

Lotioncrafter

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Cyclomethicone and Essential Oils

As more and more of us work with cyclomethicone in the creation of cyclomethicone based room, linen and body sprays, we're coming to find that not all fragrance and essential oils are miscible in cyclomethicone. Miscibility is the ability of two liquids to mix without separation into separate phases.

There is obviously one or several aroma chemicals in some of the fragrance oils that do not combine with cyclomethicone. However, since the blends are proprietary, there is no way to know what those are.

The INCI name cyclomethicone covers a variety of blends which will vary from vendor to vendor. They are not all the same, although all can use the same INCI name. Cyclomethicone fluids can be only one or a combination of D3, D4, D5, D6, D7, D8 volatile fluids. For example, our Lotioncrafter LC995 is 99.5% cyclopentasiloxane (D5) and our LC8515 is 85% cyclotetrasiloxane (D4) and 15% cyclopentasiloxane (D5). From what we have seen so far, it probably doesn't matter which cyclomethicone blend you have (or from what vendor), if the FO or EO is not miscible in one, it probably won't be in any of them. We have tested straight D4 and straight D5 and my testing of some of the immiscible FOs and EOs seems to bear this out.

If you'd like to assist with this project, here's what you can do. The best way to test is to simply pour about a teaspoon of cyclomethicone into something like a shot glass. Add a couple drops of the FO or EO in question, and stir well. It will either mix completely and the mixture will clear promptly, or it will puddle on the bottom or create a hazy/cloudy mix with suspended droplets that will eventually settle to the bottom. Some fragrances that are initially hazy may clear given enough time; some never will. If an initially hazy mixture appears to have cleared, be sure to stir it up to make sure the EO hasn't simply settle to the bottom. Report your findings to jenwelch@rockisland.com and we'll add them to the database. **Please be sure to include the Vendor Name, common and botanical names with your results.**

It is important to note that even immiscible fragrance oils can be used in the creation of scented cyclomethicone products, because the scent is picked up by the cyclomethicone in most cases, with the immiscible fraction settling out. It may simply mean that working with these will be a two step process. Instead of simply adding FO or EO to cyclomethicone in a bottle, you mix it in a larger vessel, let the immiscible portion settle out and decant the scented cyclomethicone into your retail bottles. This is no big deal, but is nice to know ahead of time!

This database is a collaborative effort and is meant to be a guideline. It is possible your results may vary.

Vendor	Essential Oil	Botanical Name	Miscible With Cyclomethicone
Rainbow Meadow	Almond, Bitter	Prunus Dulcis Var. Amara	No
Rainbow Meadow	Almond, Bitter 50/50	Prunus Dulcis Var. Amara w/Sweet Almd	Yes
Snowdrift Farm	Anise, Star	Illicium Verum	Yes
Rainbow Meadow	Balsam, Peru	Myroxylon Balsamum Var. Pereirae	No
Rainbow Meadow	Bay, West Indian	Pimenta Racemosa	Yes
A Garden Eastward	Bergamot	Citrus Bergamia	Clouds
Wildways Studios	Birch, Sweet	Betula Lenta	Yes
Reinbath	Cajeput	Melaleuca Cajeputi	No
Camden-Grey	Calendula CO2	Calendula Officinalis	No
Reinbath	Camphor, White	Cinnamomum Camphora	Yes
Rainbow Meadow	Carrot Seed Oil	Daucus Carota	Yes
Rainbow Meadow	Cassia	Cinnamomum Cassis	No
Brambleberry	Catnip	Nepeta Cataria	No
A Garden Eastward	Cedarwood	Cedrus Atlantica	Yes
Rainbow Meadow	Cedarwood, Virginia	Juniperus Virginiana	Yes
Rainbow Meadow	Chamomile, German	Matricaria Recutica	Yes

Vendor	Essential Oil	Botanical Name	Miscible With Cyclomethicone
Rainbow Meadow	Cinnamon Leaf	Cinnamomum Zeylanicum	No
Unknown	Citronella	Cymbopogon Nardus	Yes
Rainbow Meadow	Clary Sage	Salvia Sclarea	Yes
Rainbow Meadow	Clove Bud	Syzygium Aromaticum	No
Aura Cacia	Clove Bud	Eugenia Caryophyllata	No
Rainbow Meadow	Coriander	Coriandrum Sativum	Yes
Rainbow Meadow	Coriander	Coriandrum Sativum	Yes
Rainbow Meadow	Cypress	Cupressus Sempervirens	Yes
Rainbow Meadow	Eucalyptus 80/85	Eucalyptus Globus	Yes
Reinbath	Eucalyptus Radiata	Eucalyptus Radiata	Yes
Rainbow Meadow	Eucalyptus, Lemon	Eucalyptus Citriadora	Yes
Nature's Gift	Fir Grande	Abies Grandis	Yes
Rainbow Meadow	Fir Needle, Siberian	Abies Siberiaca	Yes
Reinbath	Fir Needle, Silver	Abies Alba	Yes
A Garden Eastward	Frankincense	Boswellia Carterii	Yes
Nature's Gift	Frankincense CO2	Boswellia Carterii	Clouds
MMS	Geranium, Bourbon	Pelardonium Graveolens	Yes
A Garden Eastward	Geranium, Bourbon CO2	Pelardonium Graveolens	Yes
Rainbow Meadow	Geranium, Rose	Pelargonium Graveolens	No
Rainbow Meadow	Ginger	Zingiber Officinale	Yes
Rainbow Meadow	Grapefruit	Citrus Paradisi	Clouds
Unknown	Grapefruit, Ruby Red	Citrus Paradisi	Clouds
Rainbow Meadow	Helichrysum	Helichrysum Angustifolium	Yes
Nature's Gift	Holiday Joy Synergy	Blend	Yes
Rainbow Meadow	Hyssop	Hussopus Officinalis	No
Rainbow Meadow	Jasmine Absolute	Jasminum Officinale	Yes
Rainbow Meadow	Juniper Berry	Juniperus Communis	Clouds
Unknown	Lavender 40/42	Lavandula Offinicalis	Yes
Aunt Helen's	Lavender, Bulgarian	Lavandula Officinalis	Yes
MMS	Lemon	Citrus Limonum	Yes
Rainbow Meadow	Lemongrass	Cymbopogon Citratus	Yes
Rainbow Meadow	Lime	Citrus Aurantifolia	Clouds
Sweetcakes	Litsea Cubeba / May Chang	Litsea Cubeba	Yes
A Garden Eastward	Marjoram Wild	Thymus Mastchina	Yes
Creative Fragrance	Melissa Oil	Melissa Officinalis	Yes
A Garden Eastward	Melissa Rectified	Melissa Officinalis	Yes
Unknown	Myrrh	Commiphora Myrrha	No
Camden-Grey	Myrtle	Myrtus Communis	Yes
Camden-Grey	Neroli	Citrus Aurantium	Yes
A Garden Eastward	Nutmeg	Myristica Fragrans	Yes
Unknown	Oakmoss Absolute	Evernia Prunastri	No
Rainbow Meadow	Orange, Sweet	Citrus Aurantium	Yes
Snowdrift Farm	Orange, Valencia 5 fold	Citrus Sinensis	Clouds
Rainbow Meadow	Palmarosa	Cymbopogon Martinii-Mitia	Yes
MMS	Patchouli	Pogostemon Cablin	Yes
Reinbath	Pepper, Black	Piper Nigrum	Yes
Brambleberry	Peppermint, 2nd Distillation	Menta Peperita	Yes
Rainbow Meadow	Petitigrain	Citrus Aurantium Var. Amara	Yes
Nature's Gift	Ravensara	Ravensara Aromatica	Yes
Snowdrift Farm	Rose Otto	Rosa Damascena	Yes
Camden-Grey	Rosehip Total CO2	Rosa Canina, seeds	Yes
Unknown	Rosemary	Rosemarinus Officinalis	Yes
Rainbow Meadow	Rosewood	Aniba Rosaeodora	Yes
A Garden Eastward	Sandalwood	Santalum Album	Yes

Vendor	Essential Oil	Botanical Name	Miscible With Cyclomethicone
A Garden Eastward	Seabuckthorn Berry CO2	Hippophae Rhamnoides	Yes
Brambleberry	Spearmint	Menta Spikata	Yes
Camden-Grey	Spikenard	nardostachys Jatam	Yes
A Garden Eastward	Tangerine, Cold Pressed	Citrus Reticulata	Yes
A Garden Eastward	Tea Tree	Maleuca Alternifolia	Yes
Rainbow Meadow	Thyme, White	Thymus Vulgaris	Yes
A Garden Eastward	Thyme, White	Thymus Zygis	Yes
Rainbow Meadow	Vetiver, Haiti	Vetiveria Zizandoides	Clouds
Nature's Gift	Winter Sunshine Synergy	Blend	Yes
A Garden Eastward	Wintergreen	Gaultheria Procumbens	Yes
Camden-Grey	Yarrow	Achillea Millefolium	Yes
Rainbow Meadow	Ylang Ylang 3rd	Cananga Odorata	Clouds
A Garden Eastward	Ylang Ylang CO2	Cananga Odorata	Clouds