

ROOIBOS TEA EXTRACT

Aspalathus linearis is a legume which is related to the well-known and very common broom bush. It is indigenous to the Cedarberg mountains in Clan-

william, near Cape Town, South Africa. Its local name, "Rooibos", means "red bush".

For the production of the tea extract only its leaves and fine stems are used. Before being processed, they are cut into small pieces of 2-3 mm.

By cutting the leaves and stems the sap of the plant comes out and together with its moisture the fermentation process is initiated. This causes the taste and the reddish-brown colour. After the fermentation the rooibos is dried.

Rooibos is not only popular in Africa: The Japanese call it the "tree of long life" and meanwhile also here in Europe its enormous health potential is recognised more and more. This is mainly caused by several studies that have been carried out by the renowned medical university A.I.C.H.I. in Japan.

As opposed to many other teas, Rooibos does not contain any caffeine and is therefore very beneficial for children and people with a irritable

and sensitive stomach. In addition, its content of tannins is very low.

Next to considerable amounts of flavonoids and carotenoids Rooibos contains many valuable minerals, too. The most well-known flavonoid is "Aspalatine" which is concentrated in Rooibos and could only be identified in this plant until now – hence the name "*Aspalathus*".

Rooibos is an important and helpful product for supporting treatment of typical civilisation diseases.

As an anti-aging product, it prevents oxidative damages of brain tissues, protecting the sensitive lipid membranes of neuronal cells.

According to an article in the "carbohydrate research" African tea extract contains a group of more unusual oligosaccharides. These compounds, based on a small number of simple sugars, are presumed to be involved in the mechanism responsible for the viral binding of T-cells. Accordingly, it has been suggested that these compounds can therefore be of help in supporting and strengthening the human immune system.



***Harvest of Rooibos tea in
Southafrica: Dried leaves in a bag***

Please contact us for further information.

Responsible for contents and publishing:
Eurochem Feinchemie GmbH
Oliver Schulz
Industriestr. 35a,
D - 82194 Gröbenzell
info@eurochem-feinchemie.com