Claims

1. Microemulsion comprising
water in an amount of 1-30 w%;
sodium or potassium oleate, Na/K salts of tall oil fatty acid, and/or Na/K salts of C16-C18 saturated or unsaturated fatty acids in an amount of 10-40 w%;
oleic acid, tall oil fatty acid, or C16-C18 saturated or unsaturated fatty acids in an amount of 2-40 w%;
ethanol in an amount of 5-40 w%;
glycerol in an amount of 5-40 w%;
and liquid hydrocarbon(s) in an amount of 5-40 w%, up to a maximum or total of components parts of 100 w%.

2. Microemulsion according to claim 1, comprising
water in an amount of 2-10 w%;
sodium or potassium oleate , Na/K salts of tall oil fatty acid, and/or Na/K salts of C16-C18 saturated or unsaturated fatty acids in an amount of 14-27 w%;
oleic acid, tall oil fatty acid, or C16-C18 saturated or unsaturated fatty acids in an amount of 10-24 w%;
ethanol in an amount of 5-40 w%;
glycerol in an amount of 10-31 w%;
and liquid hydrocarbons in an amount of 11-24 w%, up to a maximum or total of components parts of 100 w%.

3. Microemulsion according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the liquid hydrocarbon is C11-C20 alkanes and/or isoalkanes.

4. Microemulsion according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the liquid hydrocarbon is hexadecane, diesel, HVO, PAO, a naphthenic or paraffinic base oil or a combination thereof.

5. Microemulsion according to any of the preceding claims, having a viscosity in the interval of from 20 to 400 cp at 20 °C.

6. Microemulsion according to any of the preceding claims, having a storage stability of more than 30 days at 20 °C.

7. Microemulsion according to any of the preceding claims, to which wood tar has been added in an amount of up to 15 w%.

8. Microemulsion according to any of the preceding claims, to which an antioxidant, antiwear agent, and/or extreme-pressure additive has been added in an amount of 0.1 to 5 w%.

9. Microemulsion according to any of the preceding claims, to which wood preservatives such as antifungal substance(s) have been added in an amount of 0.1 to 5 w%.

10. Microemulsion according to any of claims 1 - 9, comprising 12-26 w% ethanol.

11. Gel, comprising 35-50 w% of the microemulsion according to any of claims 1 – 10, and 50 – 65 w% of a hydrotreated vegetable oil, up to a maximum or total of components parts of 100 w%.

12. Method of preparing a microemulsion according to any of claims 1 – 10, comprising the following consecutive steps:
(a) mixing of NaOH or KOH with water, glycerol, and ethanol to obtain a solution;
(b) mixing oleic acid, tall oil fatty acid, and/or C16-C18 saturated or unsaturated fatty acid(s) into the solution to obtain a microemulsion;
(c) mixing of the microemulsion with liquid hydrocarbon(s) to form a second microemulsion;
(d) optionally addition of water or ethanol;
(e) optionally partial evaporation of the ethanol,
whereby steps (d) and (e) may be performed in reversed order.

13. Method according to claim 12, wherein in step (d) water or ethanol is added.

14. Method according to claim 12, wherein in step (e) ethanol is partially evaporated.

15. Method according to any of claims 12-14, wherein all carbon compounds are biogenic.

16. Use of a microemulsion according to any of claims 1 – 10 for temporary corrosion protection on metal surfaces, especially steel.

17. Use of a microemulsion according to any of claims 1 – 10 as a lubricant.

18. Use according to claim 17, wherein driving chains, chain saw chains, belts, wire winches, cranes, brake calipers, chain saw chains, or leaf springs are lubricated.

19. Use of a microemulsion according to claims 1-10 as metal working fluid.

20. Use of a microemulsion according to any of claims 1 – 10 as a water proofing agent for porous materials.

21. Use according to claim 20, wherein the porous materials constitute rock cavities and/or concrete constructions.

22. Use of a microemulsion according to any of claims 1 – 10 for coating of paper, paperboard, cardboard, or rubber.

23. Use of a microemulsion according to any of claims 1 – 10 as a leather or rubber shine liquid, or as a leather impregnation liquid.

24. Use of a microemulsion according to any of claims 1 – 10, as a thickening agent for hydrotreated vegetable oil.

25. Use of a gel according to claim 11, as a fuel or a lubricant.

26. Package or container comprising a microemulsion according to any of claims 1 – 10, or a gel according to claim 11, wherein the microemulsion or gel is fully diluted or intended to be diluted with up to 35 w% water.

27. Kit of parts, comprising
(a) Package or container containing a microemulsion or gel according to claim 26;
(b) Instructions for use.

28. Wood block, characterized in that it has been impregnated with a microemulsion according to any of claims 1 – 10.