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GERANIUM Bourbon type Essential Oil

LATIN NAME: Pelargonium graveolens
OTHER NAMES: Pelargonium roseum asperum cv. Bourbon.
Rose Geranium; Geranium Bourbon Type
SOURCE: Steam distilled from the leaves
COLOUR: Pale olive green
AROMA: green leafy rose scent sweet herbaceous note
VISCOSITY: Liquid
CULTIVATION: Organically grown



OVERVIEW

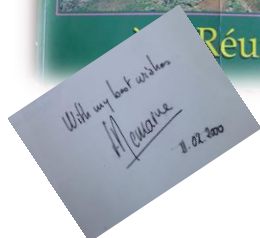
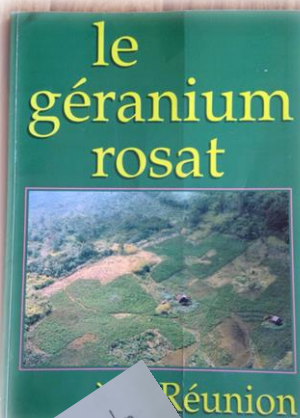


Origin, History & distribution: The principal species which were originally used to develop cultivars for the production of geranium oil are *P. graveolens*, *P. capitatum*, *P. radens* and *P. odoratissimum*. Pelargoniums are believed to be of South Africa descent. From SA it spread to Europe and was returned during 18th Century to South Africa and were introduced to Reunion Island. Geranium Bourbon essential oil comes from this island previously known as Ile de Bourbon. Botanical experts Demarne and Van der Walt determined in 1989 that geranium 'Bourbon' oil originating from the island of Réunion is produced from the leaves of a hybrid of *P. capitatum* and *P. radens*. This cultivar is usually identified as *Pelargonium graveolens* cv. *Rosé*, but is also known as *Pelargonium roseum asperum* cv. *Bourbon*.

In 1999 HIGHLAND ESSENTIAL OILS obtained cuttings from Dr De Marne and imported it into South Africa. Mother material was kept and now moved to our Zambia site where it will be cultivated and manufactured by MANKETTI ORGANICS (our daughter company) for HIGHLAND ESSENTIAL OILS. The Bourbon oil from Reunion has gradually become the new reference by which all other geranium oils are judged. Although this essential oil was originally produced exclusively on Reunion, it is recently produced as Bourbon type in various areas.

The Rosé cultivar is a non-hardy, perennial shrub. It has an extensive root system and copious grey-green stems that darken and harden with age. The grey-green leaves are variable according to climate and soil conditions, but are typically 70 mm in length, deeply lobed, pointed and highly fragrant. Flowers are small and grouped together in dense clusters, and are rose-violet coloured with darker stripes.

Extraction is achieved by steam distillation of the leaves and stalks. The resulting essential oil is a pale olive-green colour with a sweet, leafy rosy fragrance with a minty and slightly fruity overtone. Geranium Bourbon essential oil is considered a middle note in aromatherapy.



CHEMICAL COMPOSITION

Geranium oil contains about 67 compounds. The main components of geranium oil are Citronellol (26.7 percent) Geraniol (13.4 percent). Nerol (8.7 percent) Citronellyl formate (7.1 percent) Isomenthone (6.3 percent) Linalool (5.2 percent)

GERANIUM CULTIVATION IN ZAMBIA

In 2015 the first cutting from the mother material that was imported from Dr De Marne from Reunion in 1996 was planted in Zambia and is cultivated organically.



USES



Traditional uses: In African folk medicine, the non-hybridized form of this plant was considered to be astringent, antifungal, anti-inflammatory and antiseptic.

The Sotho made a paste made from the leaves to staunch bleeding and treat wounds and abscesses. The roots were also used in a decoction to wash patients suffering from fever.

Other external uses for the leaves includes treating neuralgia, throat infections and a wide range of skin conditions such as ringworm, ulcers and rashes. An infusion was taken internally for diarrhoea, dysentery, colic, gastroenteritis, haemorrhage, menstrual problems, kidney and bladder disorders.

It is also an effective adaptogen, which means that it strengthens the body's immune, glandular and nervous systems, thereby increasing resistance to stress. It is an absolutely indispensable oil.

Skin: Geranium (Bourbon) essential oil helps to balance and soothe all types of skin - regulating sebum production in both dry and oily skin types. Can also help to promote healing and skin cell regeneration.

Mind: Geranium oil has uplifting and anti-depressant qualities and can be useful for anxiety, nervous disorders and hormonal mood swings. Bourbon type is balancing and regulating to both body and mind. It stabilises anger, depression, irritability, nervous tension, PMS and all forms of roller-coaster emotions

Body; Geranium (Bourbon) essential oil helps to balance the hormones which makes it an excellent choice for treating menstrual problems. It has deodorant and insect repelling properties, and is also useful for detoxifying the lymphatic system and assisting in cellulite reduction.

It strengthens the body's immune, glandular and nervous systems, thereby increasing resistance to stress.

Geranium oil is nontoxic, nonirritant and generally non-sensitizing Rose Geranium essential oil does not seem to produce any side effects.

Avoid during pregnancy.

PRE CAUTION

The FDA has not evaluated the statements on this website. No claims are made by HEO as to the medicinal value of any products from HEO. The information presented here is for educating our customers about the traditional uses of essential oils and is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure, or prevent any disease. You are responsible for understanding the safe application of these products

