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## Material Safety Data Sheet

### Issued:

1st June 2016

#### IDENTIFICATION

Product Name: **AUSPERL VERMICULITE**  
Other Names: Grade 00, Grade 0, Grade 1, Grade 2, Grade 3, Grade 4  
Product Use: Horticulture, fire protection agent and filler applications

#### PHYSICAL DATA

Appearance: Brown granules  
Melting Point: Approx. 1350c  
Boiling Point: Not applicable  
Vapor Pressure: Not applicable  
Specific Gravity: 50-120kg/m<sup>3</sup>  
Flash Point: Not applicable  
Flamm. Limit LEL: Not applicable  
Explosion Data: Not applicable

#### OTHER PROPERTIES

Description: Vermiculite is the mineralogical name given to hydrated laminar magnesium-aluminum-iron silicates which resemble mica in appearance. When subjected to heat, crude vermiculite has the unusual property of exfoliating or expanding into worm-like particles. Vermiculite is considered a nuisance dust (also called "Particulates Not Otherwise Classified (PNOC)" by ACGIH).

Form: Granular

Ingredients:

Name	CAS Proportion
Vermiculite ore:	1318-00- 9; greater than 99.9%
Crystalline silica (Quartz):	14808-60- 7; less than 0.1%
Crystalline silica (Cristobalite)	14464-46- 1; less than 0.1%

#### HEALTH HAZARD INFORMATION

Acute – Ingestion: No adverse effects expected.  
Acute – Eye: Exposure to the dust may cause discomfort due to the particulate nature.  
Acute – Skin: Not expected to be a skin irritant.  
Acute – Inhalation: Inhalation of dust may result in respiratory irritation.

#### FIRST AID

Ingestion: Rinse mouth with water - give plenty of water to drink. If vomiting occurs give further water. Seek medical advice.  
Eye: Irrigate with copious quantities of water for 15 minutes. In all cases of eye contamination it is a sensible precaution to seek medical advice.  
Skin: Wash contaminated skin with plenty of soap and water. If irritation occurs seek medical advice. Remove victim from exposure - avoid becoming a casualty.  
Inhalation: Remove contaminated clothing and loosen remaining clothing. Patient to assume most comfortable position and kept at rest until fully recovered.  
Advice to Doctor: Treat symptomatically.

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## PRECAUTIONS FOR USE

Exposure Limits:

**OSHA PEL -** 15 mg/m<sup>3</sup>  
**ACGIH TLV** 10 mg/m<sup>3</sup>

Other Exposure Info:

No value assigned for this specific material by the Occupational Health & Safety Administration.

Engineering Controls:

Ensure ventilation is adequate to maintain air concentrations below exposure standard. Avoid generating and inhaling dust. Keep containers closed when not in use.

Protective Equipment:

No specific safety equipment required. Preferable to avoid skin and eye contact and inhalation of dust. Wear overalls, safety glasses and impervious gloves. Avoid generating and inhaling dust. If dust exists, wear dust mask/respirator meeting the requirements of AS1715 and AS1716. Always wash hands before eating, drinking or using the toilet.

Fire Hazards:

Vermiculite is a fully oxidized non-flammable mineral. It is non-combustible.

## REACTIVITY

Stability:

Stable

Incompatibility:

None (reacts with hydrofluoric acid; soluble in HF)

Hazardous Polymerization:

Will not occur

Conditions to avoid:

None

## SAFE HANDLING INFORMATION

Storage Precautions:

Not defined as a Dangerous Good. Store in a dry place.

Spills and Leaks:

Use respirators suitable for nuisance dust & eye protection. Sweep up, but avoid generating dust.

Disposal:

Dispose in bulk or containerised according to local regulations. Normally approved for disposal at approved land waste sites.

## OTHER INFORMATION

Toxicology: Inhaling crystalline silica-containing dust can aggravate upper respiratory conditions such as asthma or emphysema. Long term exposure to mineral dust which contains crystalline silica can cause the lung disease silicosis. A recent review by the International Agency for Research into Cancer of public literature on the carcinogenic risk of silica and silicates has concluded that there is limited evidence for the carcinogenicity of crystalline silica to humans.

## CONTACT POINT

In the case of an emergency contact the Production Manager on (02) 8318 8724 or for additional information on this or other products contact by email ([info@ausperl.com.au](mailto:info@ausperl.com.au)) This material safety data sheet and the information contained herein is provided for the sole purpose of enabling persons handling and using the product to do so with safety.

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