

NA12: Balsam of Peru (myroxylon pereirae resin) CAS#: 8007-00-9

Patient Information

Your patch test results indicate that you have a contact allergy to Balsam of Peru. This contact allergy may cause your skin to react when it is exposed to this substance, although it may take several days for the symptoms to appear. Typical symptoms include redness, swelling, itching, and fluid-filled blisters.

Where is Balsam of Peru found?

Balsam of Peru is a fragrant resinous liquid harvested from trees grown in Central America. Not commonly used today, Balsam of Peru may still be found as a fragrance, flavoring agent or antibacterial ingredient. Balsam of Peru contains a mixture of many substances that are generally related to cinnamon, vanilla, and clove fragrances and flavorings (cinnamein, a combination of cinnamic acid, benzoyl cinnamate, benzoyl benzoate, benzoic acid, vanillin and nerodilol).

How can you avoid contact with Balsam of Peru?

Avoid products that list any of the following names in the ingredients:

- Balsam peru
- Myroxylon pereirae oleoresin
- Peruvian balsam
- Myroxylon pereirae Klotzsch
- Balsam fir oil
- Abies balsamea
- Balsam fir oleoresin
- EINECS 232-352-8
- FEMA No. 2114
- FEMA No. 2115
- FEMA No. 2116
- FEMA No. 2117
- Hyperabsolute balsam, Peru

What are some products that may contain Balsam of Peru?

- Air Fresheners and Deodorizers
- Animal Repellent
- Cinnamon, Vanilla and Other Spices
- Cleaning Products
- Dental Medicaments and Cements
- Essential Oils and Aromatherapy Products
- Flavored/Scented Tobaccos
- Foods (natural identical chemical ingredients):
 - Beer
 - Citrus
 - Tomatoes
 - Colas, sodas and flavored beverages
 - Chocolate
 - Ice cream
 - Vermouth
 - Wine
- Herbal and Botanical Products
- Lotions
- Medicated Lozenges
- Medicinal Creams and Ointments:
 - Hemorrhoidal cream
- Oral and Lip Medications
- Perfumes and Colognes
- Pesticides
- Scented Candles
- Shampoo/Conditioner

Cross-reactions may occur to colophony (rosin) found in pine trees, wood and coal tars, resorcin monobenzoate, coniferyl benzoate, Tolu balsam, storax, propolis, turpentine, benzoin, tomatoes, orange peel, and clove. Some food ingredients found as components or related to Balsam of Peru include benzyl alcohol, benzyl salicylate, benzoic acid (and its derivative sodium benzoate), cinnamic acid, cinnamic alcohol, amylcinnamaldehyde, eugenol (bay rum), isoeugenol and vanillin. Although benzoic acid and sodium benzoate are not used as fragrance ingredients, you may need to avoid these ingredients which are used as preservatives in skin, hair, cosmetic, and food products.

*For additional information about products that might contain **Balsam of Peru**, go to the Household Product Database online (householdproducts.nlm.nih.gov) at the United States National Library of Medicine. These lists are brief and provide just a few examples. They are not comprehensive. Product formulations also change frequently. Read product labels carefully and talk to your doctor if you have any questions. These are general guidelines. Talk to your doctor for more specific instructions.