Rock samphire

Rock samphire is a small perennial plant that thrives on the rocky coasts of the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea. Thanks to its ability to withstand the elements, it is one of the few plants able to survive in this extreme environment. Rock samphire is a halophyte, meaning it can tolerate the high salt levels in the sea spray to which it is constantly subjected. Its roots go deep into the cracks of the rocks where it grows and its fleshy leaves store water, making it highly drought-resistant.

Rock samphire is often used as an ingredient in marine-based cosmetics, most commonly in anti-ageing formulas for the face and in slimming products for the body.
COSMETIC FOCUS

Although rock samphire is found in a vast array of cosmetics, one category seems to stand out from the rest: **face products designed to reduce wrinkles and improve firmness**. Why? Because this little-known marine plant is high in chlorogenic acid, which helps fight the signs of skin ageing. Since the plant evokes the sea and is able to withstand the most extreme conditions, it would make sense to use it in an **anti-ageing care range for men**.

**Applications:** daily firmness anti-wrinkle face cream, remineralising aftershave balm, sea-fresh revitalising cleansing gel, smoothing eye contour cream, nourishing youth mask, firming hand cream, firming moisturising lotion for body ...

Rock samphire's firming properties would make it an original ingredient in **body-slimming products**.

**Applications:** firming slimming cream, fresh anti-cellulite toning gel, draining body scrub for smooth skin ...

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* for guidance purposes only
A BIT OF HISTORY

Rock samphire grows all over the Mediterranean Basin and the writers of Antiquity described its medicinal properties and culinary use. It was highly prized between the sixteenth and nineteenth centuries, especially in Great Britain, where it was pickled in brine and vinegar. In the seventeenth century, Shakespeare mentioned the dangers of gathering samphire from cliffs in King Lear. Its use as food has regained popularity in recent years. Often confused with glasswort, rock samphire is different in that it is used in aromatherapy and cosmetics. Crithmum maritimum essential oil is reputed for its skin-firming and regenerating properties, as well as for its draining action, which helps reduce cellulite. In cosmetics, it is popular with brands that tout sea-based ingredients and also in anti-ageing care for its ability to stimulate cell renewal.

ORIGINS & GROWERS

Rock samphire is a protected plant that grows wild in Brittany, where it can only be gathered in regulated quantities to prevent overharvesting. Every year in March, Herbarom submits order estimates to its partner in the Finistère for approval by Ecocert and coastal plant protection services. Authorised gatherers are given permission to pick a limited quantity of rock samphire within a clearly defined perimeter. They use pruning shears to remove only the aerial parts of the plant, leaving the roots intact. The harvest is placed in a rotating dryer for twenty minutes to obtain a residual moisture content of 15% at most, which ensures the product will store well.
PROCESSING & PRODUCT

Herbarom’s hydroglycerin extract is made from the aerial part of rock samphire and is preservative-free, making it perfect for use in organic cosmetic formulas. After extraction, the extract is filtered at 0.2 microns to remove organic residue and prevent microbiological growth. Its high organic vegetable glycerin content stabilises the extract. Glycerin, an excellent humectant found in most cosmetics, makes up 80% of the extract and minimises the risk of bacterial development. Herbarom’s experts developed this extraction and preservation process to ensure the stability of the organic rock samphire hydroglycerin extract and preserve its exceptional qualities over time.

ORGANIC ROCK SAMPHIRE HYDROGLYCERIN EXTRACT – PFVRELCRIS01

INCI: Glycerin, Aqua, Crithmum Maritimum Extract

ORGANOLEPTIC PROPERTIES: transparent, water-soluble liquid

APPLICATIONS: extract suitable for use in preservative-free hygiene and personal care product formulas

HERBAROM COMMITMENTS

Based in the Drôme, terroir of tradition and the birthplace of organic farming, Herbarom is specialised in the plant extraction and distillation professions. A true pioneer, over the past 25 years it has acquired the know-how and a human dimension to meet new demands in cosmetics, aromatherapy and perfumery.

Quality and safety

Herbarom guarantees the quality of its products based on networks of local independent producers, managed and audited by its own experts.

Eco-design

Herbarom prioritizes plants from organic farming, gentle extraction techniques and eco-design at all stages of production.

Integrity

Ecovadis awarded the Gold medal to Herbarom in 2017 for its CSR policy, reflecting the ethics and transparency of its impact on society and the environment.