

# Marula oil

The precious oil obtained from the fruit of the elephant tree



Unique in use as anti-aging due to the high content of antioxidants.

## Qualities & Usage

We carry Marula oil in the following qualities for you

| Art.-Nr. | Quality                 | Cosmetics | Food | Pharmaceutics |
|----------|-------------------------|-----------|------|---------------|
| 205030   | Marula oil refined      | Yes       |      |               |
| 205020   | Marula oil cold pressed | Yes       |      |               |



# Marula oil

The precious oil obtained from the fruit of the elephant tree



## Marula tree & marula fruit

The Marula tree (*Sclerocarya birrea*) is native to sub-equatorial Africa and thrives under warm and frost-free weather conditions. It belongs to the sumac family just like the mango tree. With a height of up to 20 metres, it is one of the largest indigenous African plants. Wild growing Marula trees have a mighty crown and can reach a trunk diameter of up to 80 centimetres or more. The fruits are produced exclusively by female plants. They are about the size of a plum and elongated, have a pale yellow, leathery skin which encloses the fibrous, light-coloured flesh. The marula fruit contains four times as much vitamin C as an orange. The juice extracted from the marula fruit pulp can be processed into liqueur and is marketed worldwide as a wild fruit cream liqueur by the South African-based brand Amarula. The hard nut is located in the middle of the fruit. A special stone is used to crack it open by hand. Once the nut is cracked, two or three seeds appear, which are used for oil production.

The synonym "elephant tree" goes back to the pleasurable eating of the fruit by the heavy quadrupeds. In the past, it was believed that already fermented, alcoholic fruits made the animals drunk. In the Kruger National Park you can regularly see staggering elephants. Current researches show, however, that the cause is not the marula fruits, but that the animals also consume poisonous beetle pupae living in the bark of the trees when they nibble the bark, which causes the elephants intoxicated conditions.



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## Cultivation & yield

The Marula tree grows cross-country in sub-Saharan Africa. As it is very leafy and thus provides a lot of shade, it is a popular place for traditional tribal gatherings and "Lekgotlas" (meetings). The main harvest period of the Marula fruit is between February and March. The harvest secures jobs, because the Marula fruits can only be harvested by hand.

Even with very little rainfall, the harvest of the fruit from which the Marula oil is produced, is considerable. A single Marula tree can produce between 500 kilograms and two tons of fruit. The tree grows on open, natural and forested grassland.

It is not possible to cultivate the Marula tree. It is 100% wild collection. Since the local population can use and distribute both the fruit and the seeds, the Marula tree contributes to the family income of the collectors. Thus, the Marula tree is protected and hardly used as firewood.

## Background / history

The Marula tree originally comes from Africa. There it is preserved and honoured because of the manifold use of different parts of the tree. There are different Marula beers, a Marula wine and the famous cream liqueur Amarula. The fruits are consumed, the bark, roots and leaves are used in traditional medicine.

The locals also call it the "Wedding Tree" because in Zulu culture it is believed that couples who marry under this tree will have a long, strong and fertile marriage.



# Marula oil

refined

**Article number:**

205030

**INCI name:**

Sclerocarya Birrea Seed Oil

**Botanical name:**

Sclerocarya Birrea

**Usage:**

Cosmetics

**Origin:**

Our refined Marula oil comes 100 % from Namibia.

## Our packaging



190 kg Drum



27 kg Canister

**General durability:**

canister 12 months, drum 18 months



# Marula oil

refined

## Composition

|                     |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| C16:0 Palmitic acid | 9 – 13 %  |
| C18:0 Stearic acid  | 4 – 8 %   |
| C18:1 Oleic acid    | 70 – 80 % |
| C18:2 Linoleic acid | 4 – 9 %   |



# Marula oil

refined



## Production & description

Marula oil is produced from the seeds of the Marula tree *Sclerocarya birrea* (Anacardiaceae) by expression and subsequent refining.

Lightly coloured oil with a mild smell, slightly turbid at room temperature.



# Marula oil

refined

Gustav Heess

## Marula oil refined

The fruit is collected by the local women between January and April. As soon as the fruits fall from the tree to the ground they are ripe. First the juice is extracted manually. This can be processed into liqueur. The nuts are separated from their shells with a sharp horn from a cow and dried. Then the nut is cracked by hand with the help of a stone. The two to three kernels inside are gently cold pressed on site in Namibia. In a further step it is processed into refined oil. As soon as the oil arrives at our headquarters in Leonberg, it is subjected to strict controls by our Gustav Heess laboratory, which is officially accredited according to DIN ISO 17025.



# Marula oil

refined

## Usage

Due to its high content of antioxidants as well as vitamin C, its cosmetic use is particularly popular in anti-aging products. Because of its fatty acid distribution (70 - 80 % oleic acid C 18:1) the oil penetrates well and deeply and contributes to a smooth skin. At the same time it acts as a massage oil for the skin as it is said to have a refatting effect and to protect the lipid layer. Its use in hair products is also popular because it gives hair more shine and suppleness. In its origin, the oil is sometimes even used as a cleanser for the body instead of water, as it is very neutral.

Cosmetics



# Marula oil

refined



## Sustainability & responsibility

Gustav Heess GmbH works together with a non-profit cooperative from the northern part of Namibia, which consists of around 2,500 women. The project aims to improve the quality of life of the rural population and the sustainable sale of the local product.

We also support the local production of marula oil and thus secure jobs at the source.



# Marula oil

cold pressed

**Article number:**

205020

**INCI name:**

Sclerocarya Birrea Seed Oil

**Botanical name:**

Sclerocarya Birrea

**Usage:**

Cosmetics

**Certificates:**

NATRUE

**Origin:**

Our cold-pressed Marula oil comes 100 % from Namibia.

## Our packaging



190 kg Drum



27 kg Canister

**General durability:**

canister 12 months, drum 18 months



# Marula oil

cold pressed

## Composition

|                     |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| C16:0 Palmitic acid | 9 – 13 %  |
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# Marula oil

cold pressed



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Lightly coloured oil with a mild smell, slightly turbid at room temperature.



# Marula oil

cold pressed

Gustav Heess

## Marula oil cold pressed

We obtain 100 % high quality marula oil from Namibia. For this purpose we work together with a non-profit women's cooperative in the north of Namibia. The fruit is collected by local women between January and April. They thus contribute to a large part of the family income. As soon as the fruits fall from the tree to the ground they are ripe. First the juice is extracted manually. The nuts are separated from their shells with a sharp horn from a cow and dried. Then the nut is cracked by hand with the help of a stone. In the next step, the two to three kernels are gently processed into cold-pressed oil on site in Namibia and shipped. As soon as the oil arrives at our headquarters in Leonberg, it is subjected to strict controls by our Gustav Heess laboratory, which is officially accredited according to DIN ISO 17025.



# Marula oil

cold pressed

## Usage

Due to its high content of antioxidants as well as vitamin C, its cosmetic use is particularly popular in anti-aging products. Because of its fatty acid distribution (70 - 80 % oleic acid C 18:1) the oil penetrates well and deeply and contributes to a smooth skin. At the same time it acts as a massage oil for the skin as it is said to have a refatting effect and to protect the lipid layer. Its use in hair products is also popular because it gives hair more shine and suppleness. In its origin, the oil is sometimes even used as a cleanser for the body instead of water, as it is very neutral.

Cosmetics



# Marula oil

cold pressed



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Gustav Heess GmbH works together with a non-profit cooperative from the northern part of Namibia, which consists of around 2,500 women. The project aims to improve the quality of life of the rural population and the sustainable sale of the local product.

Local oil production in Namibia creates secure jobs and improves the quality of life.

