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## Essential oils — Nomenclature

*Huiles essentielles — Nomenclature*



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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

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Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 54, *Essential oils*.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition, ISO 4720:2009, which has been technically revised with additions, deletions and the replacement of the botanical names of some plants.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at [www.iso.org/members.html](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

## Introduction

This document gives a list of the botanical names of plants used for the production of essential oils, in order to harmonize their nomenclature.

In addition to this document, ISO/TC 54, *Essential oils*, has established ISO/TR 21092<sup>[87]</sup>, in which different numbers (CAS-USA, EINECS, CAS-EINECS, Fema, EC and FDA numbers) are listed for the characterization of essential oils.

Characterization of essential oils by using a single number (e.g. CAS number) would not be complete and it could lead to ambiguity and misunderstandings.

That is the reason why, through ISO/TR 21092<sup>[87]</sup>, ISO/TC 54 intends to provide the users of essential oils with useful information for a complete characterization of essential oils included in this document.



## Essential oils — Nomenclature

### 1 Scope

This document gives a list of the botanical names of plants used for the production of essential oils, together with the common names of the essential oils.

An alphabetical index of common names of essential oils is included at the end of this document.

### 2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

### 3 Terms and definitions

No terms and definitions are listed in this document.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

### 4 Nomenclature for essential oils

A list of the botanical names of plants used for the production of essential oils, together with the common names of the essential oils, is given in [Table 1](#).

**Table 1 — Nomenclature for essential oils**

| No. | Botanical name of plant  | Family     | English common name (essential oil of ...) | Reference     | Part of the plant used            |
|-----|--|------------|--|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1   | <i>Abelmoschus moschatus</i> Medik.<br>syn. <i>Hibiscus abelmoschus</i> L. | Malvaceae  | ambrette seed                              |               | seed                              |
| 2   | <i>Abies alba</i> Mill.  | Pinaceae   | silver fir                                 |               | leaf (needle), terminal branchlet |
| 3   | <i>Abies balsamea</i> (L.) Mill.   | Pinaceae   | fir needle<br>fir balsam, Canadian         |               | leaf (needle), terminal branchlet |
| 4   | <i>Abies sibirica</i> Ledeb.   | Pinaceae   | fir needle, Siberian                       | ISO 10869[21] | leaf (needle), terminal branchlet |
| 5   | <i>Achillea millefolium</i> L.   | Asteraceae | yarrow<br>milfoil                          |               | aerial parts                      |
| 6   | <i>Acorus calamus</i> L.   | Araceae    | sweet flag<br>calamus                      |               | rhizome                           |
| 7   | <i>Agathosma betulina</i> (P.J. Bergius) Pillans                           | Rutaceae   | buchu                                      |               | leaves                            |
| 8   | <i>Allium cepa</i> L.  | Alliaceae  | onion                                      |               | bulb                              |