

Acetaldehyde

Ethanal
CH₃CHO

Formula Wt 44.05

CAS No.75-07-0

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Typical appearance: liquid with pungent odor

Analytical use: standard in chromatography and polarography

Change in state (approximate): boiling point, 21 °C

Aqueous solubility: miscible with water

Density: 0.79

SPECIFICATIONS

Assay	≥99.5% CH ₃ CHO
	<i>Maximum Allowable</i>
Residue after evaporation	0.005%
Titration acid	0.008 meq/g

TESTS

Assay. Analyze the sample by gas chromatography using the general parameters cited on page 80. The following specific conditions are also required.

Column: Type I, methyl silicone

Detector: Flame ionization

Measure the area under all peaks, and calculate the area percent for acetaldehyde.

Residue after Evaporation. (Page 25). Evaporate 40 g (51 mL) to dryness in a tared, preconditioned platinum dish on a hot plate (≈100 °C) in a well-ventilated hood, and dry the residue at 105 °C for 30 min.

Titration Acid. Work in a fume hood. Chill 25 g (32 mL) of sample in a graduated cylinder in an ice bath. To a 250-mL Erlenmeyer flask, add about 25 mL of deionized water and 75 g of deionized ice. Add 0.5 mL of phenolphthalein indicator solution, and titrate with 0.1 N sodium hydroxide to the first perceptible pink color that persists for 15 s. Add the chilled sample and titrate immediately to the same faint pink color. Not more than 2.0 mL of 0.1 N sodium hydroxide should be required.