



STANDARDS FOR NATURAL AND ORGANIC COSMETICS

Within the framework of the Decree
n° 95-354 of 03/30/95 relating to the
certification of industrial products and
services

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Inspection and Certification

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F O R E W O R D

PREAMBLE

These Standards are the result of a partnership between ECOCERT and certain professionals of the cosmetic products sector who have been expressing for a long time the need to find a solution to the following issues:

- The absence of official Standards concerning the cosmetics produced using natural substances, and the labeling of the cosmetic products as organic.
- The existence of a great number of private European and extra-Community Standards little known and/or not recognized by the body of the cosmetic professionals.
- The difficulty or the impossibility for the consumer to recognize products as being manufactured with significant quantities of natural and organic substances according to environmentally friendly procedures.
- The necessity to support the cosmetic products' manufacturers who make a point of respecting the quality of the natural substances used and who respect the environment.

In other words, it is a question of acknowledging the know-how of those cosmetics manufacturers who are respectful of nature throughout the production process.

MAIN OBJECTIVES:

- **To define a quality level superior to the one defined by the French and European legislation on cosmetic products, which will safeguard a real enhanced value of the natural substances used, a real practice of the respect of the environment, throughout the production process and a real respect of the consumer.**
- **To establish a link between certain cosmetic products and Organic Agriculture in promoting the use of Organic Agriculture plant products**
- **To establish a link between certain cosmetic products and the respect of the environment.**

BASIC PRINCIPLES OF THE STANDARDS

Our objectives for the Standards find their expression in the implementation of the following principles:

- To give preference to the natural and the natural origin above any other origin.
- To give preference to the use of Organic Agriculture ingredients, best guarantee for the respect of natural values.
- To be transparent towards the consumer by using a mode of communication and phraseology, which are not misleading.
- To enhance the willingness of the manufacturers who want to improve the quality of their supply and of their products by inscribing their research in a dynamic and progressive certification process.
- To leave a wide enough opening in order to permanently adapt to the requirements, to the technical progress and to the evolution of the legislation.
- To apply the precautionary principle on issues concerning certain questions raised by the scientific community, questioning the respect of the consumer and/or of the environment, who have not yet found a scientifically proven answer or whose answers are still in the process of being verified.

THE PRINCIPLES OF THE WORKING METHOD

To work out these Standards, Ecocert :

- relied on its tried and tested areas of expertise in Organic Agriculture : respect of the environment, respect of the consumer and experience in the capacity for Standards to be inspection led,
- relied on a group of professionals organized within a Technical Committee and particularly motivated in this new field of research.
- sought impartiality in inducing independent scientific expertise, and in relying on the support of a group of professionals representative of the industry,
- sought quality by being selective but not restrictive, so as to allow a sufficient variety of formulations to exist,
- tried to define a progressive system allowing the promotion of the continuous technical innovations in this area.

RATIONALE OF THE STANDARDS

The first two chapters concern the consumer, with the description of those aspects visibly perceptible by him/her. These are Chapters 1 and 2:

1. AREA OF APPLICATION
2. LABELLING and COMMUNICATION

The following chapters concern the manufacturer.

In Chapters 3 and 4, the requirements regarding the production cycle are defined:

3. RULES ABOUT THE INGREDIENTS AND THE COMPOSITION OF THE FINISHED PRODUCT
4. RULES FOR MANUFACTURING
5. INSPECTION SYSTEM

Then, in Chapter 6, the overall management requirements of the production plant are defined.

6. MEASURES TAKEN FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE CLOSE ENVIRONMENT

REGLEMENTARY FOUNDATIONS OF THE STANDARDS

The Natural, and Organic cosmetics in France are until today, regulated through private Standards : the ECOCERT Standards.

These Standards (which has a European vocation) have been designed:

- in partnership with professionals of the cosmetics sector who are eager to promote their know-how as to the beneficial aspects of the use of natural substances, the respect of the environment and of the consumer.
- in collaboration with independent experts.
- in relation with European organizations (particularly German and English) to share their thoughts and lay the foundations for a common regulation.
- in compliance with the following general regulation :

THE GENERAL REGULATION RELATING TO COSMETIC PRODUCTS

The regulation on Natural and Organic cosmetics applies to the cosmetic products as defined by the following European Directive :

- Amended Directive 76/768/EEC of 27th July 1976, transcribed in French law by the Decrees n° 2000-569 of 23rd June 2000 and the Orders of 23rd June 2000 and 30th June 2000, amending Book V of the Health Code.

These are any substance or preparation other than pharmaceutical specialities and medicinal products intended for contact with the various external parts of the human body particularly epidermis, hair system, nails, lips and external genital organs or with the teeth and the mucous membranes of the oral cavity with a view exclusively or principally to cleaning them, perfuming them or protecting them in order to keep them in good condition, change their appearance or correct body odours (cf. Article L.5131-1 as the indicative list by category of products, mentioned by Article R 5263 (c) and laid down by the Order of 30 June 2000, published in the O.J. of 12/07/00).

REGULATION IN ORGANIC AGRICULTURE

Organic Agriculture is governed by the following production regulations:

- **For plant products** (processed or not) European Regulation n°2092/91 amended by the Council on 24 June 1991.
- **For animal products** (processed or not): European Regulation n°2092/91 amended by the Council on 24 June 91 completed in France by the Schedule of Conditions approved by the Interdepartmental Order of the 28 August 2000 (CC – REPAB - F).

REGULATION RELATING TO INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS CERTIFICATION

The ECOCERT Standards on Natural and Organic cosmetics, are in line with the industrial products and services certification provided for by the Code of Consumption, Law of 3rd June 1994 and Decree of 30 March 1995.

Thus **any candidate** for the certification of organic cosmetic products **must have full knowledge of the regulatory texts** previously mentioned **and particularly of the regulations provided by the Code of Consumption** concerning:

- Misleading advertising (Articles L121-1 and 213-1)
- Conditions for the issue of the certification (Article L 115-30)
- The type of obligatory references required for the issue of the certification (Articles R 115 - 12 and R 115 - 10)

ARTICLES OF THE STANDARDS

1 - AREA OF APPLICATION

1.1. The cosmetic products as defined by the European Directive

These Standards are applicable to the cosmetic products as defined by the following European directive, Amended directive 76/768/EEC of 27 July 1976 and ratified by French Law by the Decrees n° 2000-569 of 23 June 2000, Orders of 23 June 2000 and 30 June 2000, amending Book V of the Health Code: These are any substance or preparation other than pharmaceutical specialties and medicinal products intended for contact with the various external parts of the human body particularly epidermis, hair system, nails, lips and external genital organs or with the teeth and the mucous membranes of the oral cavity with a view exclusively or principally to cleaning them, perfuming them or protecting them in order to keep them in good condition, change their appearance or correct body odours (cf. Article L.5131-1 as the indicative list by category of products, mentioned by Article R 5263 (c) and laid down by the Order of 30 June 2000, published in the O.J. of 12/07/00).

Ideally these products should comply with ever-growing requirements as to valorisation of natural substances, respect of the environment and of the consumer, throughout the production process.

1.2. Products intended to present some indications referring to their natural origin and to the organic production process

These indications apply to the products defined in these Standards, insofar as a minimum number of the ingredients of these products refer or are intended to refer to their natural origin and to the organic mode of production.

1.3. Standards that can be applied without prejudice to the Community provisions

These Standards can be applied without prejudice to the Community provisions governing the manufacturing, products inspection, conditioning, marketing, labelling, importation and distribution.

1.4. Definitions

For the purposes of these specifications, is meant by:

1.4.a « Contaminant »:

A substance not naturally present in the raw material or in ratios superior to those existing naturally and leading to a pollution (persistence, residues), and possibly to toxicity risks (heavy metals, hydrocarbons, pesticides, dioxins, radioactivity, GMO, mycotoxins, medicinal residues, nitrates, nitrosamines). (cf. Appendix III)

1.4.b « Natural Cosmetic »:

All cosmetic products made out of natural ingredients, in compliance with the European Directive 84 - 450 of 10 September 1984 (published in the Official Journal of the European Communities, on 19 September 1984) on misleading advertising and in compliance with the information note to consumers, originating from the Committee of Experts on the natural cosmetic products, for the EC (Cf. Appendix VII).

1.4.c. « Primary packaging »

The products' original package, with its seal.

1.4.d. « Secondary packaging »

Any other container different from the original one.

1.4.e. « Range of products »:

Category of products, possessing common or similar characteristics, and which can be grouped together for planning and/or marketing purposes. Thus, all products of a same range can be sold, at least, under the same brand name.

1.4.f. « Ingredients »:

Without prejudice to the French and European legislation on cosmetic products, this is meant, in these Standards, for all substances used in the preparation of the products targeted by the Standards.

The water added during the manufacture of the finished product is thus seen as an ingredient in itself.

1.4.g. « Natural ingredient» or « Natural raw material »

Any plant, animal or mineral product, directly coming from agricultural production, from harvest or from working, unprocessed or deriving from the exclusive means of the physical processes listed in Appendix I,1/ and meeting the quality criteria as defined in these Standards.

The water added during the manufacture of the finished product is thus a natural ingredient.

1.4.h. « Ingredient of natural origin »:

All natural ingredients processed following the permitted chemical processes as listed in this Standards (Cf. Appendix I, 2/) and meeting the quality criteria also defined in these Standards (Cf. Articles 3.4.B. and 3.5.).

1.4.i. « Ingredient certified as Organic »:

Any product ,coming from a plant or animal production, complying with the Organic production mode, i.e. any product complying with the regulation of the inspectionled Organic Agriculture (EEC Regulation n° 2092/91, amended by the Council of 24 June 1991).

In accordance with the quoted first article of the EEC Regulation, it is:

- « unprocessed agricultural plant products » ; and, moreover « the animals and unprocessed animal products... », i.e. the raw agricultural products destined as foodstuffs or not.
- processed products : « products meant for human consumption and mainly composed of one or more ingredients of plant origin; and moreover»...«for the animal production, products meant for human consumption and containing ingredients of animal origin »

In accordance with Appendix I, paragraph 4, of the EEC Regulation already quoted, it is also established that “ the harvest of edible plants and of parts of them, growing spontaneously in natural areas, in forests and agricultural places, is considered as an Organic mode of production...”

Consequently,

- Natural mineral or marine ingredients are excluded from the area of application of the European Regulation n°2092/91 amended by the Council of 24 June 1991. This concerns the ingredients covered by Articles 3.4.A.d., 3.4.A.e. and 3.5. They comply with the requirements of this Standards as regards natural ingredients. The water added during the manufacturing of the finished product is thus a non-certified Organic ingredient.
- All ingredients of natural origin are excluded from the area of application of the EEC Regulation n°2092/91, amended by the Council of 24 June 1991).

1.4.j. « Batch »:

A defined quantity of semi-finished or finished products, manufactured during the same series of operations of production, made from the same ingredients, stored at the same time, in the same conditions.

1.4.k. « Production »:

Group of operations carried out in the factory or the laboratory, for obtaining, conditioning and labelling the products targeted by these Standards.

2. LABELLING and COMMUNICATION

2.1. Information relating to the Standards and obligatory on the labelling

2.1.a. Labels of origin allowing for the identification of the Standards

The products defined in this Standards and which meet its conditions, are granted the obligatory indication "NATURAL COSMETIC" or "NATURAL AND ORGANIC COSMETIC", following the "Rules on the ingredients and composition of the finished product" set out in the Chapter 3.

2.1.b. Reference to the inspection body and to the labels of origin

The reference to the inspection body and to the labels of origin (Cf. Article 2.10a.) must appear on the products' label, ideally on the front side, in a clear and concise manner. On the other hand, they must be no more apparent than the trade denomination itself.

References to the inspection body are linear and under the wording :

« Certified by ECOCERT SAS -B.P. 47 F-32600 L'Isle Jourdain »

2.1.c. Claim for the essential characteristics of the Standards :

Once reference has been made regarding the certification in the advertising, the labelling or the presentation of the product, the following characteristics should appear with the references of the certifying body :

- « X% of the total ingredients are of a natural origin " (this weight ratio cannot be inferior to 95 %)
- « X% of the total ingredients are issued from Organic Agriculture " (this weight ratio cannot be inferior to 10 % for the Natural and Organic label and to 5 % for the Natural label).

2.1.d. Information concerning the ingredients issued from production complying with the Organic Agriculture mode of production

The ingredients issued from produce complying with the Organic Agriculture mode of production must be mentioned in the list of ingredients followed by an asterisk, referring to the indication: "Ingredients issued from Organic Agriculture".

All of the ingredients and the indications concerning them, as quoted above, must be printed identically as to color, format and font.

2.1.e. Conditions of use for the indications linked to the Standards

A product complying with these Standards may benefit from the indications linked to this Standards only if a inspectionbody has inspected the production plant and the product. The auditing, inspection and monitoring procedures apply in parallel outside the firm, to the sub-contracted and manufacturing sites and factories.

The mentions of conformity, which are obligatory on the labeling, must also appear on the packaging, brochures and other communication supports, when reference is made to certification.

2.2. Transparency measures for the consumer

2.2.a. Recommendations concerning the understanding of the components list

We encourage the translation into the vernacular of some of the ingredients (plant and animal active substances), to the extent where the INCI denomination of these ingredients possesses a vernacular equivalent. This translation can be affixed to the packaging and/or to a prospectus accompanying the packaging (package insert, brochure or other information support).

This translation can be inserted under the paragraph entitled « Composition » where the list of ingredients must be indicated in an exhaustive way, in compliance with the INCI list entitled “Ingredients”.

2.2.b. Optional information concerning the claim to some of the requirements of the Standards

It will be favored on all mediums:

- The claim that ethoxylated products and glycols have not been used.
- The claim that the finished product has not been tested on animals
- The claim that parabens has not been used.

3 – RULES ON THE INGREDIENTS AND THE COMPOSITION OF THE FINISHED PRODUCT

3.1. Proportions of ingredients in the finished product, common to the two indications of conformity

The ratios of ingredients in the finished product defined below take into account the characteristic importance of the amount of added water used in the formulation of a cosmetic. Water is indeed an ingredient in itself, of natural origin and reputed to be non - certifiable Organic.

3.1.a. All of the ingredients are submitted to an obligation of conformity

100% of the ingredients comply with the French and European legislation relating to cosmetic products and to the positive list of this Standards (Cf. Appendix II), for the categories of the ingredients concerned.

3.1.b. The quantity of natural ingredients or ingredients of a natural origin in the finished product

A minimum of 95 % of the total of the ingredients are natural ingredients or of a natural origin, meeting the Standards targeted in the Appendices I and II.

This ratio may be positively revised as the technological advances allow us to define with more exactitude the final uses of the natural substances and of the importance of respecting the environment and the consumer.

3.1.c. The quantity of ingredients issued from pure synthesis in the finished product

This concerns all the ingredients not meeting the requirements of paragraph 3.1.b. They cannot represent more than 5 % maximum of the whole of the ingredients. It concerns the synthetic molecules reputed indispensable.

They must comply with the positive list (Cf. Appendix II (Tables I and Ia) and Appendix VII) regarding the conservative agents, the agents used to improve the making of the finished product (buffer agent, catalyst), or the agent specific to certain categories of products reputed to protect the consumer (sun screen and UV absorbents). The positive list of these categories of ingredients is regularly revised in step with the apparition of technological advancement allowing their non-usage and the preservation of consumer safety.

On the other hand, as regards the quantity of synthetic products of some complex molecules, the method used to obtain them must conform to Appendix I and there is no positive list.

3.2. Proportions of the ingredients in the finished product, differentiating the two obligations of conformity

3.2.a. Main item of the Standards : the proportion of plant ingredients issued from Organic Agriculture in the total plant ingredients

Among the natural plant ingredients, a minimum must originate directly or after processing (following the permitted processes Appendix I, 1/), from products obtained in compliance with the rules of the Organic mode of production (amended EEC Regulation n° 2092/91).

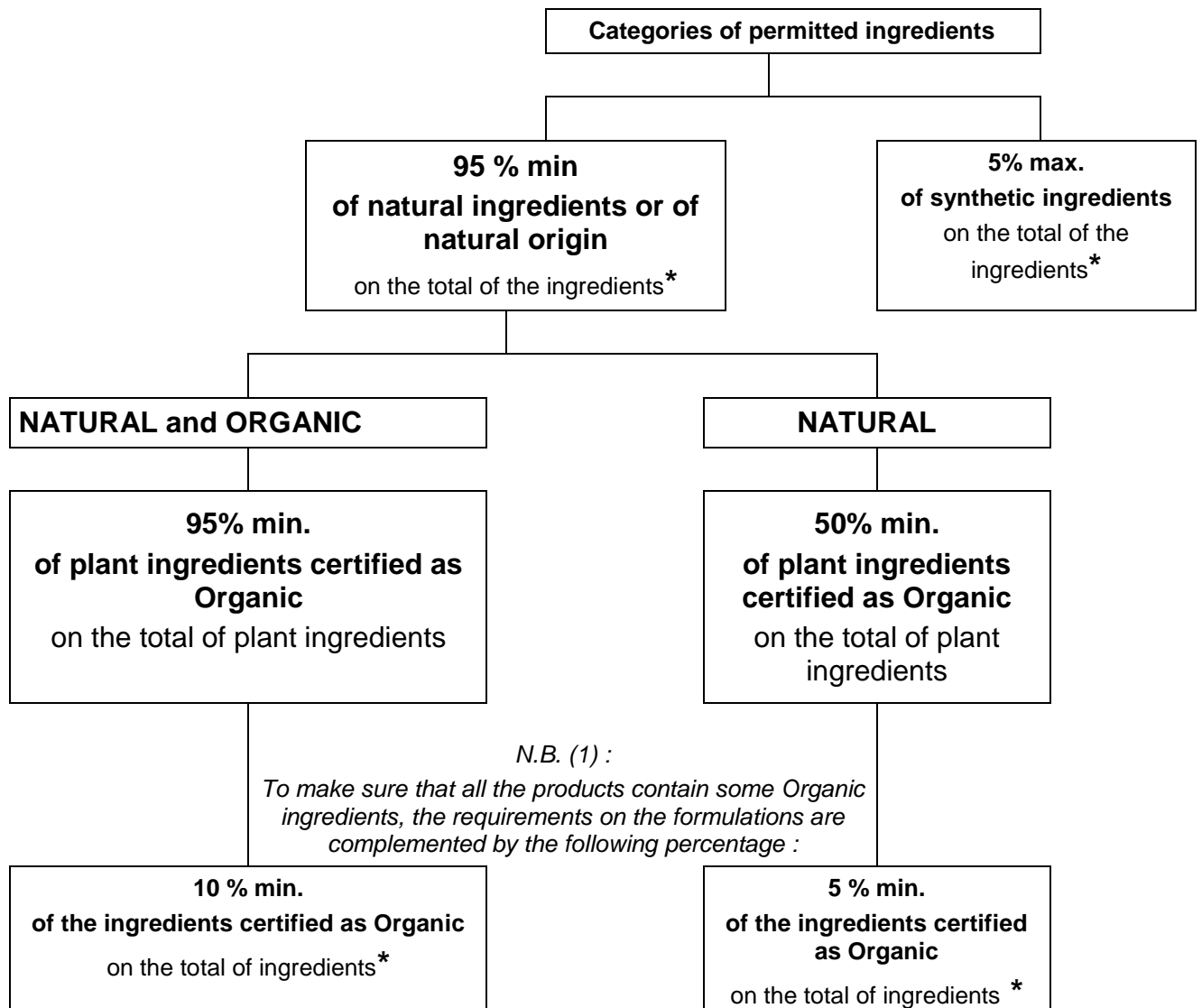
INDICATIONS OF CONFORMITY	% of plant ingredients issued from Organic Agriculture on the total of the plant ingredients (Ratio :weight on weight)
NATURAL	50% minimum
NATURAL and ORGANIC	95% minimum

3.2.b. The proportion of ingredients issued from Organic Agriculture in the finished product

In order to avoid certain specific products containing only a very small proportion of ingredients issued from Organic agriculture, a minimal proportion of the total of these ingredients in the finished product is required. This minimal proportion corresponds to raw material originating directly or after processing (following the permitted processes Appendices I, 1/), from products obtained in compliance with the rules of the Organic mode of production (amended EEC Regulation n° 2092/91).

INDICATIONS OF CONFORMITY	% of ingredients issued from Organic Agriculture on the total of the ingredients making up the finished product (Ratio : weight on weight)
NATURAL	5% minimum
NATURAL and ORGANIC	10% minimum

TABLE SUMMARISING THE RULES RELATING TO THE PROPORTION OF INGREDIENTS IN THE FINISHED PRODUCT



N.B. (1) :

To make sure that all the products contain some Organic ingredients, the requirements on the formulations are complemented by the following percentage :

** N.B. (2) :
Total of the ingredients including the water added during the manufacture of the finished product.*

3.3. Calculation of ratios (Cf. Examples Appendix IV)

The calculation of the percentages previously targeted is done in comparison with values expressed in weight.

To calculate the natural proportion of the product, we refer to the natural ingredients as defined by Article 1.4.g.

To calculate the natural proportion of the ingredients of natural origin, we refer to natural ingredients involved in the manufacture of the ingredients of natural origin.

To calculate the Organic proportion of the product, we refer to the basic ingredients possessing a certificate of conformity with the Organic mode of production. These are the ingredients certified as Organic (cf. Article 1.4.i.).

In the calculation, the water added is considered as a natural ingredient, but not as an ingredient issued from an Organic mode of production.

3.4. Categories of permitted ingredients

3.4.A. The natural ingredients

3.4.A.a. Plant raw materials :

They are all permitted insofar as they are authentic (cf. Article 3.5.b.), if their production or the harvesting of them in their natural habitat doesn't generate a degradation of the landscape and an imbalance of the ecosystems, and insofar as they don't belong to an endangered species.

They must also comply with the national and international lists of protected species (cf. the Washington Convention or the EEC Regulation 338/97 ; list of the protected species on the whole of the French territories : Order of 20 January 1982, amended), and insofar as they are not subject to a specific positive list within these Standards. They are obtained following the physical procedures permitted in Appendix I.1/.

3.4.A.b. Raw materials extracted from living or dead animals :

They are prohibited.

3.4.A.c. Certain raw materials naturally produced by animals but not constituent to them :

They are permitted and submitted to restrictions in accordance to the positive list (cf. Appendix II) of this Standards and to the national and international lists of protected or dangerous species.

Thus, certain animal products which do not originate from species at risk (bovine, pig or sheep species), whose sampling will not produce a negative effect on the natural balance, may be used with reference to the positive list (cf. Appendix II) if they do not possess an identical natural equivalent in the vegetable kingdom. This list is revisable according to the technical advances.

3.4.A.d. Mineral raw materials :

They are permitted insofar as they are used for their intrinsic qualities, where their extraction doesn't generate a pollution and/or a degradation of the landscape, and where they comply with the required purity criteria (cf. Articles 3.5.a and 3.5.b.). Consequently they are not subject to a specific positive list within these Standards.

3.4.A.e. Marine raw materials :

They are permitted in accordance with the previous articles (Cf. Articles 3.4.A.a., 3.4.A.b., 3.4.A.c. and 3.4.A.d.) and according to the categories of marine raw materials respectively: marine and plant raw materials, marine and animal raw materials, marine and mineral raw materials. Consequently these marine natural ingredients are not subject to a specific positive list within these Standards.

3.4.B. Ingredients of natural origin

We will be looking to promote the use of ingredients of a natural origin issued from plant or animal ingredients, certified as Organic.

3.4.B.a. Ingredients of plant origin :

They are permitted insofar as they are issued from plant raw materials as defined by Article 3.4.A.a. and processed in accordance with these Standards (Cf. Appendix I, 2/). Therefore, these ingredients are not subject to a specific positive list within these Standards.

3.4.B.b. Ingredients of animal origin :

They are permitted insofar as they are issued from animal raw materials as defined by Article 3.4.A.c. and processed accordingly (Cf. Appendix I, 2/). Therefore, these ingredients are not subject to a specific positive list within these Standards.

3.4.B.c. Ingredients of mineral origin :

They are permitted insofar as they are issued from mineral raw materials as defined by Article 3.4.A.d. and processed accordingly (Cf. Appendix I, 2/) and insofar as they comply with the required purity criteria (cf. Appendix III). These ingredients are subject to a positive list (Cf. Appendix II, Table II/VI).

3.4.B.d. Marine raw material by-products :

They are permitted in accordance with the previous paragraphs (Cf. Articles 3.4.A.e., 3.4.B.a., 3.4.B.b. and 3.4.B.c.) and respectively depending on the type of their marine origin : marine and plant, marine and animal, marine and mineral. Therefore, these ingredients are not subject to a specific positive list within these Standards.

3.4.B.e. Water.

The manufacturing procedures can use any kind of water : spring water, water for human consumption, water obtained by osmosis, distilled water ... ; subject to analysis or attestations proving its possible consumption. Thus, through derogation to the article 4.3.b., the presence of chlorides is admitted, as constitutive elements of a natural structure of the drinking water, in accordance with Order n° 89-3 of 3 January 1989.

3.4.B.f. Ingredients issued from biotechnologies (or neo-natural productions)

They are ingredients issued from in vitro cultures and cloning, cell cultures, fermentations with microorganisms. They are permitted in the composition of cosmetic products, as ingredients of a natural origin, insofar as they are obtained via natural vegetable or animal raw materials without the intervention of genetically modified organisms and processes not mentioned in the positive list of Appendix I. Therefore these ingredients are not subject to a specific positive list within the Standards.

3.4.C. Ingredients from pure chemical synthesis

3.4.C.a. The use of preservatives in the finished products

Without prejudice to the French and European legislation on cosmetic products, the preservatives permitted in the finished product comply with Appendix II (Cf. Table I).

3.4.C.b. Preservatives present in the ingredients, permitted by special derogation

All ingredients may contain a certain amount of preservatives providing these are identical to those allowed for in the finished product, thus complying with the positive list (Cf. Appendix II, Table I).

Exceptionally, and during a provisional period ending after a period of 2 years after the registration of the Standards with the ministry of Industry, the list of preservatives permitted as ingredients, will extend to the list of preservatives tolerated on the ingredients (Cf. Appendix II, Table I).

Phenoxyethanol and hydroxybenzoic acid are thus permitted by special dispensation as preservatives for the ingredients and not for the finished product. The maximum content of both these agents must not exceed 0.5 % (weight on weight units), in the finished product.

For the maximal content of each preservative permitted within these Standards, one can refer to the general regulation (Cf. Article R. 5263-3 (d), laid down by Order of 06/02/01 laying down the list of preservatives that the cosmetic products can contain).

3.4.C.c. Ingredients from pure chemical synthesis

They cannot enter the composition of a product concerned by these Standards.

In concrete terms, the following are not permitted :

- synthetic colourants
- synthetic perfumes
- synthetic anti-oxidants
- synthetic emollients

- synthetic oils and fats
- synthetic silicones
- ingredients issued from the petrochemical industry
- as well as any other type of ingredient which can be naturally produced.

As an exception to this principle, certain synthetic molecules recognized as essential, are permitted (Cf. Article 3.1.c.).

3.5. The Quality of the ingredients and of the finished product

3.5.a. All ingredients and their by-products must be known to be unpolluted by contaminants (Cf. Appendix III).

3.5.b. Criteria of authenticity

Some ingredients are only permitted if they strictly correspond to the definition of natural ingredient (Cf. Article 1.4.g.), i.e. not to have been submitted to any chemical processing. This applies to the essential oils and resins.

3.5.c. Prohibited ionizing treatments

The finished product or its ingredients must not be submitted to treatments by means of ionizing rays.

3.5.d. Prohibited genetic technology

The ingredients cannot be issued from processes using genetically modified organisms.

3.5.e. Absence of nitrosamines

The ingredients and the finished products must not generate the formation of nitrosamines (Cf. general regulation: n° 410 of the list of substances which cannot enter the composition of cosmetic products, mentioned in Article R. 5263-3 (a) and laid down by Order of 06/02/01, published in the O.J. of 23/02/01).

3.5.f. Animal testing of the finished product

This is prohibited.

4. RULES FOR PRODUCTION : Storing ; Manufacturing processes ; Conditioning and Packaging

4.1. Storing

4.1.a. Areas for storing the ingredients

The places to store the Organic raw materials, the non Organic natural raw materials and the other ingredients must all be both physically separated and identified.

4.1.b. Areas for storing the finished products

In the same way, the places for storing the finished products ready for labelling must be physically separated from those of all the other products, and identified.

4.2. Production procedures

The production procedures (manufacturing, conditioning and packaging) :

- must be carried out in one complete series, physically separated or in the time taken for similar operations concerning products not targeted by these Standards.
- if they are not carried out frequently, they must be announced in advance with a deadline determined in agreement with the inspection body.

All measures must be taken to ensure the identification of the batches so as to avoid mixing them with products not obtained in accordance with the rules stated in these Standards.

4.3. Manufacturing processes

4.3.a. Basic principles

The manufacturing processes must be simple, non-polluting, allowing the achievement of products as biodegradable as possible and the preservation of the qualities of the raw materials (in particular, the active principles). They comply with Appendix I.

4.3.b. The chlorine chemistry

The manufacturing processes cannot make use of the chlorine chemistry (chlorinated gas, any chlorine gas by-product).

4.4. Packaging

4.4.a. Primary packaging

The packaging will be done with the strictest respect to the environment using recyclable formats, with a feeble energy consumption. Then will not be permitted, the primary packaging containing :

- PVC
- polystyrene foam

4.4.b. Certain propulsive gasses are prohibited

Vaporizers, atomizers or sprays using pressurized gas such as propane, n-butane, some isobutane or some dimethyloxide (dimethylether), representing a potential hazard, are prohibited.

4.4.c. Secondary packaging

For the secondary packaging and/or wrapping, recyclable materials, non-polluting and/or coming from recyclable materials themselves are recommended.

5 - INSPECTION SYSTEM: Traceability ; Inspection of ingredients ; Inspection of the finished product and indications of compliance

5.1. Traceability

5.1.a. Internal and external traceability

The traceability of ingredients leading up to the finished product (= traceability internal to the production plant) and from the finished product to the consumer (=traceability external to the production plant) must be rigorously implemented and registered according to the terms and conditions laid down in the Article 5.2.b.

5.1.b. Risk management

At the reception of an Organic raw material, the operator checks the seal of the packaging and the existence of the indications of compliance to the system of inspection concerning the Organic production mode. The result of this checking is explicitly mentioned in the reports covered by Appendix V.

At the reception of an ingredient of a natural origin, the operator checks the seal of the packaging and the existence of the guarantees of compliance to the requirement of these Standards. The result of this checking is explicitly mentioned in the reports covered by Appendix V.

If there are doubts as to the origin of an ingredient delivered by a supplier, this ingredient can be processed only after this doubt has been cleared, unless the product resulting from it is placed on the market with no indication related to these Standards: (Cf. Articles 2.1.).

5.2. Conditions of certification (Cf. Appendix V)

5.2.a. For a product to be certified, it is necessary that :

- the inspection takes place according to a standard-plan of inspection containing a detailed description of the inspection measures and of the precautionary measures that the inspection body is committed to impose on the operators it is inspecting. Each firm concerned will be informed as to the progress of the inspection.
- the operator accepts the implementation of all the measures scheduled by the plan of inspection for obtaining the license and the certifications of the products.
- sanctions be prescribed in the case of a non respect of the agreements.
- the objectivity of ECOCERT concerning the operators under its inspection be guaranteed by a Committee of Certification which vouchsafes the efficiency of the inspection.
- ECOCERT reserves itself the right of bringing legal action against an operator who has committed itself to these Standards in the case of fraudulent practices which would damage the ECOCERT image.

5.2.b. Some documents belonging to the inspected production plants, at the disposal of the certifying body:

To verify the compliance to these Standards of the products concerned, the operator wishing to benefit from the indications of compliance, « NATURAL and ORGANIC COSMETIC » or « NATURAL COSMETIC » for the product concerned, shall put at Ecocert's disposal the following documents :

- representative or documented accounts allowing ECOCERT to trace the origin, the nature and the quantity of all the ingredients as well as their use and the elements allowing their internal traceability.
- as well as representative or documented accounts allowing ECOCERT to trace the quantities and the depositories of all the finished products sold (external traceability). The quantities are summed up per day when they concern a direct sale to the end consumer.
- the exact composition of the finished product and of the ingredients.

5.2.c. Commitments of the certifying body :

The ECOCERT authorities,

- ensure at least, that the inspection and precautionary measures outlined in Chapters 3 and 4 are undertaken in the firms submitted to their inspection.
- if an irregularity is observed concerning the implementation of Chapters 3 and 4, Ecocert will eliminate the indications of compliance foreseen in Chapter 2, of the whole batch or of the whole stock concerned by the irregularity.
- if an offense is committed or prolonged, Ecocert will prohibit the operator from marketing the products with the indications of compliance foreseen in Chapter 2, for a length of time to be agreed upon by the Certifying Committee.

5.2.d. Certification

If the products are reputed compliant with these Standards, at the end of the inspection process, the mention "certified by ECOCERT" under the wording agreed upon under Article 2.1.b., may be inserted on the label.

5.2.e. Agreement of guarantees converging towards the satisfaction of the Standards

The operator must carry out some self-inspection measures with the aim to validate the products before they are put on the market.

The inspection body accepts as guarantee of the acceptability of the ingredients, all attestations, specification sheets, security sheets, and bulletins of analysis from the suppliers certifying the satisfaction of the Standards. An internal and external inspection procedure of the suppliers will have to be implemented.

For products issued from Organic Agriculture, only the certifications delivered by an inspection body accredited by the State according to the procedures defined in Article 9 of the Regulation 2092/91 amended and accredited according to the ISO 65 UE standard are accepted.

5.3. Conditions for the development of the Standards

5.3.a. Changes made within the context of the regulation for the industrial products

Following registration with the ministry of Industry, and in compliance with the enforced regulations relating to the certification of industrial products and services (Article 8 of Order n° 95-354 of 30 March 1995), Ecocert will be entitled to bring any type of modifications to these Standards after consultation and validation from the partners involved and in particular from the Technical Monitoring Committee.

5.3.b. The Technical Monitoring Committee

The Technical Monitoring Committee is a commission composed of expert consultants and of representatives of the profession and of the consumers, having applied for candidature with Ecocert.

When recourse is made to the Technical Monitoring Committee, its members will consult each other and give a majority opinion, in accordance with its internal rules and decide on the pertaining measures.

5.3.c. Updating and information

Ecocert commits itself to regularly inform the operators committed to following the Standards, of the details and modifications that might be brought to the Standards.

These Standards must not be considered as a static document, on the contrary they are liable to be continuously updated and improved.

6 - MEASURES FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE CLOSE ENVIRONMENT

The firms shall implement a series of measures with their own rules concerning internal inspection, throughout the production process, and concerning the processing of all the residual products resulting from a production process, aiming at the protection of the environment and of the staff in charge of production.

6.a. Concerning discharge management

All firms must develop a Plan for the improvement of the discharge management (wastes resulting from an industrial activity: gaseous, liquid or liquid solids), whose aim is the refining of any waste products on an efficient and rational basis. An ISO 14000 procedure, considered as a successful form of any plan concerning the improvement of the environmental management of firms, will be automatically accepted.

6.b. Concerning waste management

- The practice of the selective sorting of cardboard, glass, paper and all other materials;
- The commitment to recycle or to process the waste of the operator;
- The commitment to entrust the products which have specific destruction regulations and the packagings which are not recyclable within the firm itself, to an outside specialised recycling firm.

6.c. Concerning the cleaning and disinfecting of the premises and of the production tools.

All persistent or non-biodegradable compounds, all products made of genetically modified microorganisms, all products made of chlorine or chlorinated by-products, and all products made of ethoxylated by-products, are prohibited in accordance with Appendix VI.

6.d. Concerning energy management

All firms shall develop a Plan for the improvement of the energy management, whose objectives are to ensure an ever-greater use of renewable energies and an ever-greater recourse to energy-saving measures.

6.e. Concerning transport management

Inside the vehicles used for transport, all shall be done to avoid pollution by contaminants on the products concerned by these Standards, particularly as regards the products transported in bulk and unpacked.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX I

REQUIREMENT CONCERNING THE METHODS USED TO OBTAIN THE NATURAL RAW MATERIALS, TO PROCESS THESE RAW MATERIALS AND THE MANUFACTURE PROCEDURES

These processes have been selected according to the following criteria:

- processes permitting the formation of biodegradable molecules ;
- processes permitting the respect of the cosmetic properties of natural active substances ;
- processes where the good waste management and energy consumption required for its accomplishment, allow for the preservation of the natural balance.

Types of processes	Permitted processes
1/ Physical processes	ABSORPTION (on an inert support, conform to the Standards) BLEACHING - DEODORISATION (on an inert support conform to these Standards) GRINDING CENTRIFUGING (Solid / liquid separation (spin-drying)) SETTLING AND DECANTING DESICCATION - DRYING (Progressive or not by evaporation / natural under sun) DETERPENATION (if fractionated distillation with steam) DISTILLATION or EXTRACTION (steam) EXPRESSION EXTRACTIONS (with any forms of water or with a third solvent : ethyl alcohol-organic glycerine-organic oils -CO ₂) FILTRATION and PURIFICATION (ultra filtration, dialysis, electrolysis) LYOPHILIZATION BLENDING PERCOLATION COLD PRESSURE HOT PRESSURE (depending on the fluidity of the fatty acids to be extracted) STERILIZATION WITH THERMAL TREATMENTS (according to a temperature respectful of the active substances) SIFTING
2/ Chemical processes	ALKYLATION AMIDATION CALCINATION of plants residues CARBONIZATION (resins, fatty organic oils) CONDENSATION / ADDITION ESTERIFICATION ETHERIFICATION FERMENTATION (natural / biotechnological) HYDRATATION HYDROGENATION HYDROLYSIS NEUTRALIZATION (to obtain Na, Ca, Mg, K salts) OXYDIZATION / REDUCTION PROCESSES FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF AMPHOTERICIS SAPONIFICATION SULPHATATION ROASTING

N.B. : Unable to mention here all the different modalities (catalysts, solvents, ...) necessary for the accomplishment of certain processes, we wish to remind you that these must however comply with the criteria mentioned above.

APPENDIX I (continued)

REQUIREMENTS CONCERNING THE METHODS USED TO OBTAIN THE NATURAL RAW MATERIALS, TO PROCESS THESE RAW MATERIALS AND THE MANUFACTURE PROCEDURES

Consequently the following processes quoted as examples, are prohibited

Types of processes	Prohibited processes <small>non exhaustive list</small>
	BLEACHING - DEODOURISATION (on a support of animal origin) DETERPENATION (other than with beam) ETHOXYLATION (PEG ,,) IRRADIATION SULPHONATION (as main reaction) TECHNIQUES USING GENETIC ENGINEERING TREATMENTS WITH ETHYLENE OXIDE TREATMENTS USING MERCURY (MERCURIAL SODA)

APPENDIX II

POSITIVE LIST OF SUBSTANCES SUBMITTED TO SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS IN RELATION TO THE BASIC PRINCIPLES :

The purpose of this list is to mention the permitted ingredients, in categories of ingredients submitted to specific requirements in relation to the basic principles (Cf. Articles 3.1.b., 3.2.a. and 3.5.).

The categories of ingredients submitted to specific requirements are the following:

A Pure synthesis

- **Preservatives used in the finished product and ingredients, listed Table I, page 28.**
- **Preservatives used in the ingredients, listed Table Ibis, page 28.**
- **Other types of agents reputed to be essential, listed Table II, page 28. (Cf. Article 3.1.c.)**

B Natural ingredients (in compliance with the physical processes of Appendix I,1/)

- **Plants not listed** because implicitly permitted to the extent that they comply with the basic principles (Cf. Article 3.4.A.a.)
- **Minerals not listed** because implicitly permitted to the extent that they comply with the basic principles (Cf. Article 3.4.A.d.)
- **Substances produced by animals (or products from animals) listed Table III, page 28**, through precautionary measures vis-à-vis a continuously revised legislation (Cf. Article 3.4.A.c.)
- **Marine substances not listed** because implicitly permitted to the extent that they comply with the basic principles (Cf. Article 3.4.A.e.)

C Ingredients of a natural origin (in compliance with the chemical processes of Appendix I,2/)

- **plant : not listed** because implicitly permitted to the extent that they comply with the basic principles (Cf. Article 3.4.B.a.)
- **animal : not listed** because implicitly permitted to the extent that they comply with the basic principles (Cf. Article 3.4.B.b.)
- **mineral : listed Table IV, page 29**, because the concerned chemical processes are more complex than those already listed in Appendix I and moreover more generally polluting (Cf. Article 3.4.B.c.)
- **marine : listed Table V, page 29**, as a precautionary measure (Cf. Article 3.4.B.d.)
- **issued from the biotechnology : not listed** so as not to limit the research of new ingredients benefiting from this technology (Cf. Article 3.4.B.e.)

LEGEND

COLUMN FUNCTION

Strictly in accordance with the common nomenclature of ingredients used in the cosmetic products, Official Journal of the EC, L 132, 39th year (1st June 1996).

IN GREY

Permitted ingredients, which 2 years after the registration of the schedule of conditions could be submitted to specific requirements as to how they were obtained and/or the raw materials used.

A – SYNTHESIZED INGREDIENTS

(I) ANTI-MICROBIAL AGENTS used in the finished product and ingredients (selected according to the information note of the EEC experts to the consumers)

	Ingredient	Function
1	Benzoic acid, its salts and esters	Preservative
2	Benzyl alcohol	Preservative
3	Formic acid and its sodium salt	Preservative
4	Propionic acid and its salts	Preservative
5	Salicylic acid and its salts	Preservative
6	Sorbic acid and its salts	Preservative

**(Ibis) PRESERVATIVES tolerated solely on the ingredients
(selected according to the information note of the EEC experts to the consumers)**

7	Parahydroxybenzoic acid, its salts and esters	Preservative
8	Phenoxy-2-ethanol	Preservative

(II) OTHER TYPES OF SYNTHESIZED INGREDIENTS

9	Disodium Phosphate	Buffer reagent
10	Magnesium Hydroxide	Absorbent / Buffer reagent
11	Potassium Carbonate	Buffer reagent
12	Potassium Hydroxide	Buffer reagent
13	Sodium Bicarbonate	Buffer reagent
14	Sodium Borate	Buffer reagent
15	Sodium Carbonate	Buffer reagent
16	Sodium Hydroxide (soda)	Buffer reagent
17	Sodium Silicate	Buffer reagent
18	Titanium Dioxide	Opacifier

B – NATURAL INGREDIENTS

(III) ANIMAL INGREDIENTS

19	Beeswax	Additive
20	Butyris Lac	Organic additive
21	Caprae Lac	Organic additive
22	Lac	Organic additive
23	Lactis Proteinum	Organic additive
24	Lactoferrin	Additive
25	Lactoperoxydase	Organic additive
26	Lactose	Moisturizer
27	Lanolin	Antistatic reagent/ Emollient / Solvent
28	Mel	Organic additive
29	Ovum	Organic additive
30	Propolis Cera	Organic additive
31	Royal Jelly	Organic additive
32	Shellac	Emollient / Filmogenic reagent/ Reagent for viscosity inspection

C – INGREDIENTS OF NATURAL ORIGIN

(IV) INGREDIENTS OF MINERAL ORIGIN

33	Bismuth Oxychlorure CI 77163	Non Organic pigment / Colourant
34	Calcium Carbonate CI 77220	Abrasive / Buffer / Opacifier
35	Calcium Sulfate (Gypsum)	Abrasive / Opacifier
36	Chromium Oxides CI 77289, 77288	Non Organic pigment / Colourant
37	CI 77000 (Aluminium)	Non Organic pigment / Colourant
38	CI 77007 (Lazzurite)	Non Organic pigment / Colourant
39	CI 77400 (Copper)	Non Organic pigment / Colourant
40	CI 77510 (Prussian Blue)	Non Organic pigment / Colourant
41	CI 77742 (Ammonium and Manganese Diphosphate)	Non Organic pigment / Colourant
42	CI 77745 (Manganese Bis Orthophosphate)	Non Organic pigment / Colourant
43	CI 77891 (Titanium dioxide)	Non Organic pigment / Colourant
44	CI 77947 (Zinc Oxide)	Non Organic pigment / Colourant
45	Copper Oxide	Active reagent
46	Copper sulfate	Additive
47	Cupric Sulfate	Additive
48	Dicalcium Phosphate Dihydrate	Abrasive reagent / Reagent for product for the oral cavity hygiene
49	Hydrated Silica	Abrasive reagent / Absorbent reagent / Opacifier / Reagent for viscosity inspection
50	Iron Hydroxide	Additive
51	Iron Oxides CI 77480, 77491, 77492, 77499	Additive
52	Iron Sulfate	Additive
53	Magnesium Carbonate CI 77713 (Magnesite)	Absorbent reagent / Viscosity reagent
54	Magnesium Chloride	Additive
55	Magnesium Oxide CI 77711	Absorbent reagent / Buffer reagent / Opacifier
56	Magnesium Sulphate	Reagent for viscosity inspection
57	Manganese Sulphate	Additive
58	Potassium Sulphate	Viscosity reagent
59	Silver Chloride	Additive
60	Silver CI 77820	Additive
61	Silver Sulfate	Non Organic pigment / Colourant
62	Sodium Fluoride	Reagent for product for the oral cavity hygiene
63	Sodium Monofluorophosphate	Reagent for product for the oral cavity hygiene
64	Sodium Sulphate	Reagent for viscosity inspection
65	Zinc Oxide	Additive
66	Zinc Sulphate	Antimicrobial reagent / Reagent for product for the oral cavity hygiene

(V) INGREDIENTS OF MARINE ORIGIN

67	Algin	Binder / Reagent for viscosity inspection
68	Carrageenan	Binder / Emulsion Stabilizer / Reagent for viscosity inspection
69	Potassium Alginate	Binder / Emulsion Stabilizer / Reagent for viscosity inspection
70	Xantophyll	Additive

APPENDIX III

PURITY CRITERIA RELATING TO THE RAW MATERIALS AND THE OTHER INGREDIENTS

Basic principles

The raw materials must be authentic and reputed as being not polluted by contaminants.

The ingredients, which are by-products of raw materials, must be reputed as being not polluted by contaminants.

List of contaminants :

- Heavy metals (Metallic trace elements): cadmium, mercury, lead, chromium, copper, nickel, zinc, molybdenum, arsenic and selenium
- Hydrocarbons: carcinogenic (Benzen, Toluene, Xylene) and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PCA)
- Pesticides (insecticides, fungicides, herbicides, products for soils disinfection ... for their toxicity, their persistence and their residues)
- P.C.B. et P.C.D.D./F. (dioxines)
- Radioactivity
- GMO for by-products of raw materials, which can be produced from GMO.
- Mycotoxins
- Medicinal residues (anticocccidials, synthetic antibiotics, anabolic steroids, etc.) from animal products (wax, milk ...)
- Nitrates from plant products
- Nitrosamines

Principle for determining the maximal values

- The maximal values of contaminants will be those specified in the general regulation.
- For the contaminants of the above list not having limited values imposed by the general regulation, the level of the detection threshold will be considered.

List of products which may be submitted to an authenticity check:

- some essential oils
- some resins

Inspection Plan:

The internal inspection system of the firm will be checked to see that it follows the basic principles by verifying the efficient implementation of its procedures which, as a general rule, are confirmed by the consistency of its results, filed and easily verifiable :

- One file per product, gathering together all the guarantees from the suppliers (analysis and attestations, origins of the ingredients, manufacturing processes) ;
- A program of risk analysis for the completion and verification of the suppliers' guarantees ;
- Guarantees showing that the use of one ingredient or another will have no lasting effect on the environment ;
- Conformity procedures of the finished product.

APPENDIX IV

EXAMPLES FOR THE CALCULATION OF THE PROPORTIONS

Composition of an NATURAL and ORGANIC « lotion »

- 93% ORGANIC floral water
- 4% natural fatty alcohol of a Natural origin (vegetable oil + trans-esterification + reduction)
- 1% preservative (synthesis)
- 2% ORGANIC vegetable active substances

1/ % natural ingredients of the total of ingredients used :

$$93\%+4\%+2\%= 99\% > 95\%$$

2/ % plant ingredients certified ORGANIC of the total of plant ingredients used :

$$(93\% + 2\%) / (93\% + 2\%) = 100\% > 95\%$$

3/ % ingredients certified as ORGANIC of the total of ingredients used :

$$93\% + 2\% = 95\% > 10\%$$

Composition of an NATURAL and ORGANIC « cream »

Phase A :

- 2,1 % emulsifier (mixing of 50% fatty alcohol of a natural origin and 50% surfactant (ether : 40% vegetable sugar and 60% fatty alcohol of a natural origin))
- 3,7% thickening factor (100% fatty alcohol of a natural origin)
- 1,5% thickening factor (100% hydrogenated ORGANIC vegetable oil)
- 3% emollient (100% mixed esters of fatty acids and alcohols of a natural origin)
- 2% emollient (100 % ethers of fatty alcohols of a natural origin)
- 8% emollient (100% ORGANIC plant extract)
- 1% plant active substance

Phase B :

- 3% moisturizer (100% glycerin from plant origin)
- 59,9% drinking water
- 15% ORGANIC floral water
- 0,5% preservatives (synthesis)
- 0,3% ORGANIC fragrance

1/ % of natural ingredients of the total of the ingredients used :

$$2,1\%+3,7\%+1,5\%+3\%+2\%+8\%+1\%+3\%+59,9\%+15\%+0,3\% = 99,5\% > 95\%$$

2/ % of certified ORGANIC plant ingredients of the total plant ingredients used :

$$(8\% + 15\% + 0,3\%) / (8\% + 15\% + 0,3\%+1\%) = 95,9\% > 95\%$$

3/ % of certified ORGANIC ingredients of the total ingredients used :

$$15\%+8\%+0,3\% = 23,3\% > 10\%$$

Composition of an NATURAL and ORGANIC « gentle shampoo »

- 12% surfactant (100% ether (40% vegetable sugar and 60% fatty alcohol of a natural origin))
- 13% amphoteric surfactant (65 % fatty acid of natural origin, 15% acetate (chemical synthesis), 20% amine (chemical synthesis))
- 6 % vegetable protein hydrolysate (40% ORGANIC vegetable protein + 59,8% drinking water + 0,2% preservatives)
- 53,7% drinking water
- 15% ORGANIC floral water
- 0,3 % preservatives (synthesis)

1/ % of natural ingredients of the total ingredients used :

$$12\% + (13 \times 65\%)+ (6 \times 99,8\%) + 53,7\% + 15\% = 95,4\% > 95\%$$

2/ % of certified ORGANIC plant ingredients of the total plant ingredients used :

$$15\% / 15\% = 100\% > 95\%$$

3/ % of certified ORGANIC ingredients of the total ingredients used :

$$15\% = 15\% > 10\%$$

APPENDIX V

THE CERTIFICATION PROCEDURE

Summary of the requirements :

- 1) At the beginning of the implementation of the system of inspection, the operator and ECOCERT establish:
 - a full description of the production plant with indication regarding storage, production (equipment used) and conditioning sites,
 - all the practical measures to be taken by the operator, regarding his/her unit, to ensure the respect of the arrangements of these standards.This description and the concerning measures are given in an inspection report, countersigned by the interested operator
- 2) The inspection body must carry out, at least once a year, a full physical inspection of the plant and a surprise visit. Samples of non-permitted products used for research, in accordance with the terms and conditions of these standards can be undertaken. An inspection report, countersigned by the person in charge of the inspected plant, is drawn up after each visit.
- 3) The operator allows access to the inspection body, for the purpose of the inspection, to the storing and production sites, as well as to the accountancy and all related elements of proof (customs documents, ...). It gives the inspection body, all information considered as necessary for the purpose of the inspection.
- 4) The products concerned by these standards can be transported to other plants, including to the wholesaler and retailers, only in closed packaging or barrels, so as to avoid the possibility of their contents being substituted, with labels consisting of, without prejudice to other indications conforming with the regulations :
 - the name and the address of the person in charge of the product manufacture
 - the product name and the ECOCERT inspection reference.

A - THE INSPECTION: THE STEPS TO BE FOLLOWED

ECOCERT undertakes the inspection of all the cosmetic products concerned by these Standards on the Natural and Organic cosmetics, to the extent that all the necessary means for this inspection are placed at its disposal.

The steps taken by an operator for the inspection, with ECOCERT, is a voluntary move. Thus, beyond the simple procedures of inspection, ECOCERT wish to be in partnership with the operators by offering them real support.

The only cases in which a procedure of inspection may not start, are :

- non compliance with the enforced general regulation (non registration of the firm – unsatisfying hygiene, ...)
 - identified risks regarding consumer health,
 - manufacturing procedures which question the respect of the human being,
 - geographical location presenting a technical impossibility, or a hazard to the contributors.
- **STEP 1** : CALL FOR AUTHORISATION IN VIEW OF A FIRST EVALUATION
 - **STEP 2** : COMMITMENT TOWARDS THE STANDARDS ON ORGANIC COSMETICS
 - **STEP 3** : MISSION ORDER FOR THE INSPECTION or THE EVALUATION AUDIT

Upon reception of the Commitment, ECOCERT mandates an inspector or an auditor who makes an appointment for a first visit, in order to assess the conformity of the production with the standards.

One or several unexpected visits may be carried out after this first assessment.

During the thorough or unforeseen visits, samples of specimen may be taken. They will then be sent for analysis, anonymously, to a laboratory

At the end of the inspector's visit, the statements of the inspection are put by the inspector in a report, countersigned by the operator.

This report is returned to the operator, pointing out all the observed discrepancies.

By demonstrating that corrective actions have been undertaken ECOCERT authorises the lifting of the observed discrepancies from the report and the operator will obtain the certification of its products.

- **STEP 4 : PROCESSING OF THE FILE** followed by CERTIFICATION

After inspection, the file and the corrective actions proposed by the operator are transmitted for analysis to the person in charge of the Certification, on the Certification Committee's authority. This survey, based on the report, forms the certification file.

Then, with full impartiality (due to the anonymity of the files, to the duty of the Committee members to preserve secrecy) the Certification Committee rules on granting the operator a license and a certificate for the product.

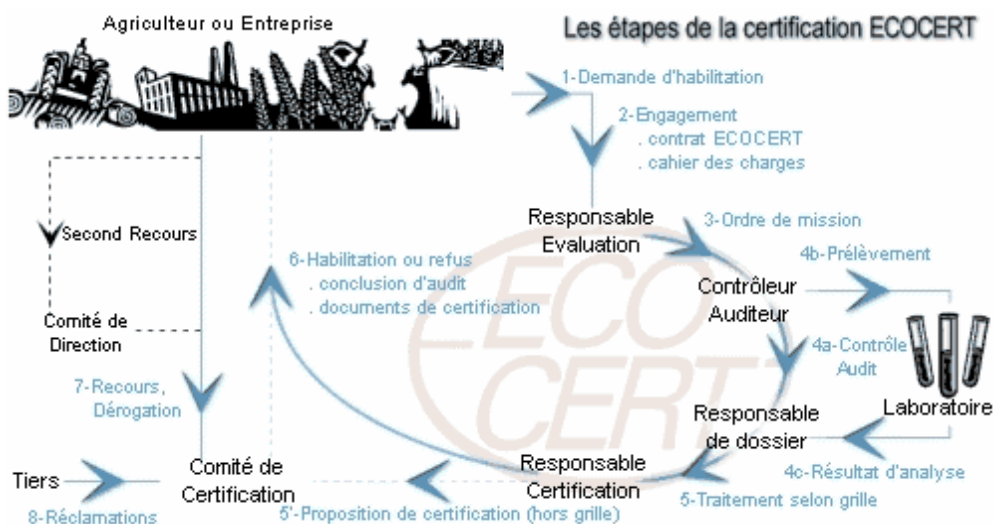
The person in charge of Certification then sends to the operator the license and one or more certificates indicating the list of products concerned by category ("Natural and Organic" or "Natural") and, if necessary, some requests for corrective actions or further analysis results.

- **THE FOLLOWING YEAR : MONITORING INSPECTIONS**

The following years, a monitoring is effected by carrying out thorough surprise inspections and audits.

The operator shall inform ECOCERT, in real time, of any change brought about its system of production or its range of products waiting to be certified. The distribution of a certified product without the written accord of ECOCERT is not authorized.

Summary of the steps for inspection and certification



B – THE CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE:

The ECOCERT system of certification is administrated by Certification Committees in order to guarantee the independence and the impartiality of the action and of the decision of certification.

Composition of the Committee of Certification for Cosmetics :

The members have full rights concerning the certification decisions, as well as for the interruption of a mandate accorded to a member.

Mission of the Certification Committee :

- The execution and the monitoring of the certification activity,
- The implementation of the certification system, i.e. the rules concerning the delivering of licenses and certificates, inspections and sanctions,
- To express an opinion regarding the changes in the procedures concerning the certification system to which they belong.

C – THE TECHNICAL MONITORING COMMITTEE

The technical monitoring committee is an independent structure composed of expert consultants, representing the profession, and accredited to give technical advice to the certifying body or to the certification committee, concerning the development and the precision of the standards.

D – THE GENERAL CORRECTION PLAN FOR ORGANIC COSMETICS

The Certification Committee of ECOCERT has designed a correction plan based on a thorough knowledge of the regulation and of the technical problems of the operators.

Three types of processing, of a growing seriousness, may be affected following a non-compliance or an accumulation of non-compliance observed during an ECOCERT inspection.

Any divergence (non-compliance) must result in corrective action by the operator.

The Certification Committee has set up in advance, for each serious divergence listed in the schedule of the non compliances internal to ECOCERT, the corresponding procedures (corrective actions or sanctions) and decides on the action to be taken for each non compliance.

This schedule is :

- periodically revised by the Certification Committee, validated by the Management Committee, in order to take into account the regulatory and industrial developments.
- composed of an exhaustive list of non compliances, allowing a precise description of a given situation, to which are added appropriate corrective actions,
- implemented by the Certification Service which submits to the Certification Committee the unforeseen cases of non compliance.

These procedures, and the encountered divergence, are cited below.

- **SIMPLE DIVERGENCE**
- **DIVERGENCE RESULTING IN A CONDITIONAL CERTIFICATION**
- **DIVERGENCE RESULTING IN A REFUSAL OF CERTIFICATION**
 - Refusal or suspension of the product certification
 - Suspension of the license

E - THE RECOURSES / CLAIMS AND DISPENSATIONS

The Committee of Certification systematically analyses the license withdrawals, the non compliances unforeseen in the schedule, the recourses, the requests for dispensation and the claims.

▪ **THE RECOURSE**

An operator can formulate a recourse with the Certification Committee concerning the certification of its products (certificates – license – corrective actions) or any other decision concerning him/her. This will be processed during the meeting of the Committee following his/her request.

In case of non satisfaction following a recourse, the operator can undertake a recourse of second instance with the Management Committee. This second recourse must be paid for.

▪ **CLAIM**

The Certification Committee can register claims from third parties concerning the licensed operators or the products concerned by the certificates issued by ECOCERT. These will be answered and recorded.

▪ **REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION**

Any operator encountering a temporary difficulty in respecting his commitment can address a request for dispensation to the Certification Committee, which will rule on the request if it is within its competence, or will send the request back to the Technical Committee.

F – SOME DEFINITIONS :

OPERATOR : Any physical or moral person who produces, prepares (processes, preserves, packages, labels) cosmetic products concerned by the Standards, in view marketing or selling these products.

CERTIFICATION : is the group of procedures allowing to guarantee the compliance of a product with a technical standard. This guarantee is confirmed by documents (license, mentions on label/invoice certificate).

CERTIFICATE : is a document delivered in conformity with the rules of a certification system, certifying with a sufficient level of confidence that a product clearly identified, is in accordance with the specified standard. The certificate is linked to the product, and is delivered after evaluation and certification.

- Mentions the product references which are in accordance with the standard for Natural and Organic cosmetic products : « **Natural Cosmetic** » or « **Natural and Organic Cosmetic** ».

COMMITMENT : is a document to which the candidate for certification commits his/herself to respect the production rules set out in the ECOCERT Standards on Organic and Natural Cosmetics, and kept by ECOCERT.

ACCREDITATION : is the acknowledgment after the **first evaluation** by the certification body :

- of the capacity of the operator to satisfy the requirements set out by the standards.

- of the commitment of this operator to apply these standards.

LICENSE is a document which :

– Certifies the commitment of the operator to respect the production rules of the organic cosmetics. This commitment has an annual validity, i.e. 12 months out of 12,

– Is delivered by ECOCERT on a yearly basis, to any such operator who benefited from a certificate for more than one product during the previous year or after the certification of more than one product for any operator in his/her first year of certification.

MANUFACTURER : An outside firm, under contract with the operator, manufacturing, processing, conditioning and storing inputs supplied by the limited partner (i.e. the operator) and making invoices for the work, the storage. A manufacturer doesn't buy any input concerned by the standards (i.e. organic, natural, of natural origin or present on the positive list) and doesn't sell any finished product.

FINISHED PRODUCT SUBCONTRACTOR : Third firm, under contract with the operator, which manufactures, processes, conditions, stores some products concerned by the Standards, on behalf of the owner of the brand of the product. A subcontractor can buy inputs concerned by the Standards (i.e. organic, natural, of natural origin or present on the positive list) and sell a finished product.

SUPPLIERS in INGREDIENTS OF NATURAL ORIGIN : Third firm, under contract or not with the operator, which manufactures, processes, conditions, stores ingredients.

STANDARDS : Word used to designate a specified normative document (cf. Schedule of conditions).

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS : At the end of each inspection, some corrective actions can be requested to the operator and mentioned on the inspection report. The approach consists in making the operators to proceed towards a right implementation of the rules, even if sometimes some downgrading of batches appears as essential.

APPENDIX VI

REQUIREMENTS CONCERNING THE PRODUCTS PERMITTED FOR THE CLEANING AND THE DISINFECTION OF THE PREMISES, INSTALLATIONS, EQUIPMENTS AND UTENSILS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF PRODUCTS CONCERNED BY THESE STANDARDS

There are no specific references in the general regulation, concerning the cleaning products which may be used during the manufacturing of the cosmetic products.

Therefore, each product used by the firm will be the object of a technical sheet, including an attestation of the supplier as to the composition, the conditions for use and the conditions for security, and in particular guaranteeing **that the product is authorized for use in the food industry**.

In addition, in conformity with all of the requirements stated in these standards, the following products and ingredients are prohibited :

Formaldehyde
Products based on genetically modified microorganisms
Products based on chlorine or chlorine derived
Products based on ethoxylated by-products

The following products and ingredients are not recommended :

Ammonium-based products

As an indicative and in a non exhaustive manner, the following products and ingredients can thus be used, as long as they have been approved for that use :

Citric, peracetic, lactic and acetic acid
Alcohol
Sodium carbonate
Hot water and steam
Plant essential oils
Lime feldspar-milk
Hydrogen peroxyde
Potassium hydroxide
Vegetal soap
Sodium hydroxide

N.B. 1 : These products can be used with the surfactants mentioned in the positive list of permitted ingredients and/or complying with the following selection criteria : renewable sources, low aquatic toxicity (EC50 : for instance > 10 mg/l of tolerance on the daphnia test), rapid and complete primary biodegradability (OECD Screening test, for instance > 90% in 28 days), rapid and complete final degradability (OECD 301 F, for instance > 70% in 28 days), aerobic and anaerobic degradation. They may also be used with additives complying with the previous criteria.

N.B. 2 : The choice of products and ingredients shall favor those which have no unacceptable effects on the environment and which do not contribute to a contamination of the environment.

N.B. 3 : The products and ingredients above quoted must be used at the regulatory doses laid down in the regulations or, in the absence of regulation, at the doses recommended by the manufacturer.

Implementation of points N.B. 1 and N.B. 2 :

Examples of non ethoxylated detergent surfactants complying with N.B. 1 and N.B. 2

- 1- Any soap with plant fatty acids and an inorganic basis (soda and potassium salts) : Palmates, Cocoates, Olivates, Oleates ... and their mixtures. Not allowed: soaps with resinic acids derived from conifers, because of their very high aquatic toxicity.
- 2- Plant based Alkylsulphates: Sodium Lauryl Sulphate, Sodium Coco Sulphate, Sodium Octyl Sulphate, Sodium Oleyl Sulphate.
- 3- Plant based Alcylglutamate
- 4- Plant based Lipoamine: Sodium Lauroyl Lipoamine
- 5- Plant based Surfactants and sugar derivatives :Sucrose Cocoate, Sucrose Laurate and Alkylpolyglucosides
- 6- Plant based Amphoteric: Oleo Ampho Polyglycinate, Alkyl Amido Ampho Polypeptide Carboxylate

APPENDIX VII

INFORMATION NOTE TO THE CONSUMERS, ISSUED FROM THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON COSMETIC PRODUCTS, FOR THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

NATURAL COSMETICS **INFORMATION NOTE TO THE CONSUMERS**

I. INTRODUCTION

The question of « natural cosmetics » is a complex and emotional one. The critique of consumerism, mental attitudes like the interaction between the body and the soul (esotericism), the properties of natural healing, as well as the marketing strategies : all these factors play an important role.

On the European market a number of cosmetics are to be found which qualify as natural cosmetics, although they sometimes include many ingredients which are not natural. The use of this expression “natural cosmetics” differs from one country to another ; it is the same for the guidelines applicable to the manufacture, the marketing and the labelling. It is necessary to set up a uniform definition and to establish the guiding principles for natural cosmetics in Europe.

The existence of these guidelines should allow us to ensure a maximum security in the use of these products in order to avoid some misleading regarding the claimed effects.

II. DESCRIPTION

1. By « natural cosmetic product » is meant any product, which, subject to paragraphs 6 and 7 is composed of natural substances, as defined in the paragraphs 2 and 5 and which is produced (obtained and processed) under the conditions defined in paragraph 4.
2. In the understanding of these paragraphs, the « natural substances » include any substances of plant, animal or mineral origin, as well as the mixture of these substances.
3. In the choice of the basic components of plant, mineral or animal origin of the cosmetic products concerned by these paragraphs, particular attention is taken not to include a contaminant that can be damageable for the human health. The manufacturers of the natural cosmetic products shall specially take into consideration, in the evaluation of its harmlessness as regards human health, the possible allergenic effects of the natural substances.
4. The natural ingredients shall be exclusively obtained and processed by means of physical methods (for instance extrusion, centrifugation, filtration, distillation, extraction, percolation, adsorption, freezing, drying), of microbiological or enzymatic methods. The microorganisms and the enzymes shall be exclusively used in the microbiological and enzymatic methods. To carry out the extraction, water, ethylic alcohol and other appropriate naturally derived solvents can be used.
5. Only the natural fragrance whose name and definition comply to the ISO 9235 standard may be used in the natural cosmetic products, as well as any substance which, in this classification, has been isolated with physical methods. The synthetic essential oils, the perfumes which reproduce the natural fragrances, and the chemically modified raw materials cannot be used in scenting compositions labeled as natural.
6. The following preservatives (pseudo-natural substances) enumerated in Appendix VI, part 1 of the Council Directive 76/768/CEE, can be used provided the indicated conditions of use are followed :
 - benzoic acid and its salts ;
 - propionic acid and its salts ;
 - salicylic acid and its salts ;
 - acid 4 hydroxybenzoïc, its salts and its esters ;
 - formic acid ;
 - 2 phenoxyethanol ;
 - benzylic acid ;
 - sorbic acid.

The natural cosmetic products containing one or another of these preservatives shall clearly mention the inscription « preservative : (name of the preservative) » close to the indication « natural cosmetic product ».

7. The emulsifiers obtained from natural substances by hydrolysis, esterification or trans-esterification can be used to produce natural cosmetic products :
- fats and oils ;
 - waxes ;
 - lecithin ;
 - lanolin ;
 - mono-, oligo- and polysaccharides;
 - proteins;
 - lipoproteins.

III. NOMENCLATURE

8. The cosmetic products compliant with the conditions presented in these guidelines can print the complementary information “natural cosmetic product” in visible and readable characters.

IV. SAFETY OF THE NATURAL COSMETIC PRODUCTS

The legislative arrangements concerning the cosmetic products, currently in use in the member States of the partial Agreement in the area of Public Health, apply to natural cosmetic products.

In particular “they must not harm the human health when they are applied normally or in a reasonable manner”.

The assessment of the safety of the natural cosmetic products shall take into account the most relative data on toxicity available, for all the ingredients existing in the formulation, including the natural ingredients, with specific attention paid to the following items :

- The natural ingredients are complex blends needing a sufficiently precise definition to identify a given ingredient, regarding its composition and its effects.
- It is necessary to bring a scientific justification, especially in the cases where there is a lack of toxicological information regarding the natural ingredients.

COUNCIL OF EUROPE
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON COSMETIC PRODUCTS



APPENDIX TO STANDARDS (Updated on September 29th, 2008)

1: Authorized ingredients

- **Potassium Chloride (KCl)** : authorized ingredient, counted as a synthetic ingredient
- **Sodium lauryl sulfoacetate**: authorized ingredient if it comes from sulfatation, the technical data sheets, security sheet, and the questionnaire for the verification of raw materials for each reference (commercial name) must be submitted to ECOCERT for their validation.

2- Calculation of organic percentage of vegetal extracts:

Further to the work done by the Commission on vegetal extracts and about the way of calculating organic percentage on extracts containing water, the following decisions will be applied starting from December 13th, 2004 for every new formula subjected to certification.

- The extracts concerned by these measures are: the hydrolates, the macerates, the decoctions, the hydro alcoholics extracts, hydroglycerin, aqueous...
- An aqueous extract (including a hydrolate) will be counted as 100% organic but from the moment that the report of organic dried plant/final extract will be > 5%.
- If the ratio organic dried plant/final extract is less than 5%, a rule proportional is applied: if the ratio is worth 1%, the extract is counted to 20% organic....
- A mixture of essential oil resulting from organic farming, with water will not be counted 100% organic even if it has been certified Organic Farming already: the organic percentage will be equivalent to the quantity of essential oil used.
- For all organic extracts, the ratio organic dried plant/extract as well as the extract final composition must be declared by the manufacturer on the product's technical data sheet or on an attestation. For the organic hydrolates, an attestation which specifies that the hydrolate results from hydrodistillation will be requested.



You will find below some examples of calculation of organic percentage of vegetable extracts:

Example n°1: Dried Fruits Extract

- Introduction of 10kg of organic dried fruits
- Obtention of 100kg hydroglycériné extract at 30% of glycerin

Ratio plant/extract = 10% >5%

Composition	Nature	Content	%org
Water		70%	100%
Plant	organic		
Glycerin	Not org	30%	0%

➔ Extract counted at 0,7 100=70% organic

Comité de Certification du 13/12/04



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Example n°2: Fresh Fruits Extract

- Introduction of 10kg of organic
- Obtention of 100kg of hydro glycerined extract at 70% of glycerin

Ratio plante/extract = 2.5% < 5%

Composition	Nature	Content	%org
Water		30%	50%
Plant	Organic		
Glycerin	Not org	70%	0%

➔ Extrait counted at 0,3 50=15% organic

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Example n°3: Oily Macerate

- Introduction of 10kg of organic dried plant and not organic sunflower oil
- Obtention of 100kg of oily macerate

Composition	Nature	Content	%org
Plant	organic	10%	100%
Oil	Not org	90%	0%

➔ Extract counted at 0,1x100=10% organic

Comité de Certification du 13/12/04



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Example n°4: Oily Macerate

- Introduction of 10kg of not organic dried plant and organic sunflower oil
- Obtention of 100kg of oily macerate

Composition	Nature	Content	%org
Plant	Not org	10%	
Oil	organic	90%	100%

➔ Extract counted at 0,9x100=90% organic

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Example n°5: Acohol Extract

- Introduction of 10kg of organic dried plant
- Obtention of 100kg of extract at 30% of not organic alcohol

Composition	Nature	Content	%org
Water		70%	100%
Plant	organic		
Alcohol	Not org	30%	0%

➔ Extract counted at 0,7x100=70% organic

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Example n°6: HAG Extract

- Introduction of 4.5 kg of organic dried plant
- Obtention of 100kg of extract at 30% of organic alcohol, and 30% of glycerin

Composition	Nature	Content	%org
Water		40%	90%
Plant	organic		
Glycerin	Not org	30%	0%
Alcohol	organic	30%	100%

➔ Extrait counted at 0,4x90+0,3+100=66% organic

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3- Synthetic Preservatives:

Paragraphs 3-4-c-b of Standards says : «Exceptionally and during a provisional period of 2 years after the registration of the Cosmetics Standards at the Ministry of Industry [...] phenoxyethanol, and hydroxybenzoïque acid (parabens) are permitted by special dispensation as preservatives for ingredients, but not on finished products».

Theses preservatives will not be accepted in any ingredients starting from January 1st, 2009. By the same derogation, and until December 31st, 2008, the phenoxyethanol and parabens are accepted in ingredients (bought). The maximum total ratio of phenoxyethanol /parabens on the finished product is brought to 0.2%.

This dispensation is valid until December 31st, 2006.

- The following synthetic preservatives are not allowed anymore
 - Propionic Acid, and its salts
 - Formic Acid, and its sodium salt

- The following synthetic preservatives remain in the list of permitted synthetic preservatives:
 - Benzylic Alcohol
 - Sorbic Acid, and its salts
 - Benzoic Acid, its salts and esters
 - Salicylic Acid, and its salts
 - Dehydroacetic Acid (DHA)



4- Dispensation on conditioners:

In view of the importance of conditioning agents for the cosmetic quality of capillary products,

In view of the low effectiveness of conditioning agents authorized by the Standard

In view of the different conditioning agents currently available on the market, their manufacturing method and their ecotoxicology effects,

The Natural and Organic Cosmetics Certification Committee has voted for the following points:

- The use of compounds as guar hydroxypropyltrimonium chloride or hydroxypropyl guar hydroxypropyltrimonium chloride is authorized in a derogatory way (at least until 31/12/2008) subjected to validation by ECOCERT
- The use of this agent is limited only for capillary products (shampoos, hair mask, disentangling balsams ...)
- The use of this agent is limited to maximum 0.3% (as an active material) on finished products,
- These ingredients will be counted on the percentage of synthetic ingredients.

There are currently two commercial ingredients that have been retained. New ones could be submitted to our Certification Service by manufacturers or raw materials suppliers. The Certification Service will study their technical data sheets (manufacturing process, biodegradability, and ecotoxicology effects), and could propose them to the Certification Committee to include on this list (after consultation of the Conditioner Commission).