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# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD



# 3033

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INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION • МЕЖДУНАРОДНАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ ПО СТАНДАРТИЗАЦИИ • ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DE NORMALISATION

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## Oil of spearmint

*Huile essentielle de menthe  
crépue*

First edition – 1975-02-15

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[ISO 3033:1975](#)

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**Descriptors** : essential oils, spearmint, materials specifications.

## FOREWORD

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards institutes (ISO Member Bodies). The work of developing International Standards is carried out through ISO Technical Committees. Every Member Body interested in a subject for which a Technical Committee has been set up 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.

Draft International Standards adopted by the Technical Committees are circulated to the Member Bodies for approval before their acceptance as International Standards by the ISO Council.

International Standard ISO 3033 was drawn up by Technical Committee ISO/TC 54, *Essential oils*, and circulated to the Member Bodies in December 1972.

It has been approved by the Member Bodies of the following countries :

Australia	France	Romania
Belgium	Italy	South Africa, Rep. of
Brazil	Japan	Thailand
Bulgaria	Netherlands	Turkey
Czechoslovakia	New Zealand	United Kingdom
Egypt, Arab Rep. of	Portugal	Yugoslavia

No Member Body expressed disapproval of the document.

# Oil of spearmint

## 1 SCOPE AND FIELD OF APPLICATION

This International Standard specifies certain characteristics of oil of spearmint, with a view to facilitating the assessment of its quality.

## 2 REFERENCES

ISO/R 210, *Essential oils – Packing.*

ISO/R 211, *Essential oils – Labelling and marking containers.*

ISO 212, *Essential oils – Sampling.*

ISO/R 279, *Determination of the density and relative density of essential oils.*

ISO/R 280, *Determination of the refractive index of essential oils.*

ISO/R 592, *Determination of the optical rotation of essential oils.*

ISO/R 875, *Determination of solubility of essential oils in ethanol.*

ISO 1271, *Essential oils – Determination of carbonyl compounds content – Free hydroxylamine method.*

## 3 DEFINITION

**oil of spearmint** : The oil obtained by steam distillation of the flowering tops of *Mentha spicata* Linnaeus, of which only the varieties of hybrids yielding an essential oil of high carvone content are considered for the purpose of this International Standard.

## 4 REQUIREMENTS

### 4.1 Appearance

Clear, mobile liquid.

### 4.2 Colour

Almost colourless to pale greenish-yellow.

### 4.3 Odour and flavour

Giving an impression of freshness and recalling the odour of the leaf.

### 4.4 Relative density at 20/20 °C

Minimum : 0,920

Maximum : 0,937

### 4.5 Refractive index at 20 °C

Minimum : 1,485 0

Maximum : 1,491 0

### 4.6 Optical rotation at 20 °C

Range from  $-60^{\circ}$  to  $+45^{\circ}$

### 4.7 Solubility in 80 % (V/V) ethanol at 20 °C

The solubility in 80 % (V/V) ethanol shall be 1 volume in 1 volume to give a clear solution.

### 4.8 Carbonyl value

Minimum : 200, corresponding to a carvone content of 55 %.

## 5 SAMPLING

See ISO 212.

Minimum volume of final sample : 50 ml.

## 6 METHODS OF TEST

### 6.1 Relative density at 20/20 °C

See ISO/R 279.

### 6.2 Refractive index at 20 °C

See ISO/R 280.

### 6.3 Optical rotation at 20 °C

See ISO/R 592.

### 6.4 Solubility in 80 % (V/V) ethanol at 20 °C

See ISO/R 875.

**6.5 Carbonyl compounds content, expressed as carvone**

See ISO 1271.

Mass of sample : 1 g

Maintain in reflux for 3 h

**7 PACKING, LABELLING AND MARKING**

See ISO/R 210 and ISO/R 211.

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