

Care
Creations™

Lipofructyl™ Argan
by Beauty Creations

All of the Moroccan sun in a precious oil

 **BASF**
The Chemical Company

Lipofructyl™ Argan

A precious oil, the beauty secret of Moroccan women

Rich in poly-unsaturated fatty acids (including linoleic acid, omega-6), and natural tocopherols

Nourishing, regenerating and protective

Definition

The argan tree (*Argania spinosa*) is indigenous to South Morocco. The argan forest extends over approximately 800,000 ha and contains more than 20 million trees. It grows in a magnificent, usually mountainous, country side with arid soil. The tree can live for up to 150 or 200 years and is particularly resistant to the climatic conditions of this region thanks to its highly spread root system which allows it to draw water from a depth of more than 30 meters. It also acts as a last barrier against the encroaching desert.

Its fruits contain a very hard kernel which contains one to three seeds from which a precious oil is extracted. It is only women who are involved in the artisanal preparation of this oil which they use extensively: in cooking recipes for its delicious taste but also for many ancestral beauty rituals.

Lipofructyl™ Argan is prepared by mechanical extraction by a cooperative network, set up in 1996 by Professor Zoubida Charrouf, Rabat faculty professor. Beyond the production of oil, these cooperatives take part in making local populations aware of saving the argan forest. Within the cooperatives there are also literacy and training centres for Berber women. Thanks to very quality specific efforts this oil has been certified* “conform to the organic production method” and received the Slowfood prize in 2001.

Beauty Creations is supporting local fair trade initiatives, supplying exclusively from certified cooperatives.

Lipofructyl™ Argan LS 9779*

* Raw material certified by Ecocert Greenlife according to the Ecocert Standard for Natural and Organic Cosmetics available at <http://cosmetics.ecocert.com>: 100% of the total ingredients are from Organic Farming.

Composition

An average of 33 kg of dry argan fruits harvested from 6 to 7 trees are needed to obtain 1 liter of oil. Mean composition of the oil: *

- **Fatty acids:** 99%, of which more than 80% unsaturated fatty acids
- **Unsaponifiable substances:** 1%
- **Tocopherols:** 60 - 90 mg/100 g
- **Sterols:** 130 - 230 mg/100 g

Fatty Acid Composition

- **Palmitic acid (C16:0):** 12 - 13%
- **Stearic acid (C18:0):** 5 - 7%
- **Oleic acid (C18:1):** 43 - 49.1%
- **Linoleic acid (C18:2):** 29.3 - 36.0%
- **Linolenic acid (C18:3):** 0.1%
- **Arachidic acid (C20:0):** 0.3 - 0.5%
- **Gadoleic acid (C20:1):** 0.4 - 0.5%

Thanks to its exceptional content of unsaturated fatty acids, argan oil helps in the restoration of the hydro-lipidic film of the skin and in strengthening the barrier function of the skin. Linoleic acid, which is one of the omega-6 fatty acids, is a precursor of vitamin F. It is present at a concentration three times higher than in olive oil. As an essential fatty acid it has a key role in preserving cell integrity. The particularly high content of natural tocopherols gives the oil excellent anti-free radical and anti-stress activities and natural self-protection against oxidation.

* Bibliographic data

Cosmetic applications

Argan oil is widely used by Moroccan women for skin, hair and nail care and has been used as such for centuries. Many traditional beauty secrets are based on argan oil.

When applied to the skin, argan oil spreads easily and penetrates rapidly without leaving an oily or shiny effect. It leaves an extraordinary softness and sensory skin feel.

For the skin

- Excellent anti-free radical effect for a preventive anti-ageing effect
- Nourishes dry skin with a tendency towards eczema by helping to restore the skin barrier
- A seborregulator for greasy skin
- Regenerating for anti-stretchmark care and for accelerating healing
- As body care application this oil is ideal for massage oils and lotions

Hair use

- Fortifies hair giving it brightness, softness and a silky effect
- Nourishes and revitalises the scalp

Nail care

- Traditionally it is used in an equal part mixture with lemon juice applied to the nails in the evening
- When used regularly this mixture strengthens brittle nails.

Technical data

- **INCI name Lipofructyl™ Argan LS 9779:** Argania Spinosa Kernel Oil
- **Dose of use:** 1 - 5%
- **Aspect:** clear to slightly cloudy yellow liquid with characteristic odor
- **Solubility:** insoluble in water, soluble in oils

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