

CLAIMS

1. A method for purifying a crude flavor or perfumery or cosmetic ingredient or intermediate, the method comprising:
 - 5 washing with an aqueous acid;
 - washing with an aqueous surfactant; and
 - optionally washing with an aqueous alkali.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the crude flavor or perfumery or cosmetic
10 ingredient or intermediate is in solid form.
3. The method of claim 1 or 2, wherein the crude flavor or perfumery or cosmetic ingredient or intermediate was made by a bioconversion process, for example using a SHC/HAC enzyme.
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4. The method of any preceding claim, wherein the method is a method for purifying crude (-)-Ambrox, crude (-)-Ambra-oxide, crude 3a-ethyl-6,6,9a-trimethyldodecahydronaphtho[2,1-b]furan or crude (+)-Amberketal.
- 20 5. The method of any preceding claim, wherein the method comprises:
 - (a) washing the crude flavor or perfumery or cosmetic ingredient or intermediate with an aqueous acid;
 - (b) washing the product of step (a) with an aqueous alkali;
 - (c) washing the product of step (b) with an aqueous surfactant.
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6. The method of any preceding claim, wherein the acid is a weak acid and/or an organic acid and/or citric acid.
7. The method of any preceding claim, wherein the temperature of the aqueous
30 acid ranges from about 17°C to about 50°C, for example from about 17°C to about 23°C.
8. The method of any preceding claim, wherein the alkali is a strong alkali and/or a hydroxide and/or sodium hydroxide.
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9. The method of any preceding claim, wherein the temperature of the aqueous alkali ranges from about 5°C to about 75°C, for example from about 35°C to about 45°C.
- 5 10. The method of any preceding claim, wherein the surfactant is an anionic surfactant, for example sodium dodecylsulfate (SDS).
- 10 11. The method of any preceding claim, wherein the temperature of the aqueous surfactant ranges from about 5°C to about 75°C, for example from about 60°C to about 70°C.
- 15 12. The method of any preceding claim, further comprising one or more steps of washing with water prior to or after the washing with aqueous acid, the washing with aqueous alkali and/or the washing with aqueous surfactant.
- 20 13. The method of any preceding claim, wherein all the washing steps take place in a single piece of equipment, for example a Nutsche-type agitating and drying filter.
- 25 14. A flavor or perfumery or cosmetic ingredient or intermediate, for example (-)-Ambrox, obtained by or obtainable by the method of any of claims 1 to 13.
- 30 15. Use of the flavor or perfumery or cosmetic ingredient, for example (-)-Ambrox, of claim 14 as a flavor or perfumery or cosmetic ingredient.
- 35 16. A perfume or flavor or cosmetic composition comprising the perfumery ingredient, for example (-)-Ambrox, of claim 14 or the flavor ingredient of claim 14 or the cosmetic ingredient of claim 14 respectively.
17. A household care, personal care, laundry care or air care composition comprising a perfume composition of claim 16 or a food or drink product comprising a flavor composition of claim 16 or a cosmetic product comprising a cosmetic composition of claim 16.
18. A Nutsche-type agitating and drying filter configured to purify a crude flavor or perfumery ingredient or intermediate, for example a crude (-)-Ambrox, by the method of any one of claims 1 to 13, wherein the crude flavor or perfumery ingredient or intermediate, for example the crude (-)-Ambrox comprises from about 20 wt% to about 30 wt% water based on the wet weight of the crude

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flavor or perfumery ingredient or intermediate, for example the crude (-)-Ambrox.

- 5 19. A process for purifying a crude flavor or perfumery ingredient or intermediate, the process comprising washing the crude flavor or perfumery ingredient or intermediate in a Nutsche-type agitating and drying filter.

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