

ISO

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION

ISO RECOMMENDATION R 590

OIL OF BRAZILIAN SASSAFRAS

1st EDITION
July 1967

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Printed in Switzerland

Also issued in French and Russian. Copies to be obtained through the national standards organizations.

BRIEF HISTORY

The ISO Recommendation R 590, *Oil of Brazilian Sassafras*, was drawn up by Technical Committee ISO/TC 54, *Essential Oils*, the Secretariat of which is held by Repartição de Normalização (IGPAI).

Work on this question by the Technical Committee began in 1956 and led, in 1963, to the adoption of a Draft ISO Recommendation.

In April 1964, this Draft ISO Recommendation (No. 737) was circulated to all the ISO Member Bodies for enquiry. It was approved, subject to a few modifications of an editorial nature, by the following Member Bodies:

Belgium	Italy	Republic of South Africa
Bulgaria	Japan	Spain
Chile	Korea, Rep. of	Sweden
Czechoslovakia	Netherlands	Turkey
France	New Zealand	United Kingdom
India	Pakistan	Yugoslavia
Iran	Poland	
Israel	Portugal	

The Draft ISO Recommendation was then submitted by correspondence to the ISO Council, which decided, in July 1967, to accept it as an ISO RECOMMENDATION.

OIL OF BRAZILIAN SASSAFRAS

1. SCOPE

This ISO Recommendation specifies certain characteristics of oil of Brazilian sassafras with a view to facilitating the appreciation of its quality.

2. DEFINITION

By "oil of Brazilian sassafras" is meant the oil obtained by steam distillation of root, trunk and branches of *Ocotea pretiosa*, Mez.

3. REQUIREMENTS

3.1 Appearance

Clear, mobile liquid, which may become cloudy or crystalline at low temperatures.

3.2 Colour

Yellow to brownish-yellow.

3.3 Odour

Characteristic, safrole-like.

3.4 Relative density at 20/20 °C

Minimum : 1.083

Maximum : 1.093

3.5 Refractive index at 20 °C

Minimum : 1.5345

Maximum : 1.5365

3.6 Optical rotation at 20 °C

Range from -0.8° ($-0^{\circ} 50'$) to -2.2° ($-2^{\circ} 12'$).

3.7 Solubility in 90% (v/v) ethanol at 20 °C

One volume of the essential oil should not require more than two volumes of the diluted ethanol to give a clear solution.

3.8 Freezing point

Minimum : 7.5°C

Maximum : 9.3°C