

# The Carvanson Guide to Allergens



## What is an Allergen?

An allergenic chemical is an aroma chemical natural or synthetic which has been proved to cause an allergen reaction when used on skin application. It is important to understand that although essential oils are natural, they ultimately are not safer.

INCI Name	CAS Number	Origin
Alpha-Isomethyl ionone	127-51-5	Synthetic
Amyl cinnamal	122-40-7	Synthetic
Amylcinnamyl alcohol	101-85-9	Synthetic
Anise alcohol	105-13-5	Synthetic or Natural
Benzyl alcohol	100-51-6	Synthetic or Natural
Benzyl benzoate	120-51-4	Synthetic or Natural
Benzyl cinnamate	103-41-3	Synthetic or Natural
Benzyl salicylate	118-58-1	Synthetic or Natural
Butylphenyl methylpropional	80-54-6	Synthetic
Cinnamal	104-55-2	Synthetic or Natural
Cinnamyl alcohol	104-54-1	Synthetic or Natural
Citral	5392-40-5	Synthetic or Natural
Citronellol	106-22-9	Synthetic or Natural

INCI Name	CAS Number	Origin
Coumarin	91-64-5	Synthetic or Natural
Eugenol	97-53-0	Synthetic or Natural
Farnesol	4602-84-0	Synthetic or Natural
Geraniol	106-24-1	Synthetic or Natural
Hexyl cinnamal	101-86-0	Synthetic
Hydroxycitronellal	107-75-5	Synthetic
Hydroxyisohexyl 3-cyclohexene carboxaldehyde	31906-04-4	Synthetic
Isoeugenol	97-54-1	Synthetic or Natural
Limonene	5989-27-5	Synthetic or Natural
Linalool	78-70-6	Synthetic or Natural
Methyl 2-octynoate	111-12-6	Synthetic
Evernia prunastri (Oak moss)	90028-68-5	Natural
Evernia furfuracea (Tree Moss)	90028-67-4	Natural

## Labelling Requirements for Allergens

There are two thresholds in regards to product labelling of allergens; the first is for rinse off and a second for leave on products. Any allergens present over the product threshold level needs to be listed on the label. The two thresholds are as follows;

Leave On – 0.001%  
Rinse Off – 0.01%



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## Current Industry Allergen Standards

Consumers started to tell the industry and trade bodies that by 2009 that they wanted more ingredients listed on the label. In response, in 2011 the Scientific Committee on Consumer Safety (SCCS) released their opinion on fragrance allergens in cosmetic products.

The SCCS recommended that the consumer would be notified of the presence of any of (up to) 127 fragrance allergens. They also recommended that 11 key ingredients such as limonene were by default restricted to 100ppm (that's 0.01% of the final product).

The document highlighted that if they were going to implement this recommendation that more than 90% of all fragrance products would be affected. Furthermore it would have rendered several olfactory notes (such as citrus and spice) completely impossible in finished products.

The international fragrance industry is worth billions and many iconic fragrances would have had to be completely reformulated to handle these changes. These fragrances would need to be reworked to a level where the new version would no longer be similar to the original, classic perfume.

Due to the potential issues caused by the SCCS recommendation, the International Dialogue for the Evaluation of Allergens was created. This body brings together international scientists in the form of representatives from industry, regulatory bodies, academia and independent observers. IDEA is attempting to provide a broadly agreed and transparent framework for assessing fragrance sensitisers globally. The industry is still waiting the final decision from the European Commission regarding new allergens and although we don't expect there to be over 127 fragrance allergens, we can expect there to be a further 60.