



PRODUCT DATA SHEET

Amazon Nut Oil (Brazil Nut Oil)



Amazon nut (or Brazil nut) oil extracted through a cold pressed method

Ingredients: Brazil Nuts

Origin: Madre de Dios (Perú)

Certifications:



AMAZON NUT

Amazon nuts (*Bertholletia excelsa*), also known as Brazil nuts, are a native species from the high jungle area of the Amazon rainforest, and are principally found in Peru, Bolivia and Brazil. Madre de Dios is the only region in Peru where the density of Amazon nut trees is high enough for the sustainable extraction of their fruits. Thanks to this unique ecosystem, the region of Madre de Dios has won the title of “National Capital of Biodiversity”. These trees can grow up to 60 m, being among the tallest in the Amazon forest. They are essential in the conservation of Amazon rainforests since they can only survive and yield fruits in an unexploited ecosystem. According to the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)’s classification, the Amazon nut forests belong to the category of high conservation value forests (HCVF), since they are wooded areas with significant concentrations of biodiversity value, and they host rare ecosystems and endangered species, provide resources to the people who live around these areas (watershed protection, erosion control, etc.), and are fundamental to meeting basic needs of local communities.

Being a wild harvest, non-timber forest product (NTFP), the use of Amazon nuts has a low impact on the ecosystem. There is only an average of 0.7 trees per ha of forest.

The fruits of Amazon nut trees are round, coconut-like shells of 10-15 cm diameter, in which grow nuts (seeds), each wrapped in another, thinner and hard, wood-like shell. Each coconut contains approximately 18-20 nuts. Amazon nuts naturally regenerate thanks to the work of a unique species of rodent, called agouti, which is able to break the hard shell that contains the nuts. Once they satisfy their hunger, these rodents bury the remaining seeds, which subsequently germinate, in a natural process of regeneration.

CANDELA'S PRODUCERS

During the rainy season (between December and March), coconuts fall from the trees and Amazon nut gatherers (castañeros) come to live in the middle of the Amazon forest, to search for and collect the coconuts. Since its foundation in 1989, CANDELA has been working directly with more than 400 castañeros and has reinforced their relationship, by supporting them in achieving the highest quality standards, accompanying association processes, training leaders, promoting legality in the exploitation of forests, and carrying out projects to improve their welfare.

Since 2001, CANDELA has been implementing an Organic Program aimed at training castañeros in the sustainable use of forest resources. The program monitors and ensures compliance with the organic and biotrade principles at each stage of the production process and awards a monetary premium to gatherers. Thanks to the Organic Program, CANDELA has certified organic more than 200.000 ha of Amazon rainforest.

OIL COMPOSITION

Odor: Characteristic

Color: Yellow light

Taste: Characteristic

Principal Composition: Linoleic acid ($\Omega 6$) and Oleic acid ($\Omega 9$)

TECHNICAL DATA

INCI Name: Bertholletia excelsa seed oil

CAS Number: 356065-50-4

EINECS Number: 310-127-6

Specific Gravity: 0.91

Flash Point: 236°C

FATTY ACID PROFILE

| Fatty Acid | Composition % |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Palmitic Acid C16: 0 | 13.0 - 14.1 |
| Palmitoleic Acid C16: 1 | 0.29 - 0.3 |
| Stearic Acid C18: 0 | 8.91 - 11.8 |
| Oleic Acid (Omega 9) C18: 1 | 29.1 - 39.3 |
| Linoleic Acid (Omega 6) C18: 2 | 36.1 - 46.55 |
| Araquidic Acid C20: 0 | 0.26 - 0.50 |
| Gadoleic Acid C20: 1 | 0.09 - 0.2 |

POTENCIAL USE

Cosmetic Brazil nut oil is rich in selenium and magnesium, providing antioxidant effects which help to moisturize the skin. Apply on dry skin with prolonged massage. For external use only.