or biological agent to which a worker may be exposed in any 15 minute period, provided the TWA is not exceeded
TWA	Time Weighted Average – generally referred to WES averaged over typical work day (usually 8 hours)
UEL	Upper Explosive Limit
UN Number	United Nations Number
WES	Workplace Exposure Standard - The airborne concentration of a biological or chemical agent to which a worker may be exposed during work hours (usually 8 hours, 5 days a week). The WES relates to exposure that has been measured by personal monitoring using procedures that gather air samples in the worker's breathing zone.



Vermiculite (all grades)

Safety Data Sheet

References

Data	Unless otherwise stated comes from the EPA HSNO chemical classification information database (CCID).
EPA Notices	www.epa.govt.nz
WES	The latest NZ Workplace Exposure Standards, published by WorkSafe NZ and available on their web site – www.worksafe.govt.nz .
Other References:	Suppliers SDS

Review

Date	Reason for review
April 2017	New SDS.
June 2021	Update, GHS.
May 2026	Update (5 yearly) – Expires 6 May 2031

Disclaimer

This SDS was prepared by Datachem LTD and is based on our current state of knowledge, including information obtained from suppliers. The SDS is given in good faith and constitutes a guideline (not a guarantee of safety). The level of risk each substance poses is relevant to its properties (as summarised in the SDS) AND HOW THE SUBSTANCE IS USED. While guidelines are given for personal protective equipment, such precautions must be relevant to the use. The likely GHS classifications for this SDS have been estimated based on general information from the supplier (e.g., hazard, toxicological). This SDS is copyright Datachem and must not be copied, edited or used for other than intended purpose. To contact the SDS author, email info@datachem.co.nz or phone: +64 21 1040951.

