

# Neroli Essential oil Morocco

*Citrus aurantium var. amara L.*



**Floral**  
Powdery



Botanical family : Rutaceae  
Method of culture : Conventional  
Part harvested : Flowers

CAS TSCA : 8016-38-4  
INCI : Citrus aurantium amara flower oil

## Specifications

Method for obtaining : Hydrodistillation  
:  
Appearance : Pale yellow to amber yellow mobile limpid liquid  
Constituents : Linalol, Limonene, beta-pinene, Linalyl acetate

## Harvest period

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



Neroli is a term reserved for the essential oil of bitter orange blossom. It was named by Countess Orsini, who loved to wear perfume made from orange blossom essence. When she married Prince Nerola, she wanted to pay tribute to her husband's land, and named his beloved fragrance Neroli. This small tree native to China is a member of the citrus family, like the orange. The Arabs imported it into the Mediterranean region in the 9th century. Today, Tunisia is the biggest producer, followed by Morocco. With the Latin name *Citrus aurantium ssp. amara*, bitter orange is prized for the sweet scent of its white flowers, which are clustered in the leaf axils. It grows in locations where it receives regular rain and exposure to sunlight. Harvesting orange blossom requires great technique and patience. The flowers are fragile, so they must be handled with care. Harvesting takes place between late April and early May, at dawn, when the scents are more concentrated. Neroli essential oil is obtained by steam distillation of the fresh flowers. The yield for this essential oil is low: 100 kilograms of flowers produces about 70 grams of essential oil. Neroli has floral notes and powdery, animalic facets, similar to the smell of leather. It is highly sought after in perfumery for its floral character, due to the presence of linalool.

Many virtues are attributed to neroli, including anti-bacterial and anti-infective properties. It is also said to combat problems associated with the menopause. It is used in some cosmetics for its regenerative and toning effects on the skin. For a long time, the region of Vallauris Golfe-Juan on the Côte d'Azur was known for its neroli plantations, but these have now almost all disappeared. Many products are made from bitter orange blossom: the absolute, the essential oil and the floral water.

Advised uses : Aromatherapy, Perfumery, Cosmetic, Alimentary



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