



MICRO POWDERS, INC.

Sustainability of Green Tea Wax

May 5, 2021

The Oxford Dictionary defines “Sustainability” as:

- avoidance of the depletion of natural resources in order to maintain an ecological balance.

Micro Powders has taken significant steps to transform their personal care product portfolio towards products that embrace this aspect of sustainability. It should be noted that the overall subject of sustainability is much more complicated, and includes economic factors, environmental aspects, and social/cultural elements.

Camellia sinensis, or green tea, is produced and consumed all around the world. The leaves of the green tea plant are covered with a lipophilic layer that protects them against insects, moisture loss and bacterial infection. As part of the decaffeination process of green tea, the lipophilic protective layer is removed and discarded. This lipophilic layer is a food processing waste stream that may be disposed of or otherwise repurposed.

The lipophilic protective layer contains a natural waxy substance that can be extracted with supercritical CO₂ and purified into (INCI) *Camellia Sinensis* Leaf Extract. This upcycled deep green natural substance can be processed into a variety of personal care ingredients, including the following Micro Powders’ products:

Exfoliants:

- Naturebead GreenTea R20 20 mesh spherical Rice Bran Wax + Green Tea Leaf Extract

Fine Powders:

- Naturesoft 880GT 8 µm irregular Rice Bran Wax + Green Tea Leaf Extract

Products containing *Camellia Sinensis Leaf Extract* demonstrate the following aspects of sustainability:

- ✓ Sourced from a natural and renewable plant resource
- ✓ Does not compete with human food resources
- ✓ Repurposes a material that could otherwise go to waste
- ✓ Biodegradable to promote a circular economy

We hope this information is useful.

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