



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
ENTERPRISE AND INDUSTRY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Consumer goods  
Cosmetics and Medical Devices

Brussels, **27 MAI 2009**  
ENTR/F/3/BM/bl D(2009) 17496

Dear Mr. Burfield,

I am writing to you regarding the issue of the regulation of furocoumarins within the Cosmetics Directive. We had in the past an exchange of correspondences regarding this topic and we have reconsidered the whole issue in light of your comments and the available scientific opinions from the Scientific Committee.

We have then decided to re-consult the scientific committee along the following line. The furocoumarins should be banned for use in cosmetic products, except when they are present in natural essences. Then for natural essences, limits regarding their possible content of furocoumarins should be fixed using the following 7 markers: bergapten (5-MOP), bergamottin, byacangelicol, epoxybergamottin, isopimpinellin, oxypeucedanin and xanthotoxin (8-MOP).

These limits would be the following:

- 5 ppm of the 7 furocoumarins in leave-on products;
- 50 ppm of the 7 furocoumarins in rinse-off products;
- And each of the 7 furocoumarins should not be present in higher concentration than 1 ppm.

In order to allow the scientific committee determining if this proposal would allow a safe use of natural essences containing furocoumarins, I would ask you to send us any relevant scientific data that you would consider as appropriate for that purpose.

We would appreciate receiving your contributions by 4 of September 2009.

Yours sincerely,

Sabine Lecrenier  
Head of Unit

Mr Tony Burfield  
Cropwatch

e-mail: [info@copwatch.org](mailto:info@copwatch.org)