Claims

1. Cosmetic composition comprising a carrier and at least one active cosmetic ingredient, wherein a first active cosmetic ingredient comprises an extract of exhausted Patchouli stems, wherein the exhausted Patchouli stems have previously been processed by steam distillation.

2. Cosmetic composition according to claim 1, wherein the cosmetic composition is a skin care, scalp care or body care composition.

3. Cosmetic composition according to claim 2, wherein the cosmetic composition is a serum for dry skin, an anti-aging serum, and anti-aging night or day cream, an anti-dry dandruff product, a dry scalp lotion or a body care lotion.

4. Cosmetic composition according to one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the first active cosmetic ingredient comprises an aqueous and/or alcoholic extract of the exhausted Patchouli stems.

5. Method of preparing an active cosmetic ingredient, comprising the steps of

   (i) providing exhausted Patchouli stems; and

   (ii) extracting the exhausted Patchouli stems,

   wherein the exhausted Patchouli stems have previously been processed by steam distillation.

6. Method according to claim 5, wherein the extraction is performed using water and/or ethanol.

7. Non-therapeutic use of an extract from exhausted Patchouli stems in skin care, in particular of an aqueous extract, wherein the exhausted Patchouli stems have previously been processed by steam distillation.

8. Method of stimulating the sebum production by applying the cosmetic composition of one of claims 1 to 4 to human skin.