

Suttocide A is sold as a 50% aqueous solution of Sodium Hydroxymethylglycinate. The solution is a clear alkaline liquid with a mild characteristic odor. This single preservative is a broad spectrum and cost effective anti-microbial that is active against Gram-positive bacteria, Gram-negative bacteria, and mold.

Suttocide A is approved for use in the Americas and is permanently listed by the EU at levels up to 0.5% active (1.0% as supplied) without restrictions.

Applications

- For use in shampoos and conditioners, when used at 0.4-1.0% as supplied.
- Sold as a pH 10-12 aqueous solution and can be used to neutralize Carbomer to form stable clear gels without losing antimicrobial activity.
- Highly effective when used in combination with other preservatives; in combination with LiquaPar® Oil, is particularly effective for preserving complex formulations.
- Stable and active up to pH 12; can be used in acidic conditions as low as 3.5, giving the formulator very broad pH flexibility, as well as being able to adequately preserve alkaline products, e.g., soap bars.

Recommended use level: 0.1 - 1.0% of total formulation weight.

INCI: Sodium Hydroxymethylglycinate.

PROS & CONS: Suttocide A is very alkaline, and best suited for hair care products. Hair conditioners perform best in the 4.5 - 5.5 pH range by working to lay the cuticle of the hair down. When I use botanical extracts, they sometimes are a little too acidic and by using Suttocide A as my preservative I can move the pH back up to the 4.5 - 5.5 pH range. If the pH becomes more like 6, a tiny addition of citric acid adjusts.

Suttocide can also be used as a base to neutralize and react the gel matrix of Carbomer 940, in case you do not have any TEA on hand. Suttocide A should be used in conjunction of a pH meter to ensure the proper pH of the product you are preserving.