Status: This is the original version (as it was originally adopted).

ANNEX I

E 339 (iii) TRISODIUM PHOSPHATE

Synonyms	Sodium phosphate
	Tribasic sodium phosphate
	Trisodium orthophosphate
Definition	Trisodium phosphate is obtained from aqueous solutions and crystallises in the anhydrous form and with $1/2$, 1, 6, 8 or 12 H ₂ O. The dodecahydrate always crystallises from aqueous solutions with an excess of sodium hydroxide. It contains $1/4$ molecule of NaOH
Chemical name	Trisodium monophosphate
	Trisodium phosphate
	Trisodium orthophosphate
Einecs	231-509-8
Chemical formula	Anhydrous: Na ₃ PO ₄
	Hydrated: $Na_3PO_4 \cdot nH_2O$ (n = 1/2, 1, 6, 8, or 12)
Molecular weight	163,94 (anhydrous)
Assay	Sodium phosphate anhydrous and the hydrated forms, with the exception of the dodecahydrate, contain not less than 97,0 % of Na ₃ PO ₄ calculated on the dried basis. Sodium phosphate dodecahydrate contains not less than 92,0 % of Na ₃ PO ₄ calculated on the ignited basis
P ₂ O ₅ content	Between 40,5 % and 43,5 % on the anhydrous basis
Description	White odourless crystals, granules or crystalline powder
Identification	
A. Positive tests for sodium and for phosphate	
B. Solubility	Freely soluble in water. Insoluble in ethanol
C. pH of a 1 % solution	Between 11,5 and 12,5
Purity	

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Loss on ignition	When dried at 120 °C for two hours and then ignited at about 800 °C for 30 minutes, the losses in weight are as follows: anhydrous not more than 2,0 %, monohydrate not more than 11,0 %, dodecahydrate: between 45,0 % and 58,0 %
Water insoluble substances	Not more than 0,2 % on the anhydrous basis
Fluoride	Not more than 10 mg/kg (expressed as fluorine)
Arsenic	Not more than 3 mg/kg
Cadmium	Not more than 1 mg/kg
Lead	Not more than 4 mg/kg
Mercury	Not more than 1 mg/kg