



PATIENT INFORMATION LEAFLET: Myroxylon pereirae

Your patch test shows that you have a contact allergy to: Myroxylon pereirae

Synonym(s): Peru balm, Honduras balsam, Peruvian balsam, Balsamum peruvianum, Indian balsam, Peru balsam, , Myroxylon pereirae klotzsch resin, Peru balsam oil, Balsam Peru oil, Myrospermum pereira balsam, Surinam balsam, Black balsam, Myroxylon pereirae klotzsch oil, Toluifera pereira balsam.

Definition: Balsam of Peru is an aromatic resin of the exotic tree Myroxylon pereirae which is widely used as food and cosmetic ingredient, and also as a natural remedy.

Use and occurrence:

Myroxylon pereirae resin is used in cosmetics as a fragrance and scent fixative, as well as a soap hardener. Its subtle scent makes balsam of Peru a preferred perfume ingredient added to a wide range of perfume compositions. It is also added as flavour (“aroma”) to tobacco, beverages, pastry and cakes, wines, liqueurs, balsamic sauces, and spices. Balsam of Peru is also used as an ingredient of topical medicines and dental materials.

Remarks:

The typical clinical picture of Myroxylon pereirae allergy is eczema, although it may also cause erythema-multiforme-like lesions and airborne dermatitis.

Tomatoes contain an array of components common with Balsam of Peru: benzoic acid, benzoic alcohol, cinnamic alcohol, cinnamyl cinnamate, coniferyl alcohol, eugenol, isoegenol and methyl cinnamate. Therefore, some patient with allergy to Myroxylon pereirae may experience bouts of eczema after ingesting tomatoes. A similar connection has also been suggested with regard to citrus fruits.

Disclaimer: Always check your products as these lists can never be complete and ingredients change.