

CHAPTER 4. CHEMICAL AND PHYSICAL INFORMATION

4.1 CHEMICAL IDENTITY

Information regarding the chemical identity of vinyl acetate, also commonly referred to as ethenyl acetate (International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry [IUPAC] name) or ethenyl ethanoate is presented in Table 4-1. It is the acetate ester of vinyl alcohol.

Table 4-1. Chemical Identity of Vinyl Acetate

| Characteristic | Information | Reference |
|---|---|-----------|
| Chemical name | Vinyl acetate | NLM 2022 |
| Synonym(s) and registered trade name(s) | Acetic acid, ethenyl ester; acetic acid ethylene ester; acetic acid, vinyl ester; 1-acetoxyethylene; ethanoic acid; ethenyl ester; ethenyl acetate; ethenyl ethanoate; vinyl A monomer; vinyl ethanoate; VAC; vinyl acetate HQ; VYAC; ZESET T | NLM 2022 |
| Chemical formula | C ₄ H ₆ O ₂ | NLM 2022 |
| SMILES | CC(=O)OC=C | NLM 2022 |
| Chemical structure | $ \begin{array}{c} \text{H} \quad \text{O} \quad \text{H} \quad \text{H} \\ \quad \quad \quad \\ \text{H}-\text{C}-\text{C}-\text{O}-\text{C}=\text{C} \\ \quad \quad \quad \quad \\ \text{H} \quad \quad \quad \quad \text{H} \end{array} $ | NLM 2022 |
| CAS Registry Number | 108-05-4 | NLM 2022 |
| InChIKey | XTXRWKRVRITETP-UHFFFAOYSA-N | NLM 2022 |
| InChI | 1S/C4H6O2/c1-3-6-4(2)5/h3H,1H2,2H3 | NLM 2022 |

CAS = Chemical Abstracts Service; SMILES = simplified molecular-input line-entry system

4.2 PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Vinyl acetate is a flammable, volatile colorless liquid. Pure vinyl acetate that is not produced with inhibitors may polymerize on exposure to light. Information regarding physical and chemical properties of vinyl acetate is presented in Table 4-2.

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Table 4-2. Physical and Chemical Properties of Vinyl Acetate

| Property | Information | Reference |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Molecular weight | 86.09 g/mol | Windholz 1983 |
| Color | Colorless | U.S. Coast Guard 1978 |
| Physical state | Liquid (polymerizes into a transparent, colorless solid in light) | Windholz 1983 NLM 2022 |
| Melting point | -93.2°C | NLM 2022 |
| Boiling point | 72–73°C | NLM 2022 |
| Density at 20 °C | 0.932 (20/4°C) | NLM 2022 |
| Relative vapor density (air=1) | 3.0 | NLM 2022 |
| Odor | Sweet smell in small quantities, pleasant fruity characteristic | U.S. Coast Guard 1978 |
| Odor threshold: | | |
| Water | 0.88 ppm (w/v) 0.25 ppm | Amoore and Hautala 1983 Goeva 1966 |
| Air | 0.5 ppm (v/v) 0.12 ppm | Amoore and Hautala 1983 U.S. Coast Guard 1978 |
| Solubility: | | |
| Water at 20 °C | 2.0x10 ⁴ mg/L 1 g/50 mL | EPA 2012 Windholz 1983 |
| Organic solvents | 10% solubility in alcohol, ether, and benzene | NLM 2022 |
| Partition coefficients: | | |
| Log K _{ow} | 0.21–0.73 | Fujisawa and Masuhara 1981; Howard 1989 |
| Log K _{oc} | 0.75 (estimated, MCI Method) 1.3 (estimated, K _{ow} Method) | EPA 2012 |
| Vapor pressure at 20 °C | 83 mmHg at 20°C 115 mmHg at 25°C 140 mmHg at 30°C | Verschuereen 1983 |
| Henry's law constant at 25 °C | 5.11x10 ⁻⁴ atm·m ³ /mol ⁻¹ (calculated) ^a | NLM 2022 |
| Autoignition temperature | 402°C 426.6°C | NFPA 1994 Hawley 1981 |
| Flashpoint | -8°C (closed cup); -1.1°C (Tag open cup) | Hawley 1981; Windholz 1983 |
| Flammability limits | 2.6–13.4% by volume | NFPA 1994 |
| Conversion factors | 1 ppm=3.52 mg/m ³ 1 mg/m ³ =0.28 ppm | |
| Explosive limits ^b | 2.6–13.4% | NLM 2022 |

^aHenry's law constant = vapor pressure/water solubility.

^bExplosive in water and air.

w/v = percent "weight in volume;" v/v = percent "volume in volume"