FRAGONIA

Botanical name: Agonis fragrans or Taxandria fragrans

Fragonia is a relatively new and unique Western Australian oil exclusively grown and distilled by The Paperbark Co. The oil is harvested and steam distilled from Agonis fragrans, a small shrub which grows to approximately 2.5m. The shrub is also found naturally on the south coast of Western Australia. Recognised as ‘coarse tea-tree’ by the cut flower industry, it was given its common name of Fragonia by The Paperbark Co. to reflect the fragrant nature of both the foliage and the extracted oil.

The name Fragonia has been trademarked by The Paperbark Co. This ensures that all oil sold under this name conforms with the chemical constituent specification for the particular chemotype of Agonis fragrans selected and grown by The Paperbark Co. Although initially classified as belonging to the Agonis family, further research indicated that Fragonia did in fact belong to the Taxandria family, and it was renamed Taxandria fragrans. Both are acceptable, with Agonis fragrans being the preferred botanical name used in the market place, and Taxandria fragrans being more of academic interest only.

It has become apparent that while Fragonia, like so many other essential oils, is effective in treating a range of physical conditions, it has its own additional unique properties. The apparent uniqueness of Fragonia, first identified by world renowned aromatic medical practitioner Dr Penoel, is its ability to work at a deep level, releasing blockages and having the capacity to bring harmony, peace and balance at an emotional, physical and for some, a spiritual level. It is thought to regulate, bringing the body’s natural healing abilities back into line.

Scientific, clinical, testimonial and anecdotal information shows Fragonia to be effective in the following key areas:

**Emotional rebalancing / shifts in levels of awareness**
- Balancing, regulating, calming
- Letting go of unserving patterns of behaviour

**Influence on the respiratory system** *(Dr Penoel, 2005)*
- Anti-inflammatory
• Decongestant – breaks up mucus
• Fights common respiratory infections from the nose through to the lungs
• Soothes the irritation and nervous cough reactions linked to the lungs
• Strengthens and balances the immune system
• Has an analgesic effect when used externally

Anti-microbial and anti-fungal

• Studies at the University of Western Australia have shown Fragonia to have significant anti-microbial activity, similar to that of other recognised anti-microbial essential oils, (including Tea Tree Oil), making it useful for many things including minor cuts and wounds, bites, stings, abrasions, pimples and acne, or as a gargle for sore throats. It has been shown to be as effective as Tea Tree Oil in treating Candida albicans or thrush. (Ref: K. Hammer, C. Carson, J. Dunstan, et al, 2008. Antimicrobial and anti-inflammatory activity of five Taxandria fragrans oils in vitro. Microbiol Immunol, Vol. 52: 522-530)
• Fragonia Hydrosol creates an acidic environment in the throat when gargled, which is beneficial in treating cases of bacterial tonsillitis. (Ref: K. Wallwork, 2006. Aromatherapy Today, International Aromatherapy Journal, Vol 36 August: 6), as well as other inflammatory conditions such as laryngitis. (Ref: M. Webb, 2013. IUPHA, Vol 2 Issue 1 Summer)

Anti-inflammatory

• This is supported by positive clinical feedback, including the following testimonial: ‘Several weeks ago I sprained my left knee and at one stage it felt very hot and sore. I applied Fragonia neat to the knee and within a few minutes it had cooled the knee to almost normal temperature.’ (S.L. 2004)
• Useful in muscular-skeletal conditions such as pain and inflammation from sprains, strains and joint problems, muscle stiffness, soreness and cramping (Ref: M. Webb, 2013. IUPHA, Vol 2 Issue 1 Summer)

Analgesic

• Fragonia is believed to be useful in assisting with relieving minor pain, including joint and muscle pain through topical application
• ‘It appears that Fragonia has some remarkable analgesic properties’ (Dr Penoel, 2005)
Strengthens the Immune System

- Being a very gentle oil, Fragonia can be applied on a daily basis to the skin over the lymphatic nodes in the side of the neck, the armpits and groin to strengthen the immune system (Dr Penoel, 2005)

Aroma profile: The oil is very pale yellow having a pleasant fresh cineolic odour with a hint of a citrus note (which becomes more pronounced after a few minutes), mixed with a slight spicy cinnamon tonality and sweet balsamic undertones. The dry down is very faint being sweet, soapy & woody balsamic. The oil could be potentially useful to give depth to herbal blends, and more generally in masculine fragrance accords.

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Key constituents: Typically contains terpene hydrocarbons, 1,8-cineole (23-33%), α-pinene (22-31%), linalool (6-13%) and α-terpineol (5-8%)

Plant part: Leaf and terminal branches
INCI name: Agonis Fragrans Leaf/Branch Oil
CAS number: 934621-96-2
Extraction process: Steam distillation
MSDS: Available upon request
Analysis Certificate: Available upon request