

THE ANIMAL FUND



WHALE-DERIVED PRODUCTS IN COSMETICS :

Jérôme Belice & Eve Hanoune

What could be in your nonvegan cosmetics?

DO YOU KNOW WHAT'S LURKING IN YOUR MAKEUP BAG?



SNAIL SLIME,
aka "Helix aspersa Müller glycoconjugates"



WHALE VOMIT,
aka "ambergris"



**PIGS' OR COWS' SKIN
OR BONES,**
aka "gelatin" or "collagen"



SHARK LIVER OIL,
aka "squalene"



**GROUND-UP HOOVES
OR FEATHERS,**
aka "keratin"



MINK FAT,
aka "mink oil"



ANIMAL URINE,
aka "urea" or "carbamide"



PLACENTA OR AFTERBIRTH,
aka "placental polypeptide protein"



COW OR SHEEP FAT,
aka "tallow"



CAT GLANDULAR SECRETIONS,
aka "civet oil"



SHEEP GREASE,
aka "lanolin"



GENITAL SECRETIONS,
aka "musk oil"



CRUSHED BEETLES,
aka "carmine"

Key Points

- The exploitation of marine life by the cosmetic industry
- Stakeholders
- TAF's mission

The exploitation of marine life by the cosmetic industry

COMMONLY USED INGREDIENTS

Ambergris, Cetyl Alcohol, Pristane, Sterols, Whale oil, Squalene, Hyaluronan (also called whale-derived hyaluronic acid or hyaluronate, chondroitin sulfate or chondroitin sulfate A or S-4 sulfate and spermaceti), among others

PROPERTIES

Fixative, lubricant, anti-corrosive

WHY IS IT USED?

Large availability of marine resources for “free” → low costs



Threats to Marine Life

DECLINE OF WHALE POPULATIONS

Whales are endangered

From 3 millions to less than 500k

ROLES OF WHALES IN THEIR ECOSYSTEM

- At the top of the food chain
- The oceans' fertilizers

CLIMATE CHANGE

Whales re-distribute nutrients across the seas and promote the fertilization of phytoplankton, which, in turn, provides up to 85% of the world's oxygen.

Does any regulation exist ?

Yes

1946 : International Whaling
Commission (IWC)

1975 : Convention on International
Trade in Endangered Species of Wild
Fauna and Flora

1986 : Moratorium or ban on
commercial whaling enacted by the IWC

What is Squalane ?

Squalane is a natural organic compound obtained for commercial purposes primarily from shark liver oil

Used for moisturizing skin and hair.
Abundantly found in shark livers.



Shark squalene controversy

The industrial use of shark-derived squalene in cosmetic products has detrimental impacts on vulnerable species

There is no way for the consumers to know if the product contains shark's squalene



Threats to Wildlife

More than 3 million sharks are killed every year to serve the cosmetic market

As apex predators, sharks are essential for the marine life



Why are the cosmetic brands still using squalene?

- Cheaper resource
- Misinformation from the suppliers

Stakeholders



The suppliers



The resellers



The consumers

WHO ARE THE SUPPLIERS OF SQUALANE ?

- Sophim

Most important producer in Europe,
based in Brittany, and sells in Europe
and in the US

- Squalop oil

Spanish company

- Shaaxi scipar

Chinese company

- Kishimoto

Japanese company

- IGG

Indian company

- Shenzhou Marine

Chinese company

- Blue line fish

Indian company

- Arbee biomarine

Indian company

WHO IS USING SQUALANE ?

- In Europe

IOMA

Method Swiss Beauty Care

Topicrem

- BLOOM's survey

In 2012, the association tested 72 moisturizing cremes

- In Asia

More than half of the brands tested by BLOOM association in 2012

- Misinformation

No way for the consumers to know if the product contains shark's squalane



“

"BRANDS EITHER BUY ANIMAL SQUALANE, CHEAPER THAN VEGETABLE SQUALANE, TO MAKE A HIGHER MARGIN, OR THEY'RE MISLED BY THEIR SUPPLIERS WHO SELL MIXED SQUALANE AS PURE VEGETABLE SQUALANE."

LAURE DUCOS, LEAD AUTHOR OF THE STUDY BY BLOOM ASSOCIATION

THE ECO FRIENDLY ALTERNATIVES



STEP 1 : ENCOURAGE THE COMPANIES TO USE NATURAL SQUALANE

Squalane can be extracted from olives or sugar cane



STEP 2: MAKING LABELLING MANDATORY

Shark squalane currently falls under the misleading category of fish oil



STEP 3: FORBID THE EXTRACTION OF SHARK'S LIVER

Firstly at a european level
Extend the interdiction globally by the World Trade Organization

TAF'S MISSION



RAISING AWARENESS

Informing and educating
the public about the
danger of using animal
ingredients in cosmetics

TAKING ACTION

Inquiring major
producers on their
environmental policies

Sources

www.peta.org

<https://theanimalfund.net>

Le prix hideux de la beauté :
une enquête sur le marché de l'huile de foie
de requins profonds, BLOOM 2012

Requin : enquête sur le marché français,
Shark Citizen, 2014