

Olive stone exfoliating particles

PRODUCT SHEET | Proposed cosmetic ingredient

Plant-derived particles recovered from olive-processing by-products, proposed for mechanical exfoliation in rinse-off cosmetics. Particle size and shape are the key grade characteristics; exfoliating performance must be assessed in the finished formulation.

Product characteristics

Parameter	Proposed description
Source	Olive stones / pits from <i>Olea europaea</i> L.
Origin	Iberian Peninsula sourcing proposed; confirm per lot
Physical form	Dry milled particles
Processing	Mechanical solvent-free process
INCI	Olea Europaea (Olive) Seed Powder
Particle size	Grade-specific sieve distribution from 250 to 500 µm
Traceability	Olive grove → olive mill → recovered stones → particle batch

Applications and formulation

Evaluate in body and facial scrubs, exfoliating cleansers and soaps. The particles are intended to remain solid: evaluate wetting, dispersion and suspension rather than water solubility.

Quality specifications

Parameter	Proposed criterion or reporting requirement
Total aerobic microbial count	<1,000 CFU/g [1]
Yeasts and moulds	<100 CFU/g [1]
E. coli, S. aureus, P. aeruginosa, C. albicans	Not detected in 1 g, each organism [1]
Moisture and water activity	Report both; define release limits after stability assessment
Particle shape and foreign matter	Microscopy and screening; establish acceptance criteria
Pb, Cd, Hg and As	Individual results in mg/kg; agree element-specific limits
Pesticides and other relevant contaminants	Named risk-based panel; individual limits and LOQs
Residual oil, packaging and shelf life	Characterise residual oil; validate packaging and shelf life

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Natural exfoliants and market benchmarks

What commercial olive stone ingredients offer

Suppliers sell milled olive stones as physical exfoliants with controlled particle sizes. Some also offer ultrafine powders as texture or oil-absorption ingredients. These are different functions: a smaller powder is not automatically a better exfoliant. The benchmarks below describe the named products, not CircO.

Product	Published size	Useful reference
Olive CRUSH MICRO [2]	100–300 µm	Facial polishes and exfoliating cleansers
Olive CRUSH ACTIVE [2]	<50 µm	Cosmetic base powder; separate from exfoliating grade
PhytOlive Fine / SOPHIM [3]	Around 500 µm	Olive stone exfoliant for face and body
Olive Exfoliator / Ellemental [1]	300–500 µm	Public TDS with microbiological specifications
Olive Seed Powder / Praan Naturals [4]	25/52 mesh	TDS reports density 500–800 g/L and moisture ≤15%

Selecting a CircO grade

Use 100–300 µm as a market-informed starting point for a facial development grade and 300–500 µm for a body development grade. These are trial ranges, not validated CircO specifications or proof of gentleness. Size distribution, angularity, hardness, dose and the formulation all influence the sensory result. [1–3]

Start with particle microscopy, sieve analysis, moisture, water activity and microbiology. Then test wetting, suspension, abrasion and skin tolerance in a reference rinse-off formula. A supplier brochure recommends 1–15% for Olive CRUSH; establish the CircO use level through its own formulation trials. [5]

Circular positioning and claims

The proposed positioning is a natural exfoliating ingredient made from recovered olive stones. Document the sourcing and processing before publishing upcycled or solvent-free claims. Natural origin does not establish hypoallergenicity, absence of irritation, biodegradability or organic certification.

Sources and product sheets

[1] Ellemental. Olive Exfoliator TDS, effective April 2025. www.ellementalpro.com/download/M-1208_TDS_S.pdf

[2] The Upcycled Beauty Company. Olive CRUSH product page. www.upcycledbeauty.com/olive-crush

[3] SOPHIM. PhytOlive Fine product page. www.sophim.com/en/product/phytolivefine/

[4] Praan Naturals / Natural Sourcing. Olive Seed Powder specification, dated 19 November 2019. www.praannaturals.com/downloads/SpecSheets/SPEC-Olive-Seed-Powder-FRTSDOLIVUK770.pdf

[5] The Upcycled Beauty Company. CRUSH brochure, Olive CRUSH, pp. 6–7. Supplier PDF accessible via in-cosmetics exhibitor documentation.

