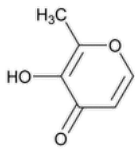


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# Maltol



$C_6H_6O_3$  126.11  
4*H*-Pyran-4-one, 3-hydroxy-2-methyl-;  
3-Hydroxy-2-methyl-4*H*-pyran-4-one CAS RN®: 118-71-8.

## DEFINITION

Maltol contains NLT 98.0% and NMT 102.0% of 3-hydroxy-2-methyl-4*H*-pyran-4-one, calculated on the anhydrous basis.

## IDENTIFICATION

- **A. SPECTROSCOPIC IDENTIFICATION TESTS (197), Infrared Spectroscopy:** 197K
- **B. CHROMATOGRAPHIC IDENTITY**  
**Analysis:** Examine the chromatograms obtained in the Assay.  
**Acceptance criteria:** The retention time of the major peak of the *Sample solution* corresponds to that of the *Standard solution*.

## ASSAY

- **PROCEDURE**  
**Diluent:** [Alcohol, absolute](#)  
**Internal standard solution:** 0.5 mg/mL of [USP Benzyl Alcohol RS](#) (internal standard) in *Diluent*  
**System suitability solution:** 1.0 mg/mL of [USP Maltol RS](#) and 0.2 mg/mL of [USP Ethyl Maltol RS](#) in *Internal standard solution*  
**Standard solution:** 1.0 mg/mL of [USP Maltol RS](#) in *Internal standard solution*  
**Sample solution:** 1.0 mg/mL of Maltol in *Internal standard solution*  
**Chromatographic system**  
(See [Chromatography \(621\), System Suitability.](#))  
**Mode:** GC  
**Detector:** Flame ionization  
**Column:** 0.32-mm × 30-m capillary; bonded with a 0.5-μm layer of phase [G42](#)  
**Temperatures**  
**Detector:** 300°  
**Injection port:** 280°  
**Column:** See [Table 1](#).

Table 1

Initial Temperature (°)	Temperature Ramp (°/min)	Final Temperature (°)	Hold Time at Final Temperature (min)
100	10	180	5
180	20	300	5

**Carrier gas:** Helium  
**Flow rate:** 2 mL/min (constant flow mode)  
**Injection volume:** 1.0 μL  
**Injection type:** Split, split ratio 10:1  
**Liner:** Ultra inert with glass wool, low pressure drop<sup>1</sup>  
**System suitability**

**Samples:** *System suitability solution* and *Standard solution*

[NOTE—The approximate relative retention time of ethyl maltol with reference to maltol is 1.2.]

**Suitability requirements**

**Resolution:** NLT 1.5 between the maltol and ethyl maltol peaks, *System suitability solution*

**Tailing factor:** NMT 2.0, determined from the maltol peak, *System suitability solution*

**Relative standard deviation:** NMT 1% for the peak response ratio of maltol to the internal standard, *Standard solution*

**Analysis**

**Samples:** *Standard solution* and *Sample solution*

Calculate the percentage of Maltol in the portion of the sample taken:

$$\text{Result} = (R_U/R_S) \times (C_S/C_U) \times 100$$

$R_U$  = peak response ratio of maltol to the internal standard from the *Sample solution*

$R_S$  = peak response ratio of maltol to the internal standard from the *Standard solution*

$C_S$  = concentration of [USP Maltol RS](#) in the *Standard solution* (mg/mL)

$C_U$  = concentration of Maltol in the *Sample solution* (mg/mL)

**Acceptance criteria:** 98.0%–102.0% on the anhydrous basis

**IMPURITIES**

• **ORGANIC IMPURITIES**

**Diluent and Chromatographic system:** Proceed as directed in the Assay.

**Protectant solution:** 1.0 mg/mL of 4-hydroxy-6-methyl-2-pyrone (protectant) in *Diluent*

**System suitability solution:** 1 mg/mL of [USP Maltol RS](#) and 0.2 mg/mL of [USP Ethyl Maltol RS](#) in *Protectant solution*

**Standard solution:** 0.02 mg/mL of [USP Maltol RS](#) in *Protectant solution*

**Sample solution:** 20.0 mg/mL of Maltol in *Protectant solution*

**System suitability**

**Samples:** *System suitability solution* and *Standard solution*

[NOTE—The approximate relative retention time of ethyl maltol with reference to maltol is 1.2.]

**Suitability requirements**

**Resolution:** NLT 1.5 between the maltol and ethyl maltol peaks, *System suitability solution*

**Relative standard deviation:** NMT 5.0%, determined from the maltol peak, *Standard solution*

**Signal-to-noise ratio:** NLT 10, determined from the maltol peak, *Standard solution*

**Analysis**

**Samples:** *Standard solution* and *Sample solution*

Calculate the percentage of each individual unidentified impurity in the portion of sample taken:

$$\text{Result} = (r_U/r_S) \times (C_S/C_U) \times 100$$

$r_U$  = peak area of any individual unidentified impurity from the *Sample solution*

$r_S$  = peak area of maltol from the *Standard solution*

$C_S$  = concentration of [USP Maltol RS](#) in the *Standard solution* (mg/mL)

$C_U$  = concentration of Maltol in the *Sample solution* (mg/mL)

**Acceptance criteria:** See [Table 2](#).

**Table 2**

Name	Relative Retention Time	Acceptance Criteria, NMT (%)
Maltol	1.0	—
Any individual unidentified impurity	—	0.1
Total impurities	—	1.0

• **RESIDUE ON IGNITION (281):** NMT 0.2%, determined on 1.0 g

Change to read:

- ▲ [LEAD \(251\), Procedures, Procedure 1](#) ▲ (CN 1-JUN-2023) : NMT 10 ppm

SPECIFIC TESTS

- [MELTING RANGE OR TEMPERATURE \(741\), Procedures, Procedure for Class Ia](#): 160°–164°
- [WATER DETERMINATION \(921\), Method I](#): NMT 0.5%

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- **PACKAGING AND STORAGE:** Preserve in tight containers protected from light, and avoid contact with metals. No storage requirements are specified.
- **USP REFERENCE STANDARDS (11).**  
[USP Benzyl Alcohol RS](#)  
[USP Ethyl Maltol RS](#)  
[USP Maltol RS](#)

<sup>1</sup> Agilent PN 5190-2295 liner has been used. Other equivalent liners can be also used.

**Auxiliary Information** - Please [check for your question in the FAQs](#) before contacting USP.

Topic/Question	Contact	Expert Committee
MALTOL	<a href="#">Documentary Standards Support</a>	SE2020 Simple Excipients

**Chromatographic Database Information:** [Chromatographic Database](#)

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