

Juniper berries Essential oil Macedonia

Juniperus communis L.



Woody
Resinous



Botanical family : Cupressaceae
Method of culture : Wildcrafted controlled
Part harvested : Fruits

CAS TSCA : 8002-68-4
INCI : Juniperus communis fruit oil

Specifications

Method for obtaining : Hydrostillation
:
Appearance : Colourless to pale yellow mobile liquid
Constituents : Alpha-pinene, myrcene, sabinene

Harvest period

J F M A M J J **A S** O N D



The common juniper is a bushy shrub that grows in the temperate and cold regions of the Northern Hemisphere. It grows wild in Europe, North America, and Asia, where it extends as far as the Himalayas. The tree adapts morphologically to its surrounding climatic conditions: it adopts a slender shape in the flatlands and becomes a creeping plant in mountainous territory. This coniferous tree, covered with sharply spiked needles, bears fleshy green fruit with the characteristic, star-shaped feature. When juniper berries mature after two years, they darken to a purple or blue-black color. They are harvested manually through careful beating of the fruit-laden branches. The ripe berries are then gathered and the unripe berries are left for the next year's harvest. They are then dried, spread out over mats. Distillation of the berries produces an essential oil with a balsamic, woody fragrance enhanced by a resinous note of pine needles.

The botanical name *Juniperus* comes from the Latin juniper, meaning "child," or junix, meaning "heifer," and the verb parere, "to bring into the world." This etymology seems to be related to the ancient, juniper-based medications used to facilitate childbirth. Many traditions believe juniper has powers to chase evil spirits from houses and protect newly married couples.

Advised uses : Aromatherapy, Perfumery, Cosmetic, Alimentary



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