

Actiphyte[®] of Capsicum Lipo S Conc.

CTFA/INCI NAME: Capsicum Frutescens Fruit Extract

LATIN NAME: *Capsicum frutescens*

CAS NUMBER: 84603-55-4 EINECS NUMBER: 283-256-8

PART USED: Dried or Ripe Fruit

OTHER COMMON NAMES: Cayenne, African Pepper, Chilies, and Bird Pepper

HISTORIC USES:

Cayenne or red pepper is the fruit of *Capsicum frutescens*, a shrubby, tropical plant that can grow to a height of 3 feet. The fruit is technically a berry. Although cayenne pepper is native to tropical America, it is now cultivated in tropical locations throughout the world.

At the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the scientists have been studying capsaicin, the substance in Capsicum peppers that gives the pungent flavor chili lovers esteem. Recent findings could result in better therapeutic uses for compounds like capsaicin, collectively called the capsaicinoids. Capsaicin affects physiological pathways involved in perception of temperature and pain. Initially, these compounds irritate skin and mucous membranes, but when applied repeatedly, it desensitizes the affected area without blocking the sensation of touch. These effects of capsaicin cause the release of substance P (Pain) from nerve cells, which initially result in irritation and pain. Once substance P is released, however, capsaicin works to block the re-uptake of substance P. Thus, substance P is metabolized by natural physiological pathways in the body instead of being recycled for further use. The net result is that capsaicin depletes substance P, thereby blocking the pain sensation.

In addition, cayenne peppers are full of nutrients, particularly vitamin C and carotenes. Capsaicin-containing formulas have shown impressive results when applied to the skin in the cases of psoriasis, rheumatoid arthritis, and post-herpes pain. Recently, capsaicin has been found to be an effective antibacterial.

Extracts have been employed in the past as tonic, antiseptic, rebefficient, vasodilatory, counterirritant, and stimulant. An ointment prepared with the fruit extract has been used topically for skin infections. Actiphyte[®] of Capsicum Lipo S Concentrate is a 60% concentrated extract.

USAGE LEVEL: Recommended 0.2 - 5% in skin care products

Actiphyte[®] of Capsicum Lipo S Conc. (page 2)



SPECIFICATIONS

Appearance:	Dark amber liquid
Odor:	Characteristic
Solubility:	Soluble in oil at any proportion
Specific Gravity:	0.90 – 0.95 at 25° C
Refractive Index:	1.4610 - 1.4790 at 25° C
Microbial Plate Count:	Less than 100 organisms per gram
Scoville Units:	600,000

EXTERNAL USE ONLY - NOT FOR DRUG USE

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