

25.28

25.28 - Natural borates and concentrates thereof (whether or not calcined), but not including borates separated from natural brine; natural boric acid containing not more than 85 % of H₃BO₃ calculated on the dry weight.

This heading covers **only** natural borate minerals as extracted, concentrates (whether or not calcined) of such materials, and natural boric acid as obtained by evaporation of the water left after the condensation of the natural vapours escaping from the earth in certain regions (the Italian soffioni), or by evaporating water drawn from underground sources in those regions. However, the heading **excludes** boric acid containing more than 85 % of H₃BO₃ calculated on the dry weight (**heading 28.10**).

The natural borates classified here include :

- (1) **Kernite** or **tincal**, sodium borates also known as " natural borax ".
- (2) **Pandermite** and **priceite**, calcium borates.
- (3) **Boracite**, magnesium chloroborate.

The heading **excludes** the sodium borate (refined borax) obtained by chemical treatment of kernite or tincal and the sodium borates obtained by evaporating complex brines from certain salt lakes (**heading 28.40**).