

EXPLAINING IFRA

WHAT IS IFRA & WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT?

THE INTERNATIONAL FRAGRANCE ASSOCIATION (IFRA) IS THE GLOBAL VOICE OF THE FRAGRANCE INDUSTRY. SINCE 1973 IFRA HAS BROUGHT TOGETHER GLOBAL FRAGRANCE HOUSES, NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS, & REGIONAL FRAGRANCE INGREDIENT MANUFACTURERS COMMITTED TO ENSURING THE SAFE USE OF FRAGRANCE INGREDIENTS, GROUNDED IN SCIENCE & RESPONSIBILITY. IFRA REPRESENTS FRAGRANCE PRODUCERS, WORKS WITH REGULATORS & INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS, & SUPPORTS SUSTAINABILITY & INNOVATION ACROSS THE VALUE CHAIN. MOST IMPORTANTLY IFRA HELPS MAKERS SAFELY USE FRAGRANCE OILS IN THEIR FORMULATIONS. IFRA IS THE INDUSTRY STANDARD WHICH ALL FORMULATORS ARE HELD TO, ASSISTING IN THE SAFE CREATION OF SCENTED PRODUCTS.

IFRA ASSIGNS A SAFE USAGE RATE ACROSS TWELVE MAIN PRODUCT CATEGORIES FOR EVERY COMMERCIALY AVAILABLE FRAGRANCE OIL. THE USAGE RATE IS GIVEN IN A PERCENTAGE VALUE & CALCULATED BY THE TOTAL WEIGHT OF THE PRODUCT. EVERY SINGLE FRAGRANCE OIL HAS ITS OWN IFRA MAX VALUE FOR EACH PRODUCT CATEGORY. THIS IS THE MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE USAGE RATE BUT IT DOES NOT MEAN YOU HAVE TO USE THE MAXIMUM. YOU CAN USE LESS, BUT SHOULD NOT USE MORE.

THOUGH MORE DIFFICULT TO PINPOINT EXACT VALUES DUE TO VARIATIONS YEAR TO YEAR AND CROP TO CROP, PRODUCTS UTILIZING ESSENTIAL OILS MUST ALSO ADHERE TO IFRA STANDARDS. GENERAL INFO FOR ESSENTIAL OIL IFRA GUIDELINES CAN BE FOUND ON EOCALC.COM. THIS WEBSITE ALSO HAS A FANTASTIC ARRAY OF ESSENTIAL OIL RECIPES AND IS AN GREAT RESOURCE FOR ESSENTIAL OIL USERS.

IFRA GUIDELINES FOR EACH FRAGRANCE ARE REVIEWED EVERY YEAR AND CAN CHANGE. IT SHOULD BE A HABIT TO REGULARLY CHECK IFRA FOR ANY UPDATES.

EXAMPLE:

A 100G PRODUCT SCENTED WITH A FRAGRANCE OIL THAT HAS A PRODUCT CATEGORY SAFE USAGE RATE OF 5% CAN USE A MAXIMUM OF 5G OF THAT PARTICULAR FRAGRANCE OIL.

IFRA CATEGORIES

CATEGORY 1 - LIP PRODUCTS/TOYS

CATEGORY 2 - DEODORANT/ANTIPERSPIRANT/BODY SPRAY/BODY MIST

CATEGORY 3 - EYE PRODUCTS/MAKE-UP/FACIAL TREATMENT MASKS

CATEGORY 4 - PERFUME/SOLID PERFUME/FRAGRANCED BRACELETS

CATEGORY 5A - BODY CREAMS/LEAVE-ON BODY PRODUCTS

CATEGORY 5B - FACE CREAMS/BEARD OIL/LEAVE-ON FACE PRODUCTS

CATEGORY 5C - HAND CREAMS/HAND SANITIZERS/LEAVE ON HAND PRODUCTS

CATEGORY 5D - BABY CREAMS/BABY OILS/BABY PRODUCTS

CATEGORY 6 - MOUTHWASH/TOOTHPASTE/BREATH SPRAY

CATEGORY 7A - RINSE OFF HAIR TREATMENTS

CATEGORY 7B - LEAVE ON HAIR TREATMENTS

CATEGORY 8 - INTIMATE WIPES/BABY WIPES

CATEGORY 9 - RINSE OFF AND BATHWATER PRODUCTS/SOAP/SHAMPOO

CATEGORY 10A - HOUSEHOLD CLEANING PRODUCTS/REED DIFFUSERS

CATEGORY 10B - AIR FRESHENER SPRAYS

CATEGORY 11A - DIAPERS

CATEGORY 11B - SCENTED CLOTHING

CATEGORY 12 - CANDLES/INCENSE/AIR FRESHENING CRYSTALS, LIQUIDS, SOLIDS

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