

## LEBENSMITTELCHEMISCHE GESELLSCHAFT

- Fachgruppe in der GESELLSCHAFT DEUTSCHER CHEMIKER -  
Arbeitsgruppe Kosmetische Mittel

**Data sheets for the evaluation of the effectiveness of active ingredients in cosmetic products**

### Honey

#### Raw materials used in cosmetic products

Raw material	Trivial name	CAS No.	INCI name [1]
Honey Honey, filtered	Honig, Honey	8028-66-8	Mel
Honey extract (e.g. aqueous or containing propylene glycol)	Honigextrakt Honey Extract	91052-92-5	Mel Extract*

\*The INCI designation has not yet been published in the Official Journal of the European Communities.

As a natural product, honey varies in composition, but the main components are carbohydrates. The total sugar content is about 80%, of which glucose accounts for about 27-36% and fructose about 33-42% [2]. In mixed honeys, these components are present in approximately a 1:1.2 ratio. When non-aqueous solvents are used, deviations from the natural composition can occur.

#### Effects described

Honey is used in cosmetic products for cleaning and for skincare and haircare. The working group currently has no sufficiently confirmed scientific data to evaluate an antibacterial and moisture-retaining efficacy. If only honey flavouring is used for perfuming, claims should clearly indicate this.

**Note:** The general notes and recommendations in this data sheet series must be taken into account along with the applicable legal standards.

**Literature:** [1] **Opinion** on the first update of the inventory of ingredients employed in cosmetic products adopted by the SCCNFP (as of June 28, 2000);

[www.europa.eu.int/comm/dg24/](http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/dg24/)

[2] Horn, H., Lüllmann, C.: Das große Honigbuch, Ehrenwirth Verlag GmbH, Munich 1992