

Chemical Tests for Castor Sesame and Shark Liver Oils and Beeswax

Experiment 26 - Practical Notes

Name: _____ Roll no.: _____ Date: _____

Aim

To compare the identity and quality evidence of the assigned lipid materials.

Principle

Fixed oils and waxes differ in chemical composition. Source-specific tests and general analytical values answer different questions.

Requirements

- Authenticated castor oil, sesame oil, shark liver oil and beeswax teaching materials or supplied test records.
- Assigned monograph tests and suitable controls.

Procedure

1. Record source and state

Distinguish liquid oils from a wax and record the assigned source material.

2. Castor oil

Review the prescribed identity evidence linked to its characteristic fatty-acid composition and physical properties.

3. Sesame oil

Record the assigned source-specific colour reaction and control; the reaction must use the institution-prescribed method.

4. Shark liver oil

Interpret the assigned oil identity and unsaponifiable/vitamin-related evidence; do not infer potency from colour alone.

Pharmacognosy and Phytopharmaceuticals

5. Beeswax

Compare melting behaviour, physical appearance and the prescribed wax identity/analytical records.

6. Conclude

State identity evidence separately from acid, iodine or saponification quality values.

Observations and Record

Material	Physical observation	Assigned identity / quality evidence
Castor oil	_____	_____
Sesame oil	_____	_____
Shark liver oil	_____	_____
Beeswax	_____	_____

Result

Record the completed observations, calculations and conclusion with units. State any limitation of the observation.

Precautions

- Use authenticated materials; do not ingest teaching oils or crude drugs.
- Source-specific colour reactions do not replace a complete quality assessment.

Viva Questions and Answers

1. How does a wax differ from a triglyceride oil?

Its major ester composition and physical behaviour differ; the assigned material must be assessed by its own method.

2. Does an identity test establish vitamin potency?

No. Potency requires the appropriate quantitative method.

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