SNAIL SLIME EXTRACT

General information

Snail Slime

The snail, (Helix Aspera) is a terrestrial gastropod mollusc with a spiral calcareous shell, prolonged body and horns on the head. It is edible and when it moves it leaves mucus or slime, which facilitates its movement. The slime on solidifying allows it to adhere to objects and insolate itself from unfavourable and dry environments.
The use of the snail and its slime, have a long tradition in popular medicine, which goes back to remote times. Nowadays a series of investigations are being carried out on the active components and its use in cosmetics.
SNAIL SLIME EXTRACT is obtained after they have undergone a prolonged fast. The snails are then stimulated to obtain the slime, and finally it is submitted to processes to standardize its physical-chemical and microbiological constants.
The principle actives of snail slime are the following:

- Proteins, with a similar composition to human dermis.
- Vitamins, the most notable are A, C, E and some belonging to the B group.
- Controls the action of enzymes, which produce the degradation of collagen and elastin.
- Allantoin, acts a notable regenerating element.
- Alpha-hidroxyacids, among the most notable are glycolic, citric, malic and lactic. They produce a peeling effect on the skin.
- Minerals and oligoelements especially calcium salts which act as an essential factor in hardening the shell.
- Mucopolisacararids, give the slime its typical lubricating and slippery feel. It has great moisturizing properties.
  Antiproteases control the action of cutaneous antiproteases, enzymes that cause the biochemical degradation of the collagen and elastin, limiting their activity to the strictly necessary.

Application and dosage

The most singular and interesting properties of the SNAIL SLIME EXTRACT are listed below:

- Regenerates the skin after wounds and burns or exposure to UV radiation.
- Reduces wrinkles and conceals blemishes and scars.
- Softens the epidermis thanks to its peeling effect.
- Fades skin blemishes.
- Has a positive effect on striae/stretch marks.
- Acts as an anti-cellulite
- Helps to control vascular problems.
- Emollient for skin and hair.
- Lenitive and cellular growth factor

The recommended dosage to be used is between 0·5% and 5%.

Incompatibilities

THE SNAIL SLIME EXTRACT is stable at Ph values of between 3·5 and7·5.It should be incorporated at temperatures not superior to 45ºC.It must not be added to preparations which contain cationic tensioactives.

9. Physical and chemical properties

Aspect: thick translucent slightly yellowish liquid with a weak characteristic odour.
pH: between 5,5 and 7,5
Density at 20º C: 1.010-1.060
Solubility: soluble in water, tensioactives and hydro-alcoholic mixtures and hydro-alcoholic mixtures of low and medium concentration.
Proteins: between 0,050 and 0,150%
Total microbial content: max. 300 ufc/g.
Pathogen germs: absent in 1 g.
Fungi and yeast :< 200 micro organisms/gram.

Physiological tolerance

Its LD_{50} for rats is superior to 3000 mg/Kg. In a 10% solution, it is not an irritant in the Draize test. At the recommended concentrations for usage, it is not a primary irritant or a sensitizer

Storage

It should be kept in its original recipient, tightly closed, away from direct sunlight. It is not recommended that it should be kept more than one year without being used.

INCI Denomination

Helix aspersa

CTFA Denomination

Snail Extract