Candelilla wax

The vegan wax from the candelilla bush



Candelilla wax is softer than carnauba wax but slightly harder than beeswax. Unlike other waxes, Candelilla wax is absorbed quickly without leaving a waxy greasy film. The solidification temperature is between 68 and 73°C.

Qualities & Usage

We carry Candelilla wax in the following qualities for you

ArtNr.	Quality	Cosmetics	Food	Pharmaceutics
506030	Candelilla wax refined in pastilles	Yes	Yes	
Candelilla wax is often used as a substitute for bees or carnauba				

wax. In general, it is used, as in nature, to prevent dehydration. Candelilla wax is a superb oil binder and gives the products a beautiful shine, protects the ingredients and prevents them from sticking together.





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Candelilla wax

The vegan wax from the candelilla bush



The candelilla bush

The candelilla bush (Euphorbia antisyphilitica) belongs to the spurge family. The bush consists of branching shrubs that grow up to 30 cm high. In order to protect itself from the heat, the plant forms a wax layer on branches as well as on the rare leaves, the candelilla wax (also called candellina wax). This is yellow to brown in colour and hard. It protects the shrub from environmental influences and evaporation. The entire plant is cut off at harvest and then completely boiled in water. The wax melts and rises to the water surface, from where it is skimmed off in the next step. It is then cleaned in several steps.





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Cultivation & yield

The plant is native to the semi-deserts of northern Mexico and southern North America. Candelilla wax is collected and processed by small family businesses, the so-called "candelilleros". This is a wild growth.

Background / history

The name Candelilla comes from the Spanish and means "small candle". The name aptly describes the upright growth and the flammability of the wax.

Approximately 4,000 years old rock paintings with colours consisting of a mixture of mineral pigments and candelilla wax were discovered on the border between Mexico and Texas.

Due to its price, the collection was stopped in the 1960s, but gradually gained popularity in cosmetics.





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Article number: 506030

INCI name: Candelilla Cera / Euphorbia Cerifera Cera

CAS number: 8006-44-8

Botanical name: Candelilla Cera

Usage: Cosmetics, Food

Origin: Our refined candelilla wax comes 100 % from Mexico.



Our packaging



General durability:

24 months





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Production & description

Candelilla wax (Candelilla Cera) is a vegetable wax which is separated from the stems and leaf rudiments of a perennial or shrub-like plant native to Mexico.

A light yellow wax, which is hard, fragile and bright. After melting it has a sweet aromatic odour.





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Gustav Heess Candelilla wax refined in pastilles

There are no plantations of the candelilla bush. Every year, prior to each harvest, a study is carried out and on this basis the quantities of candelilla bush that can be harvested are calculated. This ensures a sustainable harvest. The bushes are completely cut off, only the roots remain. For drying, the cut off bushes are left in the sun. To preserve the wax, the tufts are boiled and the wax floating on the surface is skimmed off. The raw wax is then refined to clean it. The result is a refined, high-quality candelilla wax.





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Usage

- manufacture of lipsticks and care pencils
- used as a consistency enhancer in many products
- creams and emulsions for hand and foot care
- separating and coating agents for, among other things, sweets, chocolate, nuts and fruits (e.g. citrus fruits, apples, pears, peaches, melons, pineapples)
- food additive
- chewing mass for chewing gum

Cosmetics

Food





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Sustainability & responsibility

In order to guarantee the sustainability and preservation of this unique bush, every year before harvesting, a study is carried out by geologists and a decision is made as to how much may be harvested. The candelilla harvest is a wild collection and provides a sustainable source of income for the collectors, called "candelilleros". The candelilla bush is therefore treated with respect, as this plant contributes to the family income.





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