

**Poucher's Perfumes, Cosmetics and Soaps –
Volume 1**
The Raw Materials of Perfumery

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The Raw Materials of Perfumery

Ninth edition

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Preface

This classic work by Poucher, first published in 1923, was last produced in three volumes titled, respectively *The Raw Materials of Perfumery* (seventh edition, 1974), *The Production, Manufacture and Application of Perfumes* (eighth edition, 1974) and *Modern Cosmetics* (eighth edition, 1974). Its popularity is well demonstrated by there having been three reprints of these editions in 1976, 1979 and 1984, respectively.

The history of events can be traced by reference to the prefaces to earlier editions and those interested should study these with care since they give a fascinating insight into developments in the subject fields covered by *Poucher's Perfumes, Cosmetics and Soaps* over the years. It is not proposed to provide a resumé here.

In this Volume I, the current edition attempts to provide data about raw materials in a more formalized way than before, so that not only the history of some compounds can be checked, but also so that useful reference information can be obtained. It is particularly relevant to do this, since it is not always easy to be certain of nomenclature. Moreover, as we move towards 'ingredient labelling' (a trend not welcomed by some), a high level of uniformity will be needed. Whether this will come from adoption of CTFA terminology, use of CAS numbers or some other system is not clear. Where possible, such data have been included so that readers may identify materials more readily. Where given, CAS numbers are located in the top right-hand corner of each entry.

For many of the compounds listed several alternative names are in use, some of which from the chemist's point of view are either inadequate, ambiguous or occasionally actually misleading. In this edition the compounds have been listed under names which are considered to be chemically satisfactory and which, at the same time, should be reasonably familiar to perfumers; they do not necessarily contain full information as to the structure of the compounds and they make free use of widely accepted trivial names. In most of the entries this is associated with a systematic name which defines the chemical structure, while synonyms which are in use, though sometimes chemically unsatisfactory, also are listed.

Prefixes denoting structural features such as *n-*, *iso*, *cis-*, *trans-*, *o-*, *m-*, *p-* etc. are disregarded in the alphabetical listing. Where appropriate, however, a second entry may be made in the alphabetical position corresponding to the prefix with a cross-reference to the main entry. Prefixes denoting number (for which Greek-derived *mono-*, *di-*, *tri-*, etc. are used rather than their Latin equivalents) are, on the other hand, regarded as forming an integral part of the word and are thus of alphabetical significance. Subsidiary entries with cross-references are made where this is useful.

The systematic naming follows established chemical practice but as this is not completely uniform the following is a brief account of the principles adopted.

Acyclic compounds are usually named as derivatives of the longest unbranched hydrocarbon chain contained within their structure. The carbon atoms in the chain are numbered from one end; if one of the terminal atoms carries a functional group, this is usually designated '1'. The positions of functional groups and other structural

features are indicated by the appropriate numeral immediately preceding the verbal element which designates it; thus, *iso*-propanol is named 'propan-2-ol' rather than '2-propanol' or 'propanol-2'. In the case of double and triple bonds, denoted by the elements '-en-' and '-yn-', the lower number of the pair of carbon atoms between which the bond exists is used. The names of normal carboxylic acids are derived from those of the normal hydrocarbons having the same number of carbon atoms by replacing the final 'e' by '-oic acid', e.g. 'n-pentanoic acid' (=n-valeric acid); exceptions are acetic and formic acids. In carboxylic acids and aldehydes, the carbonyl carbon is assigned the numeral '1', e.g. lactic acid becomes '2-hydroxypropanoic acid'.

In disubstituted benzene derivatives, the familiar prefixes *o*-, *m*- and *p*- are used to indicate the relative positions of the substituents; with three or more substituents, however, numbers are used to avoid ambiguity. In polycyclic and heterocyclic compounds, the rings are numbered according to current Chemical Abstracts practice.

Melting and boiling points are given in degrees Centigrade. Unless otherwise specified, the boiling points are at atmospheric pressure (760 mmHg); for those determined at other pressures the latter are given in mmHg.

It must be noted that neither the editor nor the publishers can be held responsible for any consequences arising from any errors or omissions in this work.

Thanks are due to Mrs Venetia Oakley of Turville Word Processing Services and the staff of Information TRANSFER International for their patient work in formatting and assembling this volume.

A.J. Jouhar

Publisher's note

Poucher's Perfumes, Cosmetics & Soaps was last available in three volumes. Volume 1 was in its seventh edition and volumes 2 and 3 in its eighth edition.

This volume is the first volume of what will be a two volume set comprising together a ninth edition of the work.

All information given in this volume is correct to the best of our knowledge at the time of writing but it is recommended that the reader consults the IFRA guidelines or the RIFM monographs referred to in the text.