



TECHNICAL BULLETIN

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SHEA BUTTER

INCI NAME: Butyrospermum Parkii (Shea Butter) Fruit

SPECIFICATIONS:

SHEA BUTTER

Code: SB001

APPEARANCE:

White to Off White, Buttery Material

ODOR

Characteristic - Fatty

SPECIFIC GRAVITY @ 25° C

0.91 - 0.98

MELTING POINT

32 - 45°C

IODINE VALUE

40 - 70

FREE ACIDS

6% Max

SAPONIFICATION VALUE

160 - 180

UNSAPONIFIABLES

3% Minimum

MICROBIOLOGY

Total Plate Count
@ 48 hrs

< 10 cfu/g
No pathogens present

CAUTIONS:

This is a natural product, may darken with age. Store in a cool place, away from light.

PACKAGING:

55 lb. corrugated boxes

DESCRIPTION:

SHEA BUTTER is a natural fatty substance which is extracted from the fresh nut of the Karite tree. This crude butter is then filtered and refined to present a pure, natural product.

SHEA BUTTER

USES:

SHEA BUTTER is used as a fattening agent in cosmetic products, as well as topical ointments, creams and lotions. Because of its high content of unsaponifiable matter it is most applicable for facial, hand and body care products, giving a very pleasant, smooth feel to the skin. Also recommended for lipstick, make-

up, sunscreen formulations and preparations for sensitive skin. Shea Butter may also be used in most hydrophobic (oil based) products, or used in the oil phase of formulations for cosmetics, toiletries and O.T.C. pharmaceutical preparations.

Here are some examples of the types of products that SHEA BUTTER may be used in:

INTERNAL/ORAL APPLICATIONS

- Lip Balms
- Lipsticks
- Oral Ointments

SKIN CARE

- Facial Moisturizers
- Shaving/Depilatory Preparations
- Glamour Cosmetics (Hydrophobic)
- Bath Oils

O.T.C. PHARMACEUTICALS

- Topical Analgesics/Anesthetics
 - First Aid Creams
 - Anti-Acne Preparations
 - Rubs and Liniments
 - Ointments
- Sun Care and After Sun Products
 - Hand & Body Lotions (Oil phase)

WHAT PERCENTAGE TO USE?

Depending on the application (and of course budget), you will most likely want to use a level (%) which is both cost-effective and efficacious in your product formulation.

The key to remember is this: If you are using Shea Butter in a product formulation primarily to have it appear on the label, then concerns about the percentage to use (say below 5%) are really immaterial.

However, if you want the product to perform better because of the presence of Shea Butter, then try using 10% or more. You and the consumer will perceive a difference.