

BULLETIN VC-856

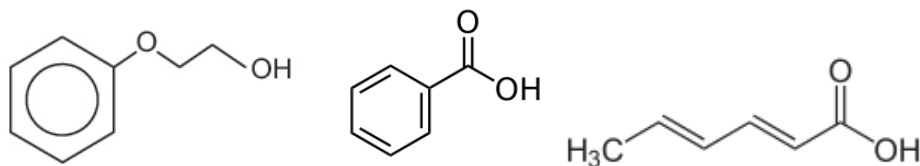
Optiphen™ BSP/ Rokonsal™ BSP preservative

Preservative for the Cosmetics Industry

Product Description

Optiphen BSP is a broad spectrum liquid preservative system that does not contain any halo-organic compounds, formaldehyde, formaldehyde releasers or parabens. It is effective against Gram-negative bacteria, yeast and mold. Optiphen BSP, a globally approved system, was designed specifically for personal care formulations with a pH up to 5.4 due to the inclusion of organic acids. It is based on a combination of nature-identical organic acids: Benzoic acid and Sorbic acid in Phenoxyethanol and can be classified as a "progressive preservative".

Formula



Phenoxyethanol (and) Benzoic Acid (and) Sorbic Acid

Suggested Applications

Rinse-off-Cosmetics

Optiphen BSP preservative has proven to be an effective preserving system for rinse-off-products like shampoos, shower-gels, foam-baths etc., as these products generally have slightly acidic pH, which is a necessary condition for a safe use, as explained above.

Care-Products

Due to its good skin-compatibility Optiphen BSP preservative is suitable for high-quality care-cosmetics like creams, emulsions, lotions and gels, if they conform to the necessary pH-conditions. On account of its good dispensability Optiphen BSP preservative can be used in O/W-emulsions as well as in W/O-emulsions.

Dosage and Processing

Optiphen BSP preservative is recommended in cosmetic products at concentrations in the range 0.3% to 1.0%. For the preservation of simple surfactant-products dosages of 0.2 % might be sufficient. For best preservation it is recommended to add Optiphen BSP in formulations at pH values of 5.4 or less. The lower the pH of the final formulation, the better the efficacy of the preservative.

For the determination of the optimum dosage we recommend a preservation test, as the efficacy of this preservative is highly influenced by the product matrix. The staff of Ashland Inc.'s microbiological laboratory will be pleased to give customers the appropriate support.

Product Properties

Microbiological Profile

The combination of actives in Optiphen™ BSP/ Rokonsal™ BSP preservative predominantly shows a microbiostatic spectrum of activity against gram-positive and gram-negative bacteria. However, at the usual use-levels growth of fungi and yeast is inhibited as well.

Technical Data

Appearance:	colorless solution
Odor:	characteristic
pH-Value:	not applicable, glycolic solution
Density:	1.070 - 1.092 g/ml
Solubility:	In the range of the recommended use-concentrations Optiphen BSP preservative is easily incorporated, no dissipation-problems are to be expected.

Stability

Optiphen™ BSP preservative can be worked into final products at temperatures between 10°C and 80°C. pH-tolerance is given for acidic environment that is required for good effectiveness. Strong oxidising agents and strong acids will lead to decomposition of the active ingredients.

Storage

Storage is recommended in tightly closed original-containers at temperatures between 5°C and 25°C.

INCI-Nomenclature

122-99-6	Phenoxyethanol
57-55-6	Propylene Glycol
65-85-0	Benzoic Acid
110-44-1	Sorbic Acid

More details regarding handling, toxicity and labelling are available in the Safety Data Sheet (SDS).

Regulatory requirements governing the use, registration, and approval of preservatives around the world are continually changing and evolving.

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