

Thyme red Essential oil Spain

Thymus zygis L.



Agrestic
Phenolic



Botanical family : Lamiaceae
Method of culture : Conventional
Part harvested : Flowering tops

CAS TSCA : 8007-46-3
INCI : Thymus zygis herb oil

Specifications

Method for obtaining : Hydrodistillation
:
Appearance : Amber yellow to reddish brown liquid
Constituents : Thymol (36-55%), para-cymene, gamma-terpinene

Harvest period

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



Spanish red thyme is a species closely related to common thyme, with which it is often confused. This spreading subshrub has woody, branched stems covered with small aromatic leaves that are grayish-green with rolled edges and a downy underside. When in flower, the aerial parts are covered with a multitude of small white to pale-purple flowers. Red thyme grows wild on the moors of southeastern Spain. Harvesting takes place during flowering, from June to August. Manual collection of thyme sprigs is even more tedious than harvesting rosemary or aspic. The essential oil is distilled from the semi-dry flowering stems and has an agrestic, phenolic fragrance, characteristic of the thymol chemotype. The name "red" thyme comes from the color of the essential oil when distillation is done in copper stills. Today, being distilled in stainless-steel vats, the essential oil is clear.

Thyme, native to the Mediterranean, is one of the most famous herbs in Provençal cuisine. It is an ingredient in the culinary bouquet garni, along with the bay leaf and parsley. Dedicated to Venus in ancient times, thyme was believed to bring vital energy. In the Middle Ages, thyme flowers were embroidered on knights' scarves as a symbol of virtue and courage. The bathing waters of knights and soldiers were also steeped with thyme to increase their bravery.

Advised uses : Aromatherapy, Perfumery, Cosmetic, Alimentary



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