

TECHNICAL DATA SHEET

Product Name: Refined Shea Butter

INCI Name: Butyrospermum Parkii Butter

CAS: 91080-23-8 / 194043-92-0

Synonyms: Karite Butter, Shea Tree, Shi Tree, Vitellaria paradoxa C.F.Gaertn., Butyrospermum paradoxa, Butyrospermum parkii

Chemical Classification: Fats and Oils

Functional Category: Skin Conditioning Agent

Origin of Raw Material: Ghana

Description: Obtained from the nuts of the shea tree (*Vitellaria paradoxa*), shea butter has been used in Africa for centuries due to its moisturizing and healing properties. It contains allantoin, vitamin A and E, and unsaponifiable lipids (stearic and oleic acids). It undergoes a refining process to remove impurities and undesirable odors. The resulting grayish-green butter has little to no odor. Soluble in alcohol or oils, insoluble in water. HLB=8.

Benefits:

- **Hydration:** Shea butter is known for its intense moisturizing properties, containing fatty acids such as oleic, stearic, and linoleic acids, making it particularly useful for dry or dehydrated skin.

- **Rich in Vitamins:** Shea butter is a rich source of vitamins A and E. Vitamin A supports skin health by promoting cell turnover, while vitamin E has antioxidant properties that protect the skin from free radicals.

- **Anti-Inflammatory:** Cinnamic acid and other components in shea butter exhibit anti-inflammatory properties, soothing and reducing redness in conditions like eczema and dermatitis.

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• **Collagen Production:** Triterpenes in shea butter stimulate collagen production, crucial for maintaining skin elasticity and firmness, making it valuable in anti-aging formulations.

• **Scar Reduction:** Regenerative properties can help reduce the visibility of scars and stretch marks, improving overall skin texture.

• **Sun Protection:** Contains unsaponifiable active substances dissolved in triglycerides, mainly cinnamic acid esters (e.g., α -amyrin cinnamate, butyrospermol cinnamate). These substances absorb UV rays, making shea butter a basic component in sun care cosmetics. While not a substitute for sunscreen, it provides low sun protection (SPF around 6). • **Natural Emollient:** Shea butter's creamy texture makes it an excellent emollient, softening and smoothing the skin's surface.

• **Hair Care:** Useful for hair hydration and conditioning, reducing frizz, improving texture, and enhancing shine.

• **Gentle and Hypoallergenic:** Generally well-tolerated and considered hypoallergenic, suitable for various cosmetic products.

Use in Cosmetic Products: Heat or melt before use. Add to the fatty phase of the formulation. Typical concentrations range from 3 - 100% and can be used neat. Used in a wide range of cosmetic products, including lotions, skincare creams, sun care products, balms, emulsion systems, products for very dry and atopic skin, and massage butters. For external use only.

Original Material Source: Nuts of the African Shea Tree

Obtained by: Cold pressing of Shea nuts. The butter is later purified with hexane and citric acid. It is not mixed with cheap "fillers" such as hydrogenated vegetable fats or mineral oils. Does not contain additives like water, alcohol, silicones, colorants, synthetic fragrances, parabens, or preservatives.

Animal Testing: The substance has not been tested on animals.

GMO: Not genetically modified.

Vegan: Does not contain components of animal origin.

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