

Everlasting picardii Absolute Spain

Helichrysum italicum subsp. picardii Boiss & Reuter



Herbaceous
Spicy



Botanical family : Asteraceae
Method of culture : Wildcrafted controlled
Part harvested : Buds

CAS TSCA : 8023-95-8
INCI : Helichrysum italicum flower extract

Specifications

Method for obtaining : Extraction of the concrete with ethanol
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Appearance : Pale yellow limpid liquid
Constituents : Alpha-pinene, limonene

Harvest period

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



Spanish everlasting is a perennial herbaceous plant of the arid soils of Spain. It grows wild in the Doñana National Park in the Andalusian province of Huelva. Its branched, twisted stems bear elongated, narrow leaves forming silvery-green bushes covered with fine, velvety hairs. The flowers are grouped in clusters at the tops of the stems. Their bright, sunny-yellow color contrasts intensely with grayish, leafy plant beneath. The flowers have translucent, glossy, dry bracts in the place of petals. The plant remains forever in bloom, thus its name "everlasting." The harvest of the aerial parts of wild plants is done manually with a sickle during the flowering period in July, a controlled activity, as the plant is a protected species. The flower heads are then extracted to make concrete and absolute. The fragrance of the absolute is herbaceous and spicy. Everlasting's characteristic odor is found in all products distilled from the plant, including the essential oils of everlastings from Spain and the Balkans.

The bright color of the everlasting's flowers and their eternal state of bloom – after flowering, the blooms dry and remain on the plant base – earned the plant respect and honor from ancient peoples, who dedicated it to the sun. The botanical name refers to this practice in imaginative ways. The genus name *Helichrysum* is derived from the Greek *helios*, meaning "sun," and *chrysum*, meaning "gold." Attributed to the gods, it was used to pay homage to the Greek god Apollo and the Roman goddess Minerva. In Spain, on Saint John's Eve, it is customary to gather everlasting – a symbol of eternity – in a local ritual.

Advised uses : Perfumery, Cosmetic



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