IS : 10933 – 1984

Indian Standard

SPECIFICATION FOR MYRISTIC ACID

1. SCOPE

1.1 This standard prescribes the requirements and the methods of sampling and test for myristic acid.

FOREWORD

0.1 This Indian Standard was adopted by the Indian Standards Institution on 30 March 1984, after the draft finalized by the Oils and Oilseeds Sectional Committee had been approved by the Chemical Division Council and the Agricultural and Food Products Division council.

0.2 Myristic acid is a saturated fatty acid having 14 carbon atoms. Its molecular formula is $CH_3 (CH_2)_{12}$ COOH with 228·4 as its molecular weight. It is a crystalline solid with a faint characteristic fatty odour. It is a major fatty acid of nutmeg butter and khakhan fat (*Salvadora oleoides Decnc).* It is present to the extent of 17 percent in coconut (*Cocos nucifera Linn.),* palm kernel (*Elaeis guineensis Jacq-)* and babassu (*Orbignya martiana, 0. oleifcra* or *0. speciosa)* oils. Commercially, myristic acid is obtained by fractional distillation of coconut, palm kernel and babassu oil fatty acids. By repeated fractionation steps, myristic acid of 99 percent purity can be made.

0.3 The major use of myristic acid is in cosmetics like shaving cream, shampoos, etc. A sizable quantity is used for making isopropyl myristate, which is an important ingredient in cosmetics.

0.4 For the purpose of deciding whether a particular requirement of this standard is complied with, the final value, observed or calculated, expressing the result of a test or analysis, shall be rounded off in accordance with IS : 2-1960*. The number of significant places retained in the rounded off value should be the same as that of the specified value in this standard.

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*Rules for rounding off numerical values *(revised).*