

1 **Boric acid-**

PROPERTIES

1. It is a white, colorless crystalline powder, odorless, unctuous to touch.

2. It has bitter, sweetish after taste

3. It is soluble in alcohol, freely soluble in glycerin, propylene glycol and boiling water

4. Stable in air

5. On heating at 1000°C it is converted into metaboric acid, at 1600°C into tetraboric acid and at more than 1600°C boric acid is converted into boron trioxide.

6. Boric acid is a very weak acid, so it cannot be titrated accurately with standard alkali.

Hence glycerin is added in its titration.

Storage of Boric acid- It should be stored in air-tight, well closed container.

2

Uses of Boric acid-

1. It has weak bacteriostatic and fungistatic action
2. It is used as local anti-infective drug in the form of cream, ointment and lotion
3. Buffer in topical preparations
4. Vehicle for ophthalmic solution
5. Boric acid is useful as Suppositories base
6. It is also used to impregnate surgical dressings