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CASTOR OIL, PHARMACEUTICAL (PRESSED) **MATERIAL SPECIFICATIONS**

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION: The Castor Oil plant has been cultivated for more than 6,000 years (Egypt). Major growing countries today are India, Brazil and China, to a lesser extent Thailand, the Philippines and Pakistan. The walnut-sized capsule of the Castor shrub (*Ricinus communis* L.) contains three bean-sized seeds with 40- 55% fatty oil each. Castor oil pressed is won by pressing with subsequent bleaching. It is almost clear to light yellowish colour with a typically very light odour and mild taste. The oil is easily soluble in alcohol, ether, glacial acetic acid, etc., however insoluble in aliphatics (benzene).

PROPERTIES

Density at 20° C
Refractive Index at 20° C
Optical Rotation
Absorption (268 - 270nm)
Acid Value
Hydroxyl Value
Peroxide Value
Iodine Value
Unsaponifiable Matter
Water

TYPICAL ANALYSIS

0,952 - 0,965
1,477 - 1,481
+3,5° - +6,0°
max. 1,5 [1% (m/V) solution in Ethanol, 96%]
max. 2,0
min. 150
max. 10,0
82 - 90
max. 0,8% (m/m)
max. 0,3%

FATTY ACID COMPOSITION

Palmitic acid	C16:0	max. 2,0%
Stearic acid	C18:0	max. 2,5%
Oleic acid	C18:1	2,5 - 6,0%
Linoleic acid	C18:2	2,5 - 7,0%
Linolenic acid	C18:3	max. 1,0%
Eicosenic acid	C20:1	max. 1,0%
Ricinoleic Acid	C18:1/ C12-OH	85,0 - 92,0%
9,10 Dihydroxystearic acid	C18:0/C9,10-OH	0,3 - 0,7%
Others		max. 1,0%

SHELF LIFE: 18 Months

STORAGE: Light protected, not above room temperature, in tightly sealed containers (nitrogen blanketed).

USAGE: Castor Oil pressed is distinguished foremost by its temperature, independent invariable viscosity and strong adhesive power. Its natural origin is appreciated by the pharmaceutical industry where it is used as a medicine (laxative) and as raw material component. The oil is also used in the manufacture of cosmetics and of sophisticated technical products (e.g. medical equipment).

This specification was developed with utmost care based on up-to-date information available, but should also be scrutinized. It should also be scrutinized by the recipient. It does not release him from checking the quality of goods delivered with proper diligence.

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