

**Essential oils - Principles of nomenclature (ISO
3218:2014)**

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NATIONAL FOREWORD

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ICS 71.100.60

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English Version

Essential oils - Principles of nomenclature (ISO 3218:2014)

Huiles essentielles - Principes de nomenclature (ISO
3218:2014)Ätherische Öle - Grundsätze der Nomenklatur (ISO
3218:2014)

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EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION
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Foreword

This document (EN ISO 3218:2014) has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 54 "Essential oils".

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by February 2015, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by February 2015.

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Endorsement notice

The text of ISO 3218:2014 has been approved by CEN as EN ISO 3218:2014 without any modification.

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Essential oils — Principles of nomenclature

1 Scope

This International Standard lays down the principles to be adopted for designating essential oils in English and French, e.g. for the labelling and/or the marking.

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 4720, *Essential oils — Nomenclature*

3 Principles

3.1 Unless stated otherwise, the principles set out below are applicable in both English and French. In each example, the English term is given first and is followed by the corresponding French term in brackets.

The name of the essential oil shall be sufficiently clear and unequivocal so that there is no risk of confusion regarding:

- the botanical origin of the plant;
- the part of the plant used;
- its phenological stage;
- the processing operations, if any, prior to obtaining the essential oil (predrying, fermentation, etc.);
- the method of obtaining the essential oil.

These remarks only concern the name of the essential oil. The correct botanical name of the species and if necessary, of the plant variety, as well as the details relating to the origin and the method of production of the essential oil are given in the corresponding international standards, in the Scope and Terms and definitions clauses.

As far as the botanical name is concerned, refer to ISO 4720.

3.2 In order to distinguish essential oils from fatty oils, the expression “Essential oil of ... [Huile essentielle de ...]” shall be used to describe the former.

NOTE ISO/TC 54 decided to adopt the terminology “Essential oil of ...” instead of “Oil of ...” for all the international standards published by the committee. This change will be introduced progressively when reviewing the international standards and for all new drafts.

3.3 The words “Essential oil of... [Huile essentielle de ...]” will be followed by the commonly accepted common name of the plant and plant part if several plant parts may deliver essential oils (see also [3.7](#)).

EXAMPLE 1 Essential oil of lavender [Huile essentielle de lavande].

EXAMPLE 2 Essential oil of parsley fruits [Huile essentielle de fruits de persil].