



## Product Information Sheet

### I4068 Indigo Carmine

Synonyms: 5,5'-Indigodisulfonic Acid Sodium Salt, Indigotine, Acid Blue 74, CI#: 73015  
CAS: 860-22-0  
Formula: C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>8</sub>N<sub>2</sub>Na<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub>S<sub>2</sub>  
Mol. Weight: 466.35

#### Properties

Form: Powder  
Appearance: Dark Violet  
Solubility: Soluble in Water, Ethanol  
Application: Biological Stain, Seed Testing  
Storage Temp: Room Temperature  
Typical Working Concentration: Varies with application, should be determined by end user.

#### Application Notes

Used to stain seeds to detect dead tissues. Stain will penetrate dead cells, but will not stain living cells. This can aid in determining seed viability (Gosling 2003).

Indigo Carmine can also be used as a pH indicator: It is blue at pH 11.4 and yellow at 13.0.

#### References

- Gadd, I. & A. Kjaer (1940) On the applicability of the selenite and indigo-carmin methods to the testing of frost- and *Fusarium*- damaged cereal seed-grain. *Proceedings of the International Seed Testing Association* Vol. 12 No. 2 pp. 140-149.
- Gosling PG (2003) Viability testing. In: Smith RD, Dickie JB, Linington SL, Pritchard HW, Probert RJ (eds) *Seed conservation turning science into practice*. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, pp 445–481.