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Flax Seed Oil

CAS RN®: 8001-26-1.

DEFINITION

Flax Seed Oil is derived from flaxseed or linseed (*Linum usitatissimum* L.). The oil is extracted from the seeds by cold pressing. No solvents or external heat are employed in the extraction process. It contains no added substances.

IDENTIFICATION

- **A.** It meets the requirements in *Specific Tests* for [Fats and Fixed Oils \(401\)](#), [Procedures](#), [Fatty Acid Composition](#).
- **B.** [IDENTIFICATION OF FIXED OILS BY THIN-LAYER CHROMATOGRAPHY \(202\)](#): The R_f values of the principal spots of the *Sample solution* correspond to those of the *Standard solution*.

SPECIFIC TESTS

- [FATS AND FIXED OILS \(401\)](#), [Procedures](#), [Acid Value](#): NMT 2.0
- [FATS AND FIXED OILS \(401\)](#), [Procedures](#), [Peroxide Value](#): NMT 10.0
- [FATS AND FIXED OILS \(401\)](#), [Procedures](#), [Iodine Value](#): 160–200
- [FATS AND FIXED OILS \(401\)](#), [Procedures](#), [Saponification Value](#): 180–195
- [FATS AND FIXED OILS \(401\)](#), [Procedures](#), [Unsaponifiable Matter](#): NMT 1.5
- [FATS AND FIXED OILS \(401\)](#), [Procedures](#), [Fatty Acid Composition](#): Flax Seed Oil exhibits the composition profile of fatty acids in [Table 1](#).

Table 1

Fatty Acid	Shorthand Notation	Percentage (%)
Palmitic acid	16:0	2.0–7.5
Stearic acid	18:0	1.0–6.0
Oleic acid	18:1	12.0–24.0
Linoleic acid	18:2	11.0–23.0
Alpha-linolenic acid	18:3	50.0–65.0

- [REFRACTIVE INDEX \(831\)](#): 1.460–1.490 at 20°

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- **PACKAGING AND STORAGE:** Preserve in well-closed, tight, light-resistant containers.
- **LABELING:** Where Flax Seed Oil is intended for use in the manufacture of dosage forms, it is so labeled.

Auxiliary Information - Please [check for your question in the FAQs](#) before contacting USP.

Topic/Question	Contact	Expert Committee
FLAX SEED OIL	Fatkhulla K Tadjimukhamedov Associate Scientific Liaison	NBDS2020 Non-botanical Dietary Supplements

Chromatographic Database Information: [Chromatographic Database](#)

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