



ALCHEMY

ingredients

SAPOGEL® Q

Palm Free Balm Textures

Most balms are structured using waxes combined with oils.

Sapogel® Q balms obtain their structure from saponins forming an oil and glycerine/water layered system, giving a similar appearance and skin-feel to waxy balms, without the disadvantages.

## ADVANTAGES:

- No drag from the wax in the formulation
- No heating of the formulation to high temperatures which can help protect the oil
- Easy cleaning of the vessel
- An ability to add water or oil soluble components



**INCI:** Glycerine, Aqua, *Quillaja saponaria* Wood Extract, *Saponaria officinalis* Leaf/ Root Extract

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Sapogel® Q is a liquid blend that allows the formulator to make stable, translucent, rich balms with the texture of lanolin or petroleum jelly.

## FEATURES:

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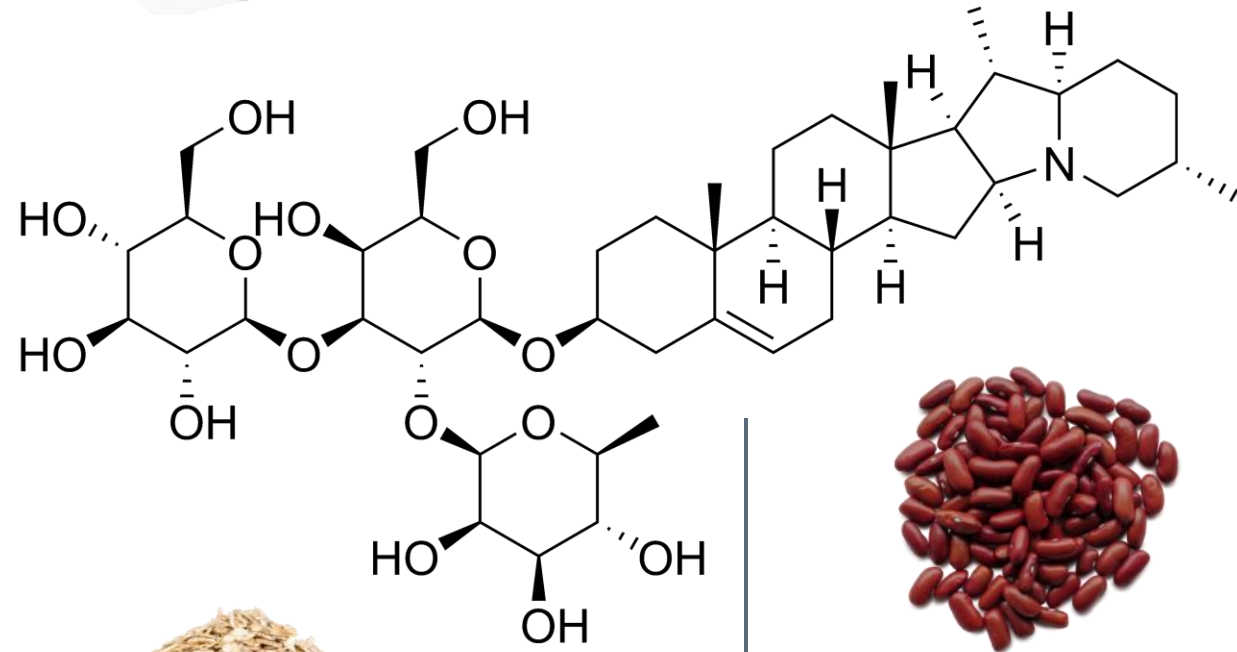
- Palm free
- Safe and mild
- COSMOS approved
- Globally compliant
- Cold process



# WHAT ARE SAPONINS?

Saponins are naturally occurring molecules found in many different plants.

- Natural emulsifiers / surfactants
- Palm Free
- Safe, often food grade ingredients
- Many types have been identified
- Have health benefits
- Kind and mild to skin



Hydrophilic Part

Hydrophobic Part

Quillaja trees grow in a managed plantation in Chile, made up of trees that are systematically pruned to achieve large amounts of biomass – the whole plant is used in the extraction of Quillaja saponins.

The Quillaja is classed as 'wild harvested' and the plantation has a FSC certificate showing its commitment to sustainability.

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- New trees are constantly planted as they take 15 years to achieve maturity.
  - Prunings are taken from the mature trees.



## STEP 1

Prunings taken from the mature trees on the plantation.



## STEP 2

Biomass soaked in hot water to extract saponins.



## STEP 3

Filtration and pasteurisation step.



## STEP 4

Drying of Biomass in the sun.



BIOMASS BURNED TO HEAT WATER



Soapwort is a common flowering plant that grows in many regions of the world and, for millennia, has been widely used by mankind for personal washing and washing clothing. It was grown by the Romans and planted around Roman baths.

The saponins in Soapwort are very gentle and suitable for sensitive skin and babies.

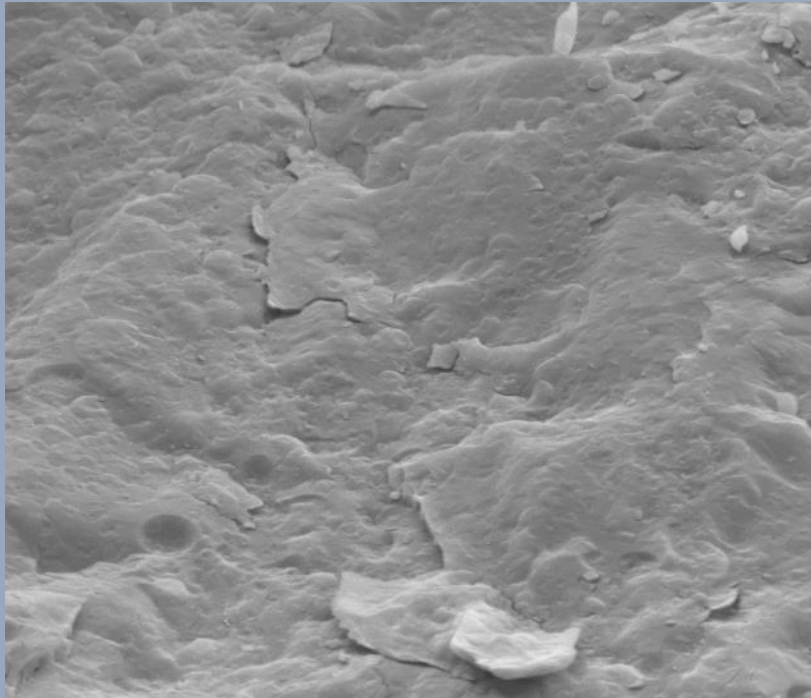
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The soapwort used in Sapogel® Q is wild harvested and both roots and leaves are extracted for the saponins.



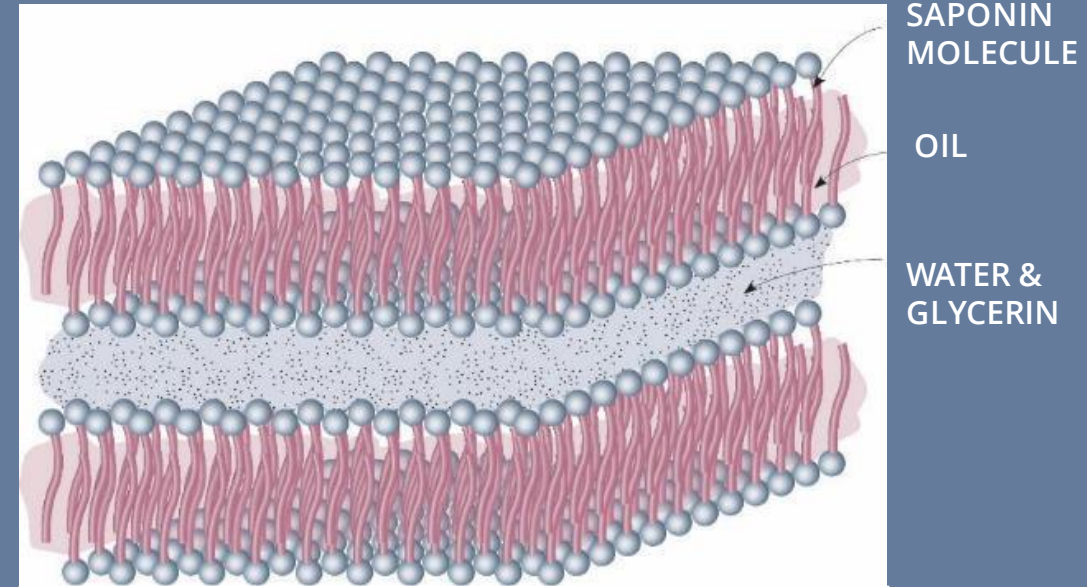
## LAYERED STRUCTURE



VacMode	Det	Mag	WD	HV	Spot	Pressure	10.0µm
High vacuum	ETD	6000x	10.4 mm	10.0 kV	3.0	---	Electron Microscopy Lab

- Layered structure, no individual oil droplets visible.

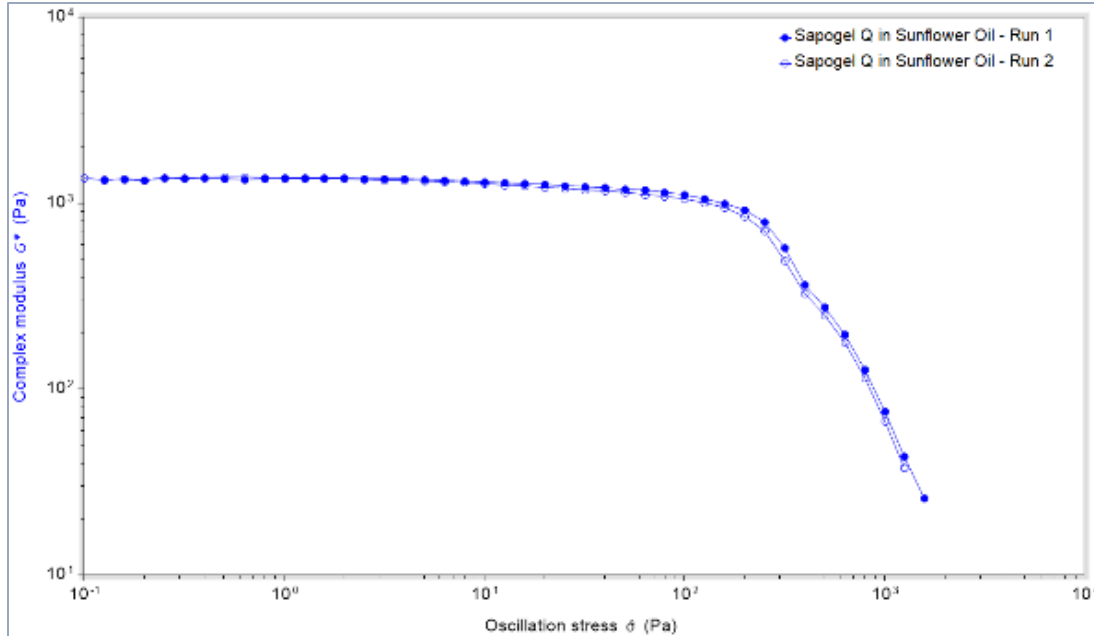
## BALM STRUCTURE



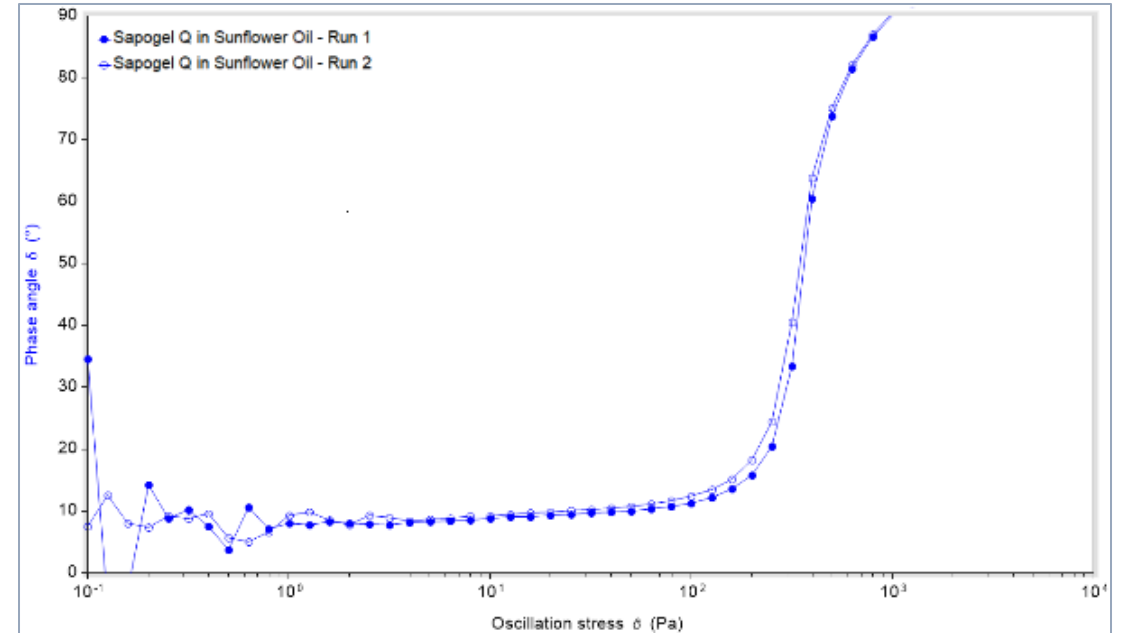
- Hypothesis of a layered structure with alternating layers of oil, water/glycerine and saponin.
- Balms have a 'skin identical' structure.



Sapogel® Q Balms are classed as **Structured Liquids**, and have some solid and liquid characteristics. Complex Modulus  $G^*$  measures the **rigidity** of the structure, while Phase Angle  $\delta$  measures the **elasticity**. The graphs below shows how these change when oscillation stress is increased beyond the yield point.



Complex Modulus (Pa) v Oscillation Stress (Pa)



Phase Angle (°) v Oscillation Stress (Pa)

At low oscillation stress (e.g. at rest in a jar)  $\Rightarrow$  Balm has a rigid structure with high elasticity.

At high oscillation stress (e.g. when applied to skin)  $\Rightarrow$  Balm loses its rigid and elastic structure and flows as a liquid.

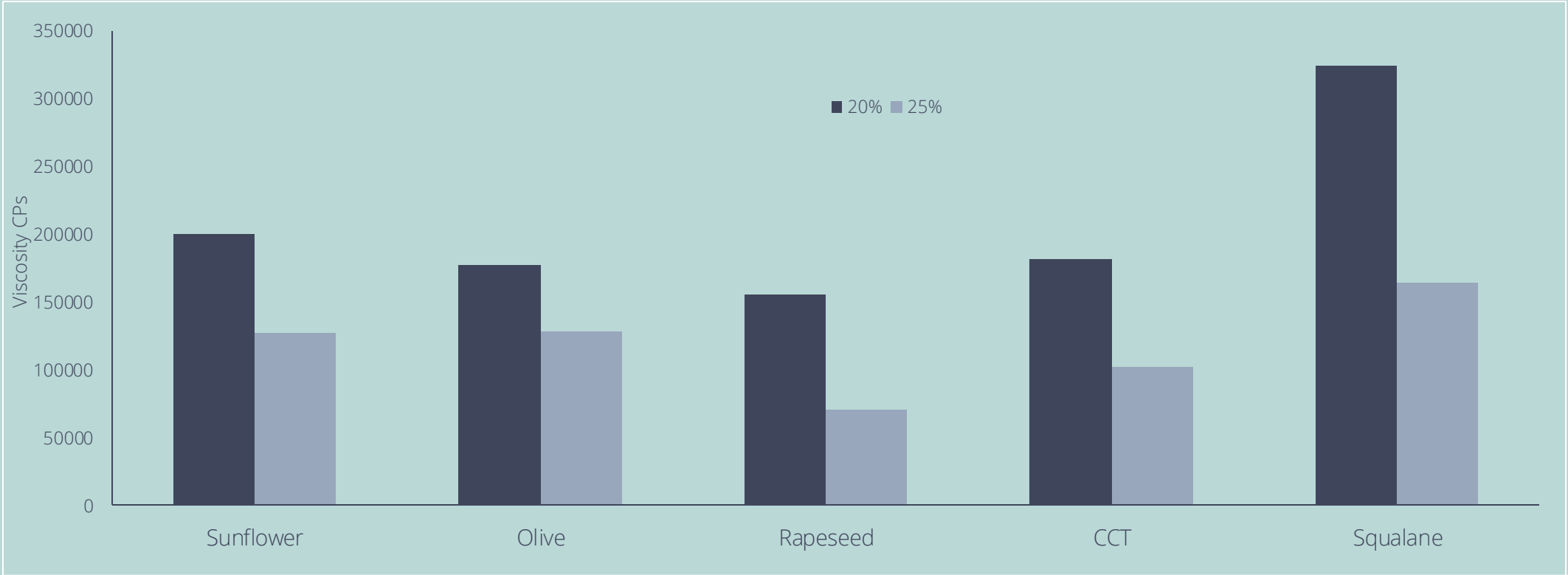
The Yield Point has been measured at 252 Pa.



<b>PHASE A</b>	
Sapogel® Q	20%*
<b>PHASE B</b>	
Oil** (Veg Oil, ester, silicone)	80%
<b>PHASE C</b>	
Other additives (perfume, colour etc.)	Qs

\*Average Amount. 15% = firm balm; 25% = Honey texture.  
\*\*Texture and Viscosity are highly dependent on the oil used.

Viscosity and transparency of Sapogel® Q Balms with various oils



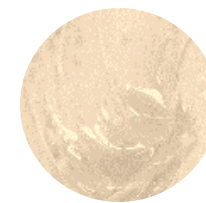
Opaque / Translucent



Opaque



Opaque



Almost transparent



Transparent

# SAPOGEL® Q: PROCESS FOR MAKING A BALM

## STEP 1



Weigh the Sapogel® Q and oil phases separately.



## STEP 2



It is recommended to use an overhead mixer such as that pictured.



## STEP 3



Immerse the mixer head in the Sapogel® Q and start the mixer.

## STEP 4



Start incorporating the oil slowly, dropwise at first, the mixture should turn pale.



## STEP 5



Carry on adding oil fairly slowly until it is all added (approx. 5 mins for 200g)



FINAL VISCOSITY IS REACHED 24 HOURS LATER

## The main requirements are:

- Blades must be covered by the Sapogel® (initial) phase before oil is added.
- The blades must mix the whole bulk (avoid homogenisers which only mix locally).
- The mixer must be able to mix high viscosity products.
- There must be a method for introducing oil as the second step, in a gradual process such as a second tank. Oil can also be added in portions by hand.
- If using solid butters, these must be melted first in the oil phase, otherwise it is a cold process.

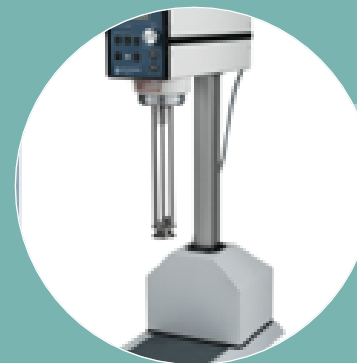
There is no specific rule for scaling up Sapogel® balms as equipment will vary:



LARGE SCALE EG. FRYMA  
KORUMA



SMALL SCALE EG. HOBART



NOT RECOMMENDED  
FOR SCALING UP!



## GLYCERINE

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- Thins down the gel (useful for 15% gels)
- Gives a flowable, honey like texture.

## WATER

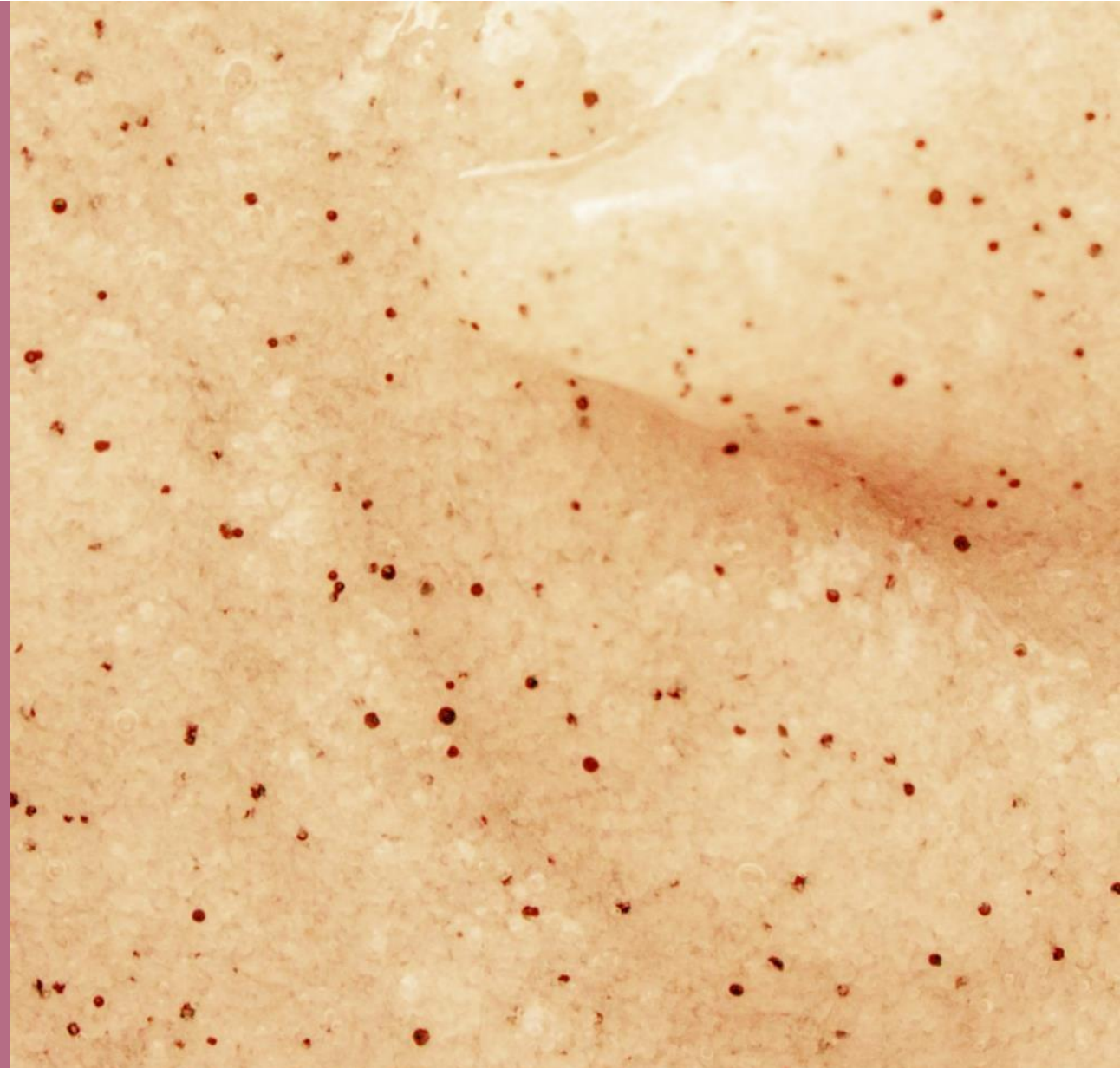
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- Up to 4% can be used, more than this can cause instability.
- Thins down the gel and gives it an opaque appearance.
- Can make concentrated serums

## POWDER / EXFOLIATORS

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- Easily dispersed in the gel.
- Acidic / alkaline exfoliators can also be used.
- Salt and sugar scrubs can be made easily.





## HEAT STABILITY

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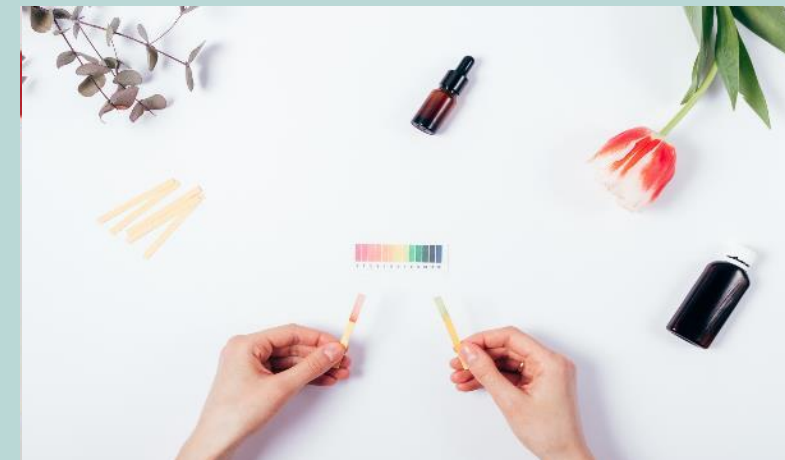
- Gels stored at 50°C for 3 months: Full stability for duration of test.



## FREEZE / THAW

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- Gels were placed in a domestic freezer (ca. -10°C) for 24 hours. They were removed for 24 hours and allowed to thaw to 20°C.
- Above repeated 3 times: Full stability for duration of test.



## ACIDS / BASES

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- Citric Acid solution and Sodium Hydroxide solution were added to gels and no adverse effects were seen.

It is for the formulator and their safety assessor to decide whether preservatives need to be used and often depends on the packaging and use of the product.

A BP challenge test was carried out on a typical 20% Sapogel<sup>®</sup> Q balm with sunflower oil:

Test organism	Inoculum Level cfu g/ml product	Recovery cfu g or ml				
		0	2 days	7 days	14 days	28 days
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> ATCC 9027	2.6e+06	1.7e+06	<100	<10	<10	<10
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> ATCC 6538	2.5e+06	3.0e+06	3.3e+05	<10	<10	<10
<i>Escherichia coli</i> ATCC 8739	2.7e+06	2.6e+06	<100	<10	<10	<10
<i>Candida albicans</i> ATCC 10231	2.5e+06	3.4e+06	NT	<100	<10	<10
<i>Aspergillus brasiliensis</i> ATCC 16404	6.3e+05	6.0e+05	NT	2.1e+03	<10	<10

- Type A criteria was reached for all organisms apart from *S.Aureus*, where Type B was reached (very marginal).
- No preservative should be needed for closed packaging.





## Texture benefits:

- Smooth, firm balms, no drag
- Have a gel like texture – easy to pick up
- Low potential of irritation from ingredients, very mild.
- Most formulations can be made cold.
- Balms are versatile – can be leave on or rinse off
- Compatible with many cosmetic ingredients

## Application examples:

BALM CLEANSER



LIP BALM / MASK



MUSCLE BALM



SOLID COSMETICS



CLAY MASK



SCRUB





A rich mask to moisturise lips, overnight or as a lip balm.

PHASE	TRADE NAME	INCI	% W/W
A	Sapogel® Q	<i>Glycerin, Aqua, Quillaja saponaria</i> Wood Extract, <i>Saponaria officinalis</i> (Soapwort) Leaf/Root Extract	20.00
B	Sunflower Oil	<i>Helianthus annuus</i> (Sunflower) Seed Oil	79.25
C	Geranium Organic Oil	<i>Pelargonium graveolens</i> (Rose Geranium) Oil	0.50
C	1% Sol. FD&C Red 2	<u>CI 16185</u>	0.25

**Appearance:** Thick, pale pink gel

**Viscosity:** 150,000 cps

# SOLID CLEANSER

ALCHEMY

**Appearance:** Cream bar

**Viscosity:** N/A



A bar cleanser, warm in hands and transfer oil to face or body. Easily rinsed.

PHASE	TRADE NAME	INCI	% W/W
A	Sapogel® Q	<i>Glycerin, Aqua, Quillaja Saponaria Wood Extract, Saponaria officinalis (Soapwort) Leaf/Root Extract</i>	18.00
A	Primesurf SCI 85-P	Sodium Cocoyl Isethionate	2.00
B	Stearic Acid	Stearic Acid	4.00
B	Cetyl Alcohol	Cetyl Alcohol	4.00
B	Sunflower Wax	Helianthus Annuus (Sunflower) Seed Wax	8.00
B	Shea Butter	<i>Butyrospermum parkii</i> (Shea) Butter	30.00
B	Cocoa Butter	<i>Theobroma Cacao</i> (Cocoa) Seed Butter	10.00
B	Caprylic/Capric Triglycerides	Caprylic/Capric Triglycerides	23.50
B	'Coconut' Fragrance	Parfum	0.5



# VANILLA BODY BALM

**Appearance:** Off-white balm  
**Viscosity:** 200,000 cps



A rich balm high in butters with a non grainy texture. Suitable for all areas of the body.

PHASE	TRADE NAME	INCI	% W/W
A	Sapogel® Q	Glycerin, Aqua, <i>Quillaja saponaria</i> Wood Extract, <i>Saponaria officinalis</i> (Soapwort) Leaf/Root Extract	20.00
B	Shea Butter	<i>Butyrospermum parkii</i> (Shea) Butter	40.00
B	Cocoa Butter	<i>Theobroma cacao</i> (Cocoa) Seed Butter	2.50
B	Sunflower Oil	<i>Helianthus annuus</i> (Sunflower) Seed Oil	14.90
B	Caprylic/Capric Triglyceride	Caprylic/Capric Triglyceride	22.50
C	Spice Vanilla Fragrance	Parfum	0.10

# BROWN SUGAR LIP SCRUB

**Appearance:** Brown scrub

**Viscosity:** 150,000 cps



A balm-based sugar scrub suitable for lips or other body parts.

PHASE	TRADE NAME	INCI	% W/W
A	Sapogel® Q	<i>Glycerin, Aqua, Quillaja saponaria</i> Wood Extract, <i>Saponaria officinalis</i> (Soapwort) Leaf/Root Extract	18.00
B	Sunflower Oil	<i>Helianthus annuus</i> (Sunflower) Seed Oil	21.75
B	Rapeseed Oil	<i>Brassica campestris</i> Seed Oil	20.00
B	Olive Oil	<i>Olea europea</i> (Olive) Fruit Oil	20.00
C	Caramel Flavour	<i>Aroma</i>	0.25
C	Brown sugar	Sucrose	20.00



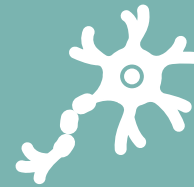
Sustainable ingredients and processing method.



Stable and reliable.



Excellent compatibility with other cosmetic ingredients.



Make balms without heat or wax.



Moisturising non drag textures.



Versatile range of balms can be made from cleansing to massage.



ALCHEMY

ingredients

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THANK YOU