



ABSTRACT

The invention provides a process comprising treating a lanolin fatty acid with boric acid to convert hydroxy fatty acids therein to boric acid esters,
5 subjecting the reaction mixture to vacuum distillation to fractionate the boric acid esters of hydroxy fatty acids from non-hydroxy fatty acids, hydrolyzing the boric acid esters, and subjecting the hydrolysate to vacuum distillation to provide α -hydroxy fatty acids and ω -hydroxy
10 fatty acids, the resultant respective lanolin fatty acids and esters, and cosmetic products and drug products for external use containing them.

According to the invention, pale-colored, substantially odor-free lanolin fatty acids can be obtained
15 easily and with high efficiency and these compounds can be effectively utilized in the pharmaceutical and cosmetic field.

