

38200 Catechu

English: black catechu, cutch
German: Catechou
French: catéchou

Color Index: C.I. Natural Brown 3
CAS No.: 8001-76-1
EINECS: 232-291-7

Catechu (also known as cachou, cutch, cashoo or Japan earth) is an extract of any several species of *Acacia* by boiling water and evaporating the resulting brew.

Catechu (called *katha* in Hindi, *kachu* in Malay, hence Latin *Acacia catechu* as the type species which provides the extract) is an astringent and has been used since ancient times in Ayurvedic medicine as well as in breath-freshening spice mixtures.

The mixture is high in natural vegetable tannins (which accounts for its astringent effect), and may be used for the tanning of animal hides. Early research by Sir Humphrey Davy in the early 19th century first demonstrated the use of the catechu in tanning over more expensive and traditional oak extracts.

Specification:

Appearance: reddish brown color
Solubility: easily soluble in cold water
Loss on drying: max. 10 %
Ash: 3 – 5 %
Tannin: 60 – 70 %

The product meets the above mentioned purity requirements.