

73770 Cajeput Oil

The Cajeput Tree, *Melaleuca leucadendron* and other members of the *Melaleuca* family, is a plant occurring in India and Australia, with white, pink or red blossoms, up to 15 ms high. The cajeput oil is produced by steam-distillation of fresh leaves and branches.

The ethereal oil is of a light green color, with a pleasant camphor-like smell and an aromatic bitter taste, a specific weight of 0.908 – 0.925 (at 25°C), a refraction-index of 1.4660-1.4720 (at 20°C), an optical rotation of 0° until -4°, contains 50-65 % cineol, boils at 165°C, solves 1:1 in 80 % alcohol, burns without residue, is antiseptic, finds use in medicine, cosmetics, microscopy (oil immersion), and as a food additive and perfume.

Sources:

Wissen Media Verlag; The Penny Cyclopædia of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, by Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, Great Britain, 1843; Encyclopedia of Food & Color Additives, by George A Burdock, Burdock A Burdock - Technology - 1996 - 1104 pages