

tints of nature

Tints of Nature – Further Information on Propylene Glycol

At Tints of Nature we have become aware that there is a degree of concern and confusion over the usage of **propylene glycol** in several of our products, namely the Tints of Nature color gel, the protective oil that comes as part of the Lightener Kit, the Conditioner and the Sulfate Free Shampoo. We hope that the following information will serve to assuage that concern and confusion. As always, as a company we strive to manufacture our products as naturally as possible while still allowing them to maintain their full effectiveness.

Propylene glycol is also known as 1,2-propanediol and is one of the most commonly used ingredients in personal care products. It is an organic compound (i.e. its molecules contain carbon and hydrogen), and is usually a tasteless, odorless, and colorless clear oily liquid that is hygroscopic and miscible with water. It is generally manufactured by the hydration of propylene oxide.

Some common uses for propylene glycol are as follows:

- As a moisturizer in medicines, cosmetics, food, and tobacco products
- As a medical and sexual lubricant (A.K.A. "personal lubricant")
- As a flavoring agent in Angostura and Orange bitters
- As a solvent for food colors and flavorings
- As a humectant food additive, labeled as E number E1520
- As a carrier in fragrance oils
- As a food grade antifreeze
- In smoke machines to make artificial smoke for use in firefighters' training and theatrical productions
- In hand sanitizers, antibacterial lotions, and saline solutions
- As a main ingredient in many cosmetic products, including baby wipes, bubble baths, and shampoos

Safety

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has determined **propylene glycol** to be "generally recognized as safe" for use in food, cosmetics, and medicines. Like ethylene glycol, **propylene glycol** affects the body's chemistry by increasing the amount of acid. **Propylene glycol** is metabolized into lactic acid, which occurs naturally as muscles are exercised, while ethylene glycol is metabolized into oxalic acid, which is toxic.

For further information please visit: <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/tfacts96.html>

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