

Process for the preparation of d,l-menthol

A b s t r a c t

The invention relates to a process for the preparation of d,l-menthol by catalytic hydrogenation of compounds which have the carbon skeleton of menthane containing at least one double bond and are 3-substituted by oxygen and/or of menthone or isomenthone or mixtures of such compounds using hydrogen at temperatures of 100 to 200°C and at hydrogen partial pressures between 2 and 50 bar and/or by rearrangement of menthol stereoisomers in the presence of hydrogen at temperatures of 0 to 140°C and at hydrogen partial pressures between 0.1 and 20 bar in the presence of noble-metal-containing catalysts.



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