

Claims

1. Cosmetic active agent comprising a Gardenia fruit extract and a solvent, wherein the solvent is a eutectic solvent having a pH of at least 5.
- 5 2. Cosmetic active agent according to claim 1, wherein the eutectic solvent has a pH of at least 5.5, more preferably of at least 6, and most preferably of at least 7.
3. Cosmetic active agent according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the components of the eutectic solvent are of natural origin.
4. Cosmetic active agent according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the eutectic solvent
10 comprises betaine, glycerol and water.
5. Cosmetic active agent according to claim 4, wherein the eutectic solvent comprises from about 30 to about 40 wt% of betaine, from about 35 to about 45 wt% of glycerol, and from about 20 to about 30 wt% of water, more preferably about 35 wt% of betaine, about 40 wt% of glycerol, and about 25 wt% of water.
- 15 6. Cosmetic active agent according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the concentration of the Gardenia fruit extract in the cosmetic active agent is from about 0.01 to about 10 wt%, more preferably from about 0.05 to about 1 wt%, and most preferably about 0.1 wt%.
7. Cosmetic active agent according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the Gardenia fruit extract comprises at least 1 wt% of Crocins, more preferably at least 10 wt% of Crocins, and
20 most preferably at least 25 wt% of Crocins.
8. Cosmetic composition comprising the cosmetic active agent according to any one of claims 1 to 7 and a cosmetically acceptable excipient.
9. Cosmetic composition according to claim 8, which is a skin care composition, and in particular an anti-ageing skin care composition.
- 25 10. Method of reducing the signs of ageing in skin, comprising the step of topically applying the cosmetic active agent according to any one of claims 1 to 7 or the cosmetic composition according to claim 8 or 9 to the skin, in particular to facial skin.

11. Method of protecting the skin against oxidative stress, comprising the step of topically applying the cosmetic active agent according to any one of claims 1 to 7 or the cosmetic composition according to claim 8 or 9 to the skin, in particular to facial skin.
- 5 12. Method of protecting the skin against the effects of blue light, comprising the step of topically applying the cosmetic active agent according to any one of claims 1 to 7 or the cosmetic composition according to claim 8 or 9 to the skin, in particular to facial skin.
13. Non-therapeutic method of protecting an individual's melatonin cycle, comprising the step of topically applying the cosmetic active agent according to any one of claims 1 to 7 or the cosmetic composition according to claim 8 or 9 to the skin, in particular to facial skin.
- 10 14. Non-therapeutic method of improving an individual's sleep, comprising the step of topically applying the cosmetic active agent according to any one of claims 1 to 7 or the cosmetic composition according to claim 8 or 9 to the skin, in particular to facial skin.
15. Use of a Gardenia fruit extract for improving an individual's sleep.