

To whom it may concern

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## Botanica products: sustainability

Botanica is a participant in the development of the strict Certified Sustainable Economics (CSE) standard (<https://cse-label.org>) and is certified according to this standard since 2012. This certification comprises annual audits. CSE requires among other things: sustainably generated electricity (solar power from the roof), min. 80 % natural raw materials, QM system according to ISO 14001, family-friendly working conditions, fair partnership with suppliers, carbon neutrality (scope 1 + 2) etc., further no GMO, no protected wild native plants (CITES etc.), no animal testing etc. Furthermore, the Evonik Code of Conduct is binding (<https://corporate.evonik.com/en/company/governance-compliance/code-of-conduct>).

The use of certified organic natural materials by Botanica has been increasing for more than a decade. Since 2014, Botanica is certified according to the organic regulation.

For several years, the used plant materials have been mainly organic with a high portion of fairtrade, and the amount of co-products has increased.

The heating of the building and water is mainly provided by economical heat pumps, gas is only used as a support. Since January 2022, gas has been voluntarily purchased entirely as bio gas. The waste is mainly green waste that is given to the nearby bio gas plant. Overall, the carbon neutrality for scopes 1 and 2 emissions has been reached without compensation.

Beyond CSE, Botanica avoids to use palm (kernel) oil and fat, including derivatives like glycerine and caprylic/capric triglyceride.

The used caprylic/capric triglyceride and glycerine (organic, as well as non organic grade) are purely plant-derived and not from palm or GMO. Additionally, all glycerine grades are not from coco.

Glycerine is a co-product of lipolysis. All non-organic glycerine grades are mainly of the biodiesel production from rapeseed oil from Europe.

Botanica replaced synthetic propylene glycol by vegetal propylene glycol, that is produced from rape-based glycerine.

**Botanica** 



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