



COMMITTEE FOR VETERINARY MEDICINAL PRODUCTS

CITRI AETHEROLEUM

SUMMARY REPORT

1. *Citri aetheroleum* is the volatile oil, obtained by cold expression from the fresh fruit peels of *Citrus limon* (L.) Burm.f., which contain approximately 0.4% oil. It contains 90% (+)-limonene, 3 to 5% citral, citronellal, α -terpineol, linalyl acetate, geranyl acetate, coumarins, and a large number of other terpene derivatives in small amounts.
2. *Citri aetheroleum* is contained in one veterinary medicinal product together with 9 other active ingredients. The percentage of the oil in the product is 0.025%. The product is used as a nose-spray to facilitate breathing in new-born animals of all food producing species. The dose is 0.1 to 0.3 g of the product, depending on the size of the animal. This corresponds to a maximal single dose of 0.075 mg of *Citri aetheroleum*. The treatment may be repeated after 10 to 15 seconds, if necessary.

Lemon peel is used in animal feed.

There is no information on the use of the essential oil in human medicine. The flesh and the peel of the fruit are used against fevers and colds.

Fresh, dried and candied lemon peels, which contain *Citri aetheroleum*, are used for the flavouring of human food and beverages.

3. There is no information on the pharmacology of *Citri aetheroleum*. The peel has effects on CNS, first stimulation then depression and sleepiness.
4. There is no information on pharmacokinetics, acute toxicity, long-term toxicity, effect on reproduction and teratogenicity, mutagenicity, carcinogenicity or immunotoxicity of *Citri aetheroleum*.
5. The use of *Citri aetheroleum* in the doses recommended is unlikely to result in residues in edible tissues posing a risk to the health of the consumer.

Conclusions and recommendation

Having considered the criteria laid down by the Committee for the inclusion of substances in Annex II of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2377/90 and in particular that:

- *Citri aetheroleum* is contained in lemon, which is a normal component of the human diet,
- *Citri aetheroleum* is used only for newborn animals,
- the animals are unlikely to be sent to slaughter immediately after treatment;

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

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