Functional ingredients for COSMETICS

Functional ingredients for

COSMETICS

Perú

Introduction

Peru is one of the planet's most biodiverse countries, home to a great variety of ecosystems and flora and fauna. This richness has made Peru a world leader in the food industry, with an endless supply of fruits, plants, and vegetables that grow in harmony with the environment, throughout the Andes, the Amazon, and even in the desert.

This geography makes Peru a global supplier of highly nutritious and healthy superfoods. The plants from which these products come are now helping revolutionize the natural cosmetic industry, offering us a whole range of ingredients to manufacture items that protect and beautify our skin and hair.

These inputs come from nature and are obtained using agricultural production practices to high quality standards that are sustainable, responsible, and respectful of the environment.

This catalog is an invitation for you to discover Peru’s main natural ingredients, the properties they contain, and their application in the international natural cosmetics industry.

Contents

- Aguaje oil
- Brazil nut oil
- Chia oil
- Coconut oil
- Copaiba oil
- Passion fruit oil
- Avocado oil
- Sacha inchi oil
- Ungurahui oil

1

Vegetable oils

Vegetable oils are natural cosmetics ingredients composed of mixtures of saturated and polyunsaturated essential and non-essential fatty acids. They come from the seeds, flowers, and fruits of their plants. They can also contain fat-soluble vitamins, such as tocopherol (vitamin E), beta-carotene (vitamin A), and derivatives. They are not volatile and their form at room temperature is normally liquid or semi-solid.

Aguaje

Mauritia flexuosa L

The oil of the aguaje is orange in color due to the palm's high beta-carotene content. It is very rich in oleic acid (72.5%), antioxidants, phytoestrogens, tocopherol (vitamin E), and ascorbic acid (vitamin C).

The oil is produced by cold pressing the pulp of the aguaje.

Cosmetic properties

The high carotenoid content gives the product its intense reddish color. The high concentrations of Tocopherols and Zeaxanthin deliver **antioxidant properties** and protect against UV radiation.

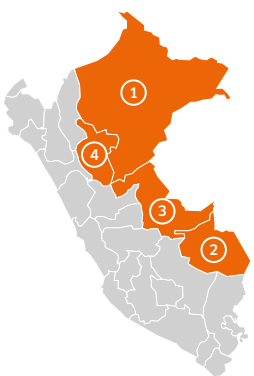
Aguaje oil is used to **restore dry, brittle, or damaged hair.**

Aguaje oil helps **reduce the presence of expression lines** and delay aging of the skin.

Aguaje oil is used as an **ointment for burns and other skin irritations.**

Aguaje oil has **anti-inflammatory properties that nourish the skin.** It also works as a sunscreen that facilitates tanning.

Production areas



1. Loreto
2. Madre de Dios
3. Ucayali
4. San Martín

Characteristics: Aguaje oil comes from a palm tree that can exceed 30 meters in height. The fruit has an elliptical shape, with a diameter of between 4 and 5 cm. The shell is flaky, dark red in color, and has an intense yellow pulp. The palm is found in humid tropical climates and thrives in swampy areas. The Peruvian Amazon contains three million hectares of aguaje forest. The aguaje palm begins to bear fruit around seven to eight years following planting; the months from February to August are the most productive.

Brazil nut

Bertholletia excelsa

Its oil is produced by cold pressing.

Cold pressed virgin Brazil nut oil has a high concentration of fatty acids (75% unsaturated)—primarily palmitic, oleic, and linoleic acid—and also phytosteroids and sitosterol.

Brazil nut is a species native to the Amazon rainforests of Peru, Bolivia, and Brazil.

Cosmetic properties

Brazil nut oil **moisturizes and regenerates** dry and damaged hair, leaving it with a soft and silky appearance.

As it acts as a healing agent, the product **can soothe sunburn.**

The fat-soluble vitamins A and E afford **antioxidant** effects that promote **skin hydration** and **protect** hair and nails.

Due to its **high oleic acid content,** Brazil nut oil prevents dryness, leaving skin smooth and soft.

Production areas

Characteristics: The Brazil nut is the only such species on the market that is collected in the wild rather than commercially grown. Brazil nut trees regenerate naturally, thanks to bee pollination and the agouti—a large rodent that feeds on its seeds by breaking the hard shell of the fruit. The fruit itself weighs between 1 and 2 kilograms and contains 8 to 24 seeds. Reaching as high as 50 meters, the tree is one of the tallest in the Amazon rainforest and can live over 500 years.

Chía

Salvia hispánica L.

Chia oil is a source of polyunsaturated fatty acids, in particular oleic acids (6.9%) linoleic acid (18.8%), and linolenic acid (58.7%)—the latter an omega-3 series acid.

The oil is produced by cold pressing the seeds.

Cosmetic properties

Zn

The high zinc content **helps reduce skin fat,** meaning chia oil can treat acne.

The oil is **ideal for skin** that suffers from dryness, irritations, psoriasis, or dermatitis.

The high concentration of polyunsaturated fatty acids in chia affords **anti-inflammatory properties.**

Chia contains zinc, magnesium, and the proteins responsible for **collagen and elastin production.**

Chia oil is a **vital ingredient for daily care,** particularly for nails, hair, the skin, and the contour of the eyes.

Production areas

1 Cusco
2 Arequipa

Characteristics: Chia is an annual herbaceous plant that grows to a height of 1 meter. The seeds are grayish to reddish in color.

Coconut

Cocus nucifera L

Coconut oil consists almost entirely (99%) of saturated fatty acids linked to triglycerides.

Coconut oil has a semi-solid consistency at room temperature, the result of its numerous saturated fatty acids, which include lauric acid, caprylic acid, palmitic acid, and myristic acid.

The oil is obtained from cold pressing the pulp.

Cosmetic properties

The **lauric, caproic, capric, and caprilic** acids in coconut oil are medium chain saturated fatty acids.

Coconut oil contains **extraordinary moisturizing and repair qualities.**

The product can be used in **moisturizers, for massages, and with hair masks.**

E

Coconut oil contains valuable and mostly unrefined components, such as **vitamin E and phosphorus.**

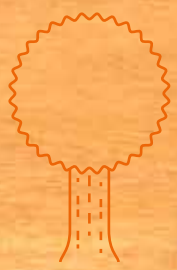
Coconut oil is used in products that demand **high nutritional and revitalizing power.**

Production areas

Characteristics: The coconut tree is a species that grows in the world's warm and temperate areas, especially in intertropical areas and near the sea and rivers. Coconut is especially abundant in the Peruvian Amazon, where it grows wild or under cultivation. When cold pressed, the Amazon coconut tree delivers a virgin oil that solidifies at room temperature, preserving all the sweet almond aroma.

Copaiba

Copaiffera officinalis L



The oil-resin appears when incisions are made in the bark of the tree.

Copaiba oil (or balm) is extracted from incisions in the copaiba tree. The substance produced is resinous, aromatic, and rich in mono and diunsaturated fatty acids: vaccenic, elaidic, linoleic, palmitic.

Cosmetic properties

Copaiba oil or balm is very effective in the **treatment of fungi.**

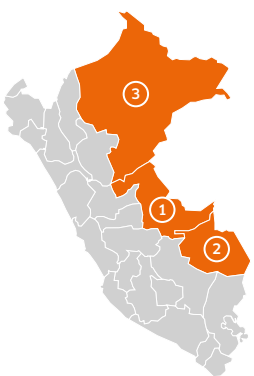
The product is used in **topical creams.**

The product effectively **combats skin infections.**

Copaiba oil is very efficient in **healing treatments and skin repair.**

Copaiba oil contains unique **healing, antiviral, and antibacterial properties.**

Production areas



1. Ucayali
2. Madre de Dios
3. Loreto

Characteristics: The copaiba is a tree of medium height that grows in tropical areas of the Amazon, mainly in the rainforests of Peru and Brazil. It can reach a height of 20 to 30 meters and produces an oleoresin that generates inside the trunk before accumulating on its internal cavities. The oil has been used by Amazonian communities for thousands of years as a medicine; however, in recent decades it has found more industrial uses–varnishes and lacquers–and also in cosmetics.

Passion fruit

Passiflora edulis

Passion fruit consists primarily of polyunsaturated acids of the omega-6 series (linoleic acid), but is also rich in vitamins A, C, and in beta carotene.

Passion fruit oil also has a high content of unsaturated fatty acids.

The moisturizing and regenerating cosmetic properties for skin and hair are obtained by cold pressing the seeds of the fruit.

Cosmetic properties

Passion fruit oil **nourishes and moisturizes,** and then regenerates and **restores** the lipid layer, preventing dryness.

The product is recommended for **combination skin.**

The product is rich in antioxidants, which make it an ally in the fight against the signs of aging skin.

Passion fruit oil helps **restore and revitalize** dry or damaged hair.

Passion fruit oil acts as an antioxidant, preventing the **aging of cells.**

Production areas

1 Lima
2 Piura

Characteristics: Passion fruit comes from a climbing plant that is native to Paraguay, Central America and the Amazon regions of Peru, Brazil, and Colombia. The fruit itself is a round or oval shaped berry with a hard oval-shaped peel resting in a thick yellow juice that contains up to 250 seeds. It can weigh up to 150 grams. Its relaxing aromatic passiflora helps reduce anxiety, improve sleep, and reduce stress and fatigue.

Avocado

Persea americana Mill

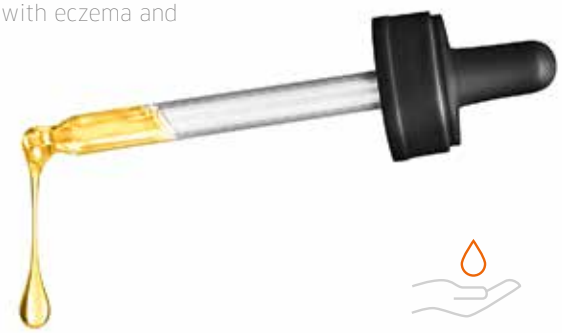
Avocado is rich in mono unsaturated acids, especially oleic acid (omega-9). Containing less than 1% linoleic acid (omega-6), its composition is similar to olive oil. Avocado is free of cholesterol.

The oil is produced by cold pressing the pulp or seed.

Cosmetic properties

The antioxidants and vitamins in the product can help **heal irritated and flaky skin** associated with eczema and psoriasis.

The oil's high content of essential fatty acids **helps maintain the plasma membrane of the cells.**



Avocado oil protects and **cares for cracked hands and dry skin.**

Avocado oil contains potassium, vitamin E, Lecithin, and many other nutrients that can **nourish** and **hydrate** the skin.

When applied to one's hair, **the oil's moisturizing qualities deliver shine, strength, and flexibility.**

Production areas

1. La Libertad
2. Lima
3. Ica
4. Junín

Characteristics: A fruit native to Mesoamerica, the avocado has a green, fatty, and nutritious pulp that is rich in vitamins and minerals and is the source of a highly-valued oil extracted for its nutritional benefits and cosmetic properties. Avocado is produced in tropical countries. The tree can reach heights of between 8 and 12 meters. The fruit varies in diameter between 8 and 18 centimeters; although it can be round, the shape is normally that of a pear.

Sacha inchi

Plukenetia volubilis L.

The oil is produced by cold pressing the seeds and pulp of the fruit. The texture is smooth and the taste is sweet nutty.

Sacha inchi oil is rich in omega-3 and 6 fatty acids; it has exceptional levels of the fatty acids essential to the body.

A plant native to the Amazon rainforest, sacha inchi has been cultivated for thousands of years due to its many medicinal and nutritional properties.

Cosmetic properties

The alpha-linolenic acid (omega-3) helps to maintain the skin's elasticity; **the anti-inflammatory properties** also help reduce redness and soothe irritation.

The linoleic acid (omega-6) helps **limit water loss in the skin,** at the same time delivering nourishing and softening qualities.

Sacha inchi oil **promotes continuous hydration.** The product is often recommended for skin prone to atopic conditions (eczema)..

To help the skin, the fatty acids participate actively by **reconstituting the epidermal lipids.**

The presence of vitamin E delivers **antioxidant properties** that protect the skin from the effects of free radicals and the signs of aging.

Production areas

1. Amazonas
2. San Martín
3. Junín
4. Huánuco
5. Ayacucho

Characteristics: The plant reaches a height of 2 meters, blooms five months after planting, and produces seeds from the eighth month. Two years after planting, sacha inchi produces up to 100 fruits that contain between 400 and 500 seeds. In tropical areas the plant produces seeds almost all year round.

Ungurahui

Oenocarpus bataua L

Although ungurahui oil is used in traditional medicine to relieve cough and bronchitis, it is also highly valued for its cosmetic properties.

The oil is produced by cold pressing the flesh.

The pulp of the ripe fruit is a food with high nutritional value, containing proteins and amino acids, and also providing carbohydrates and vitamins.

Cosmetic properties

Because it is rich in vitamin E, ungurahui oil **nourishes, regenerates, and softens the skin.**

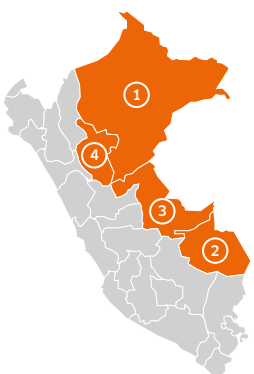
Ungurahui oil has unique properties, such as **light texture and easy absorption.**

The product restores the skin's natural moisture levels, **provides elasticity to cell membranes,** and helps delay the aging process.

Ungurahui oil is a **powerful moisturizer** with a high content of oleic acid (omega 9).

Ungurahui oil is used as a **tonic to treat dandruff and alopecia. It is also a hair regenerator,** used to revitalize, and to provide a shiny and silky appearance whilst maintaining natural color.

Production areas



1. Loreto
2. Madre de Dios
3. Ucayali
4. San Martín

Characteristics: Ungurahui oil comes from a palm tree that grows in humid areas and is found in the wild throughout the Amazon. The palm produces fruits in abundance.

- Pink pepper essential oil
- Palo santo essential oil

II

Essential oils

Essential oils are natural cosmetics ingredients containing aromatic organic and aldehyde compounds. Obtained from flowers, from fruits and, sometimes, from plant stems and roots, these oils impart a fragrance characteristic of the species from which they come. They are volatile, and usually have liquid form at room temperature.

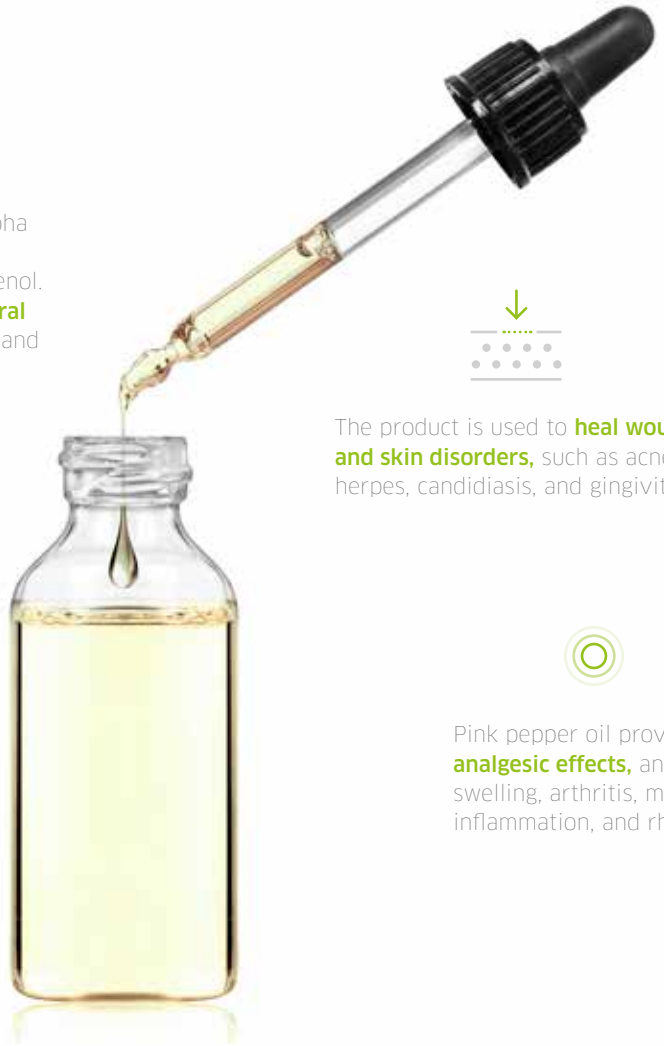
Pink pepper

Schinus molle L

Pink pepper oil is extracted through steam distillation of the leaves and fruits of the schinus molle tree.

Cosmetic properties

The product is rich in alpha and beta pinene, and in caryophyllene and myrcenol. Pink pepper oil is a **natural disinfectant, insecticide,** and **fungicide.**



The product is used to **heal wounds and skin disorders,** such as acne, herpes, candidiasis, and gingivitis.

Pink pepper oil is used as an ingredient for **creams, perfumes, shampoos, toothpastes,** and **insect repellents.**

Pink pepper oil provides **analgesic effects,** and relieves swelling, arthritis, muscle pain, inflammation, and rheumatism.

Production areas

1 From sea level to an elevation of 3500 meters

Characteristics: Schinus molle is a resinous tree of the Anacardiaceae family that sometimes has ornamental uses. It reaches a height of 10 meters. The seeds grow in clusters, in colors ranging from green to deep red. Due to their somewhat spicy flavor, the berries have been used as a substitute for pepper. The tree has been widely used in traditional medicine and had ritualistic purposes in the pre-Columbian era, even before the Incas; the Wari Culture (600 AD to 1000 AD) added it to the chicha beverage during their ceremonies.

Palo santo

Bursera graveolens L

Palo santo has a citrusy lemon scent and is rich in the limonene and terpineol fragrant terpenes.

Palo santo's essential oil is extracted from the trunk or the fruit of the tree.

Palo santo is used to heal wounds and to treat muscle and joint pain.

Cosmetic properties

The product performs an **antiseptic** function, destroying microbes to reduce the possibility of skin infections.

Palo santo is not only a **natural mosquito repellent** but can also treat bites.

Palo santo contains analgesic, **anti-inflammatory, and anti-rheumatic properties.**

When mixed with a base oil, palo santo can be used for **therapeutic massages.**

The product can be used for **relaxing baths,** or in the preparation of **beauty soaps** and **body oils.**

Production areas

1. Loreto
2. Ucayali
3. San Martín
4. Madre de Dios
5. Piura

Characteristics: Palo santo is famous for its distinctive edifying fragrance and healing powers. The palo santo tree reaches a height of between 4 and 10 meters. The aromatic properties only develop after the tree has died naturally and been drying for between 4 and 8 years. Because of its high content of limonene (89.33%) and an aroma that evokes feelings of cleanliness and purification, the resinous wood of the palo santo tree is favored by healers for ritual and therapeutic purposes.

- Snail slime extract
- Camu camu extract
- Maca extract

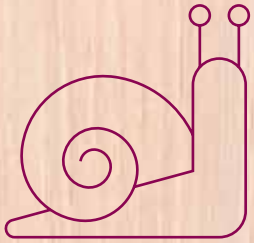
II

Extracts

Extracts are cosmetics ingredients of animal, vegetable, or even mineral origin, and have no characteristic odor. The complex compounds are obtained through chemical processes that allow the main substances with specific cosmetic properties to be extracted from various parts of the plant or animal species using chemical processes: usually with water, alcohol, (or a mixture of the two), or a glycol such as glycerin, propylene glycol, or propanediol.

Snail slime

Slime of Cryptomphalus aspersus



A slime capable of regenerating tissue is produced by applying a harmless stimulation to snails that induces a stress mechanism and causes them to secrete.

The slime repairs tissue, works as a healing agent, and can help in the treatment of burns.

Cosmetic properties

Snail slime contains glycoproteins, glycolic acid, and hyaluronic acid, substances which have positive effects on the **collagen protein production** essential for the dermis of the skin.

Snail slime **improves the appearance of the skin,** exfoliating it, and helping to eliminate pimples and blackheads.

By **improving the cellular renewal of the epidermis,** snail slime demonstrates a highly effective anti-wrinkle effect.

Snail slime contains allantoin, a substance that **accelerates the process by which the skin rids itself of dead cells** and then replaces them.

Snail slime contains beneficial **antioxidants** for the skin, and also improves its elasticity and hydration. Snail slime is used to reduce stretch marks, expression lines, skin blemishes, and hypertrophic scars.

Production areas

Characteristics: Snail slime is the mucus concentrate of the Cryptomphalus aspersus snail (formerly known as Helix aspersa Müller), which secretes a slime rich in regenerative properties. The body reaches a length of 8 cm. This snail is the common garden variety, originally from Europe but currently present in various regions of the world. The snail has nocturnal habits, although is also active during the day in shady areas and on rainy days.

Camu camu

Myrciaria dubia

Camu camu has beneficial effects for the skin and eyes, and also strengthens the immune system. Camu camu extract has shown mood stabilizing effects in patients with depression and anxiety.

Camu camu provides phytochemicals, amino acids (serine, valine and leucine) and other nutrients, such as iron, calcium, niacin, riboflavin, thiamine, and phosphorous.

Camu camu extract is obtained from glycolic or hydro-glycolic extraction of the pulp of the fruit.

Cosmetic properties

The product is used to prepare **body lotions, face masks, and exfoliators.**

Camu camu extract has great **antioxidant** power and promotes collagen production.

Camu camu extract helps **cleanse, hydrate, and repair,** and also tones the skin and reduces swelling.

The richness in the vitamin C of camu camu makes it a powerful **anti-aging agent.**

As it delivers shine, strength, and a silky appearance, camu camu extract is also used as a **hair tonic.**

Production areas

Characteristics: The camu camu shrub grows wild in flooded soils during the rainy season. It can reach a height of 8 meters. Cultivated as a fruit tree, camu camu is valued for its high vitamin C content. Specimens have been found with concentrations of between 3000 and 6000 mg of ascorbic acid for every 100 grams of flesh (a concentration between 50 and 100 times greater than found in the orange), a reason camu camu is considered a fruit of exceptional nutritional and medicinal value.

Maca

Lepidium peruvianum

Consuming maca brings many health benefits; for example, it lowers blood pressure and acts as an energizer. Maca is traditionally used for recovering mental and physical equilibrium.

The product is obtained from the glycolic or hydroglycolic extraction of maca powder.

Cosmetics properties

Rich in macamides, amino acids, and trace minerals, the product is used to **promote hair growth** because it protects the hair bulb and, by stimulating cell proliferation, has a positive effect on the epithelial root sheath.

Maca can **firm up the skin.**

The components of maca, similar to alkaloids, have **revitalizing, energizing, and restorative effects.**

Maca **increases collagen density** in the tissue of the scalp and thus prevents hair loss.

Maca is used in cosmetics to **reconstitute the dermis** and thus restore the skin's elasticity through a process by which the product encourages mitosis of the keratinocytes, which, in turn, encourages collagen synthesis.

Production areas

Characteristics: Maca is an annual or biennial herbaceous plant with a tuberous root. As a food, and also to exploit its various medicinal properties, maca has been cultivated since ancient times by Andean people at elevations ranging from 3800 meters to 4800 meters. The planting season runs from September to December, primarily in the departments of Junín and Pasco. A single plant can produce roots displaying four different colors: white, yellow, purple, and black. The dried root has a diameter of 2.5 to 3 cm and a length of approximately 3 cm to 3.5 cm.

- Cocoa butter
- Copoazu butter
- Murumuru butter

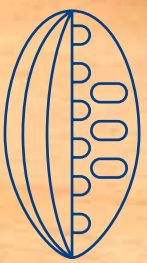
IV

Butters

Butters are plant-based cosmetics ingredients made up of complex fatty substances—mainly saturated fats—and many contain vitamins and resins. Butters are obtained from plant species using pressure processes, solvent extraction, or mechanical extraction with or without heat. Their textures range from very solid to semi-solid.

Cocoa

Theobroma cacao



The butter is an emollient par excellence for the skin, to which it adds a protective layer of hydration.

Cocoa butter is obtained by fermenting, drying, roasting, and crushing cacao beans, which are then pressed.

Cosmetic properties

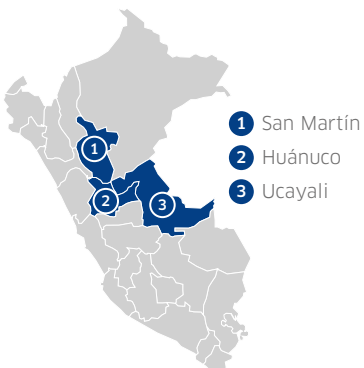
The product contains **fatty acids whose moisturizing properties prevent stretch marks,** and improve the appearance of scars, blemishes, and expression lines.

The **consistency** of cocoa butter makes it ideal for areas of the body prone to dryness, such as knees, elbows, and heels.

Due to its texture, cocoa butter is used to prepare skin care products, such as **soaps, ointments, and lip balms.**

Because of its content of vitamins A, C, and E, cocoa butter affords the skin **moisturizing, antioxidant,** and **regenerative** properties.

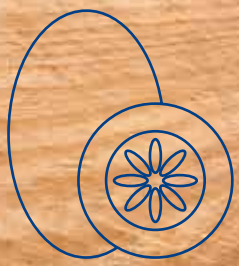
Production areas



Characteristics: The cacao tree spread across the continent from Mesoamerica during the pre-Columbian period. It grows to a height of between 5 and 10 meters in the shade of larger trees that protect it. It requires heat and humidity: temperatures ranging from 20 °C to 30 °C and annual rainfall averaging between 1300 and 2800 mm. The soil must be deep, fertile, and have good drainage. An evergreen, the tree is always in bloom. The cacao fruit is a large berry, yellow or purple in color, with an oval shape and longitudinal channels. Each fruit contains between 30 and 40 seeds embedded in a pulp that emits a pleasant aroma. In addition to the cosmetic butter product, the cacao fruit is primarily used in the manufacture of cocoa powder.

Copoazu

Theobroma grandiflorum



Copoazu contains stearic acid, essential fatty acids, and a balanced composition of saturated and unsaturated fatty acids. The butter melts rapidly when in contact with the body and then easily penetrates the skin.

Copoazu butter is obtained by fermenting, drying, roasting, and crushing the seeds, which are then pressed.

Cosmetic properties

Copoazu contains **phytosterols** (especially beta-sitosterol) that regulate balance of the outer layer of the lipids of the skin.

The product **helps to recover the skin's moisture and elasticity.**

The product is ideal for the **treatment of dermatitis.**

Due to its **high content of monounsaturated fatty acids,** copoazu is an emollient, a characteristic that also helps it hydrate the skin.

Copoazu is used to **repair dry or damaged hair.**

Production areas

Characteristics: The tree is found in humid tropical forests and in high and non-flooding terrain where temperatures range between 22 °C and 27 °C. Needing shade to grow, it can reach a height of 15 meters. The tree produces a fruit in the form of drupacea. This berry contains between 20 and 50 seeds wrapped in a white-yellowish pulp that is acidic, and emits a pleasant aroma.

Murumuru

Atrocaryum murumuru L

The product is nourishing, with excellent emollient and moisturizing properties.

This pale to deep yellow colored butter is obtained from the prickly fruits of the murumuru palm.

Cosmetic properties

As murumuru restores moisture without clogging pores, it is **recommended for very dry or dehydrated skin** with eczema. The product improves the skin's softness, vitality, and elasticity.

The product can be used in butters, masks, and shampoos, and as a treatment that adds **shine and softness to badly damaged hair.**

Because it is rich in auric, myristic, and oleic acids—all saturated fatty acids—murumuru delivers great **consistency in cosmetics.**

Murumuru contains **excellent moisturizing and softening properties for the skin and hair.**

Production areas

Characteristics: The murumuru palm can reach a height of 50 meters. It grows in very hot regions with high rainfall. The wood is hard and the stem very sturdy.

- Tara gum

V

Gums

Gums are cosmetics ingredients primarily of plant origin. Consistency agents, they are used to give texture and stability to cosmetic preparations. Normally compounds, gums are derived from plant sugars of varying chemical complexity and are obtained by a process of grinding and subsequent purification. They can often be diluted in water to form gels of varied viscosity and texture. Gums have no odor, and their color is very soft.

Tara

Caesalpinia spinosa M

The odorless and tasteless gum is obtained in powder form through a process of roasting and grinding.

Tara gum is extracted from the endosperm of the tara shrub seed.

Cosmetic properties

The product is **used in creams, lotions, and shampoos,** either alone or combined with other natural or synthetic polymers.

The gum is **rich in galactomannans.** It is soluble in hot water and partially soluble in cold water.

Tara gum is used to thicken aqueous solutions and to **control the mobility of dissolved or dispersed materials.**

It contains excellent **emulsifying, stabilizing, and viscous properties.**

Production areas

1. Cajamarca
2. Ayacucho
3. Ancash
4. La Libertad
5. Lambayeque

Characteristics: The tara is a leguminous, shrub-shaped plant. It is cultivated as a source of tannins and—due its colorful flowers—for ornamental purposes. It reaches a height of between 2 and 5 meters, has evergreen leaves, and its dark gray bark has scattered spines. The fruit is a pod with a length of 6 to 12 cm and a width of approximately 2.5 cm, containing between four and seven black seeds that redden when ripe.

- Annatto
- Cochineal

VI

Colorants

Colorants are cosmetics ingredients of primarily plant origin, taken from various parts of the species, most particularly the roots, the flowers, and the fruits. They can be obtained through chemical or mechanical processes. Their varied chemical composition allows them to impart color to cosmetics, to foods, and to pharmaceutical preparations. They can be soluble, in both water and in oil.

Annatto

Bixa orellana

The pigment is extracted from the seeds of the plant using organic solvents, before being diluted in vegetable oil.

This natural pigment is used in the food and cosmetics industries.

Cosmetic properties

Because annatto is a natural colorant, it is used to prepare various cosmetics, and to provide shades ranging from yellow to dark orange, for products such as **creams, lipsticks, lotions, natural soaps, and facial powders.**

The product **prevents stretch marks,** has healing effects, and promotes tanning.

It is a recognized **treatment for cancer, heart problems, and arteriosclerosis.**

Thanks to its large amount of beta-carotene (vitamin A) and its antioxidant qualities, annatto **delays the aging of cells, and also protects the skin.**

Annatto contains tocotrienol, an isoprenoid derivative related to vitamin E but with superior **anti-oxidant effects.**

Production areas

Characteristics: The shrub flourishes at elevations of up to 1500 meters where the temperature ranges between 20 °C and 35 °C. A perennial plant, it grows to a height of between 2 and 5 meters, although its branches fall to just a few centimeters from the ground. The fruit is a red and oval shaped pod, with prickly hairs, and a length of between 2 and 6 cm. Each pod contains between ten and fifty seeds. The seed has an average length of 5 mm, is deep red in color, and contains various water-soluble or fat-soluble apocarotenoids. The natural pigment extracted from the seeds is widely used in the food and cosmetics industries.

Cochineal

Produced by the Dactylopius coccus Costa

The pigment is extracted from the seeds of the plant using organic solvents, before being diluted in vegetable oil.

Cosmetic properties

Cochineal is a **natural substitute** for synthetic pigments in the cosmetics and the food industries.

It is a natural pigment used in the **food and cosmetics industries.**

In the form of carminic acid, the product is used in the manufacture of **lipsticks and face powders to produce different shades**—from pink to a deep purple red.

It is ideal for coloring makeup products such as **oils, soaps, lipsticks, and emulsions.**

Production areas

1 Arequipa

Characteristics: Cochineal is an intense red or somewhat purple and semi-dark natural colorant, which is obtained from the females of various mealy bugs. Carminic acid is a deep red substance found inside the numerous eggs. In the Americas, dactylopius coccus produces a similar but more powerful dye that performs better and lasts longer.

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