

SAFETY DATA SHEET

THE BLACK STUFF

Natural organic humate soil conditioner

Issued by	The Black Stuff (Australia) Pty Ltd
Revision	2.1
Date of issue	30/08/2026
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This Safety Data Sheet is prepared in accordance with the Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) as adopted in Australia, and the Safe Work Australia Code of Practice for the Preparation of Safety Data Sheets for Hazardous Chemicals.

The Black Stuff is NOT classified as a hazardous chemical. This Safety Data Sheet is provided voluntarily as good practice.

SECTION 1 IDENTIFICATION

Product identifier

Product name	The Black Stuff
Other names	TBS; natural organic humate
Substance type	UVCB — substance of Unknown or Variable composition, Complex reaction products or Biological materials
CAS number	Not assigned. The product as supplied is a naturally occurring substance of variable composition; no single CAS number describes it. See Section 3 for constituent identifiers.
EC number	Not assigned.
Product code	Bulk; 1 m³ bulk bag; 10 L pail

Relevant identified uses

Recommended use	Soil amendment and soil conditioner. Agricultural, horticultural, turf and domestic garden use.
Uses advised against	Not for use as a fertiliser. Not for use as a fungicide, pesticide, herbicide or any other agricultural chemical purpose. The product is not registered under the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code and no pest or disease control claims are made for it.

Supplier

Company	The Black Stuff (Australia) Pty Ltd
ABN	56 087 365 893
Address	833 Topaz Road, Glen Allyn QLD 4885, Australia

Telephone	1300 082 011 · +61 1300 082 011
Email	info@theblackstuff.com.au
Website	theblackstuff.com.au

Emergency telephone number**Emergency contact**

Supplier emergency line (24 hours): 1800 774 557

Poisons Information Centre (Australia, 24 hours): 13 11 26

Emergency services: 000

SECTION 2 HAZARD(S) IDENTIFICATION**GHS classification**

NOT CLASSIFIED AS A HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL according to the criteria of the Globally Harmonised System as adopted in Australia.

Not classified as a Dangerous Good for transport. Not a Scheduled Poison.

Signal word	None allocated
Hazard pictograms	None allocated
Hazard statements	None allocated
Precautionary statements	None allocated

Hazards not otherwise classified

The product presents no classified health or physical hazards. Two practical matters are noted for the information of users:

- Dust. The product is generally supplied in a moist condition and in that condition does not generate dust. If the material dries out completely it will generate a fine dust on handling. See Sections 7 and 8.
- pH. The product is mildly acidic at approximately pH 4.5. Prolonged skin contact and eye contact should be avoided, as with any acidic soil amendment.

SECTION 3 COMPOSITION AND INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

Naturally occurring peat-derived humate from a freshwater lake-bed deposit at Lynch's Crater, Atherton Tablelands, Queensland. The material is mined, screened and blended. It is not chemically processed. There is no alkali extraction and there are no additives of any kind.

Constituent	Identifier	Typical proportion
Humic acids	CAS 1415-93-6 · EC 215-809-6	11.3% average; to 32.3% in premium horizon (IHSS basis)
Fulvic acids	—	0.27 – 4.8%
Humic	—	approx. 62.9% of organic fraction
Mineral matter and moisture	—	Balance

Contains no hazardous ingredients at or above the concentration cut-off values requiring disclosure.

Because the product is a natural material with no additives, composition varies between batches and between horizons of the deposit.

SECTION 4 FIRST AID MEASURES

Inhalation	Unlikely to be required. If dust from dried material has been inhaled, move the person to fresh air. Seek medical attention if discomfort persists.
Skin contact	Rinse the affected area with water. Remove and wash contaminated clothing before re-use. Seek medical attention if irritation develops or persists.
Eye contact	Flush the eye with clean running water for several minutes, holding the eyelids apart. Remove contact lenses if present and easy to do. Seek medical attention if irritation persists.
Ingestion	Non-toxic. Rinse the mouth with water. Do not induce vomiting. Seek medical attention if a large quantity has been swallowed or if the person feels unwell.

Most important symptoms and effects

No adverse health effects are expected in normal use. Dust from dried material may cause transient mechanical irritation of the eyes and upper respiratory tract. The mildly acidic pH may cause minor skin irritation on prolonged contact.

Indication of immediate medical attention

Treat symptomatically. There is no specific antidote and none is required. The product is a natural organic material and is not toxic.

SECTION 5 FIREFIGHTING MEASURES

Suitable extinguishing media	Water mist, water spray, foam. Any medium suitable for the surrounding fire.
Unsuitable media	None known.
Specific hazards	The product does not readily ignite and is not classified as flammable. Like other dry organic materials it may smoulder if very high heat is applied directly to it. The practical fire risk in normal handling, transport and storage is very low.
Hazardous decomposition products	Carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide on combustion.
Advice for firefighters	Standard structural firefighting protective clothing and self-contained breathing apparatus, as for any organic material fire. No special measures are required for this product.

SECTION 6 ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

Personal precautions	None required for moist product. If the spilled material is dry and generating dust, use the personal protective equipment specified in Section 8 and avoid raising dust.
Environmental precautions	No special measures required. The product is a natural soil amendment, is biodegradable, and is not toxic to soil or aquatic organisms. Avoid discharging large quantities directly into waterways, as with any bulk solid.
Containment and cleaning up	Sweep or shovel into containers for re-use or disposal. The material may simply be spread and incorporated into soil. Avoid dry sweeping of dried material; lightly dampen first if practical.

SECTION 7 HANDLING AND STORAGE**Precautions for safe handling**

The product is generally supplied moist and in that condition does not generate dust.

Normal handling precautions are sufficient: ordinary work clothing, gloves, and washing of hands and face after handling.

If the material has been allowed to dry out it will generate a fine, penetrating dust. In that condition only, use the personal protective equipment specified in Section 8.

- Do not apply the product directly onto plants. Place it between rows, around the root zone, or in a trench at the edge of the root zone.
- Where dried material is being spread, work upwind of the spreading equipment, spread in low wind where practical, and keep bystanders and machinery cabins without filtered air out of the dust plume.
- The material is mildly acidic (approximately pH 4.5). Avoid prolonged skin contact and eye contact. Wash hands and face after handling.
- Always cover the spread product with mulch or soil, or incorporate it, and water it in.

Conditions for safe storage

- Store covered — under tarpaulin, in a shed, or with bulk bag spouts closed. Covering keeps the product moist, which prevents dust generation, and also prevents loss to wind and rain.
- The product tolerates extremes of heat, cold and water saturation and remains stable throughout. It has no shelf-life limitation.
- If allowed to dry out completely the product becomes temporarily water-repellent. It is not damaged; rehydrate with repeated light applications of water rather than a single heavy one.
- Keep away from sources of very high heat, as for any dry organic material.
- Record the batch number from each bag or delivery docket. Because the product is a natural material without additives, analysis varies from batch to batch.

SECTION 8 EXPOSURE CONTROLS AND PERSONAL PROTECTION

Exposure standards	No exposure standard has been established for this product. No ingredient is listed in the Safe Work Australia Workplace Exposure Standards for Airborne Contaminants.
Biological limit values	None established.

Engineering controls

Keep the product moist and covered. This is the primary control and it removes the dust exposure at source. No other engineering controls are required.

Personal protective equipment

Condition	Respiratory	Eyes	Skin
Moist product, as supplied	Not required	Not required	Gloves and ordinary work clothing
Dried product generating dust	Fitted particulate respirator, P2 or better	Sealed safety goggles — not open safety glasses	Gloves, long sleeves and trousers, enclosed footwear

SECTION 9 PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Property	Value
Appearance	Black granular to crumb material; moist as supplied
Odour	Earthy
Odour threshold	Not determined
pH	Approximately 4.5 (typically 4.4 – 4.7, 1:5 in water)
Electrical conductivity	0.11 – 0.23 dS/m
Melting / freezing point	Not applicable
Initial boiling point	Not applicable
Flash point	Not applicable
Flammability	Not classified as flammable. Does not readily ignite. Dry material will smoulder only under direct application of very high heat.
Explosive properties	None
Oxidising properties	None
Vapour pressure	Not applicable
Relative density	Approximately 0.9 – 1.1 t/m ³ as supplied (1.05 – 1.10 t/m ³ in situ)
Solubility in water	Dispersible; not fully soluble. Does not dissolve or move readily through the soil profile.
Partition coefficient	Not applicable — UVCB substance
Auto-ignition temperature	Not determined
Decomposition temperature	Not determined
Viscosity	Not applicable — solid
Organic carbon	27.0 – 37.8%
Organic matter	46.0 – 64.2%

SECTION 10 STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

Reactivity	Not reactive under normal conditions of use and storage.
Chemical stability	Stable. The material has been geologically stable for tens of thousands of years and remains stable through extremes of heat, cold and water saturation.
Possibility of hazardous reactions	None known.
Conditions to avoid	Direct application of very high heat. Complete drying, which causes temporary water repellency and dust generation.
Incompatible materials	Strong oxidising agents.
Hazardous decomposition products	Carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide on combustion. None under normal storage.

SECTION 11 TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

No toxicological data has been generated for this product. The assessment below is based on the nature and composition of the material, which is a naturally occurring peat humate containing no synthetic constituents.

Endpoint	Assessment
Acute toxicity — oral	Not classified. Non-toxic.
Acute toxicity — dermal	Not classified.
Acute toxicity — inhalation	Not classified. Dust from dried material may cause transient mechanical irritation.
Skin corrosion / irritation	Not classified. Mildly acidic; prolonged contact may cause minor irritation.
Serious eye damage / irritation	Not classified. Dust from dried material may cause mechanical irritation.
Respiratory or skin sensitisation	Not classified. No sensitisation known.
Germ cell mutagenicity	Not classified.
Carcinogenicity	Not classified. No constituent is listed as a carcinogen.
Reproductive toxicity	Not classified.
STOT — single exposure	Not classified.
STOT — repeated exposure	Not classified.
Aspiration hazard	Not classified.

SECTION 12 ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Ecotoxicity	Not toxic to soil organisms or aquatic life. The product is applied to soil as an amendment and supports soil biological activity.
Persistence and degradability	Persistent in soil by design. The material is not readily biodegraded and has been found present and active in trial soils five years after a single application. It is depleted principally by physical removal rather than by decomposition.
Bioaccumulative potential	Not bioaccumulative.
Mobility in soil	Low. The product is not water-soluble and does not move readily through the soil profile.
Results of PBT and vPvB assessment	Not applicable. The substance is a naturally occurring soil material and is not subject to PBT or vPvB assessment.
Other adverse effects	None known. Heavy metal content is substantially below European fertilising product limits (EU Regulation 2019/1009, PFC 6) and below Australian NEPM investigation levels; hexavalent chromium was not detected. The product increases soil organic carbon.

SECTION 13 DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

Waste treatment	Dispose of as non-hazardous organic waste. The product may be spread and incorporated into soil, or composted, in preference to disposal.
Contaminated packaging	Empty containers may be recycled through normal channels. Bulk bags may be re-used where undamaged.
Regulatory note	Dispose of in accordance with local, State and Commonwealth requirements. No special waste classification applies.

SECTION 14 TRANSPORT INFORMATION

NOT CLASSIFIED AS A DANGEROUS GOOD under the Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road and Rail, IMDG or IATA.

UN number	None allocated
UN proper shipping name	None allocated
Transport hazard class	None allocated
Packing group	None allocated
Environmental hazards	Not a marine pollutant
Transport in bulk (MARPOL Annex II / IBC Code)	Not applicable — solid product
Special precautions	None. Cover loads to prevent loss in transit, as for any bulk solid.

SECTION 15 REGULATORY INFORMATION

Hazard classification	Not classified as a hazardous chemical under the GHS as adopted in Australia. Not classified as a Dangerous Good.
Poisons schedule	Not a Scheduled Poison under the Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons.
Agricultural and veterinary chemicals	Not registered, and registration is not required. The product is supplied as a soil conditioner and no pest, disease or plant growth regulation claims are made for it. Registration would be required under the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994 (Cth) only if such claims were made.
Fertiliser regulation	Compliant with the Agricultural Standards Regulation 1997 (Qld). Labelling and disclosure obligations apply.
Inventory status	UVCB substance of natural origin. No inventory listing is required for a naturally occurring substance supplied without chemical modification.
Chemical safety assessment	No chemical safety assessment has been carried out. None is required for a substance that is not classified as hazardous.

SECTION 16 OTHER INFORMATION

Prepared for	The Black Stuff (Australia) Pty Ltd
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Prepared by	Peter Topperwien, CEO
On behalf of	The Black Stuff (Australia) Pty Ltd

Abbreviations used

CAS	Chemical Abstracts Service
EC	European Community
GHS	Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals
IHSS	International Humic Substances Society
NEPM	National Environment Protection Measure
PBT / vPvB	Persistent, Bioaccumulative and Toxic / very Persistent, very Bioaccumulative
STOT	Specific Target Organ Toxicity
UVCB	Substance of Unknown or Variable composition, Complex reaction products or Biological materials

Disclaimer

The information in this Safety Data Sheet is provided in good faith and is believed to be accurate at the date of issue. It relates only to the specific material identified and may not be valid where that material is used in combination with any other material or in any process.

It is the responsibility of the user to satisfy themselves as to the suitability and completeness of this information for their own particular use, and to comply with all applicable laws and regulations.

END OF SAFETY DATA SHEET