

COMMITTEE FOR VETERINARY MEDICINAL PRODUCTS

MENTHAE ARVENSIS AETHEROLEUM

SUMMARY REPORT

1. *Menthae arvensis aetheroleum* (synonym: mint oil) is the volatile oil obtained by steam distillation from the flowering tops of *Mentha arvensis* var. *Piperascens*. The composition of *Menthae arvensis aetheroleum* is very similar to that of *Menthae piperitae aetheroleum*.
2. *Menthae arvensis aetheroleum* is used veterinary medicine in ointments for external application, due to its analgesic effect, in irritable skin conditions and painful diseases like mastitis, pruritus, urticaria and myalgia, and internally for the treatment of digestive disorders, coughs and colds.
Menthae arvensis aetheroleum is also used in human medicine for the treatment of digestive disorders, coughs and colds and in ointments for external application.
Menthae arvensis aetheroleum is widely used as a flavour in foodstuffs for human consumption e.g. in sweets, and toothpastes.
3. The closely related volatile oil *Menthae piperitae aetheroleum* has already been assessed by the Committee and has been included in Annex II of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2377/90.
4. Menthol, the main constituent of *Menthae piperitae aetheroleum* and *Menthae arvensis aetheroleum* has already been assessed by the Committee and has been included in Annex II of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2377/90.

Conclusions and recommendation

Considering that:

- the closely related volatile oil *Menthae piperitae aetheroleum* and, menthol, the main constituent of both *Menthae piperitae aetheroleum* and *Menthae arvensis aetheroleum* have already been included in Annex II of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2377/90 for all food-producing species,
- *Menthae arvensis aetheroleum* is not to be considered as a new active substance;

the Committee concludes that there is no need to establish an MRL for *Menthae arvensis aetheroleum* and recommends its inclusion in Annex II of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2377/90 in accordance with the following table:

Pharmacologically active substance(s)	Animal species	Other provisions
<i>Menthae arvensis aetheroleum</i>	All food producing species	