

37250 Alkanet Roots

C.I. Natural Red 20 german: Alkanna Wurzeln frz.: racines d'alkanna

Alkanet is a natural dyestuff extracted from the root of a European plant, Alkanna tinctoria, which grows in Southern Europe such as Hungary, Turkey and France.

The coloring agent is alkanine. Small amounts of alkanane are also contained, as well as two acids belonging to group of naphthochinones: anchus acid, also called anchus red, and alkana acid (alkana red). Alkanine is not soluble in water, however it is very good soluble in alcohol, ether, oils, chloroform und glacial acetic acid giving a red color. It is also soluble in alkalis giving a blue color. A further extract can be made with isopropanol or with petroleum ether. Wool, cotton or silk can be colored with this extract on aluminium mordants giving nice violet hues, and with iron mordants green hues are achieved. Unfortunately the resistance to light or to alkalis of these colorants is not very good.

The lightfastness is 3 to 4.

Certificate of Analysis

Product: Akannae radix

Purity: Impurities: < 2.0 % Set point: max. 2.0 %

Loss on drying: 11.07 % Set point: max. 12.0 % Ashes: 7.67 % Set point: max. 14.0 %

Comments: Product contains traces of aflatoxins which are below the upper limit permitted in

foodstuffs.