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Standard Practice for Descriptive Skinfeel Analysis of Creams and Lotions[1]

This standard is issued under the fixed designation E 1490; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 The objective of this practice is to provide procedures that may be used in the design and analysis of studies of skin care products that compare qualitatively and quantitatively various sensory attributes and their intensity (or strength) over time. These properties can then be used to define the performance of skin care products to provide direction in product formulation, research guidance, and claim substantiation.

1.2 Guidelines are provided for the definition of each product attribute or term, range of the rating scales, procedures for the manipulation of product alone and on the skin, selection and training of panelists, handling of products, and skin conditioning prior to tests.

1.3 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*

E 253 Terminology Relating to Sensory Evaluation of Materials and Products[2]

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—Definitions of descriptive terms other than those given as follows appear in the procedure of Appendix X1.

3.1.1 *afterfeel*—the feel of the skin after application of the sample, with or without touching, usually measured at a set time interval.

3.1.2 *delivery*—the stage during which the product is discharged onto the finger(s) or skin.

3.1.3 *greasy*—a somewhat thick, sticky, either slightly resistant or slightly slippery film (for example, petrolatum).

3.1.4 *oily*—a thin, slippery, non-sticky film (for example, mineral oil).

3.1.5 *panel leader*—a person who is responsible for conducting descriptive panels and control product, protocols, and panel maintenance.

3.1.6 *pick-up*—the stage during which the product is manipulated between the fingers.

3.1.7 *reference anchors*—products that are used to demonstrate high or low intensities of a particular attribute.

3.1.8 *rub-out*—the stage during which the product is rubbed onto the skin.

3.1.9 *waxy*—a rigid, dry, somewhat resistant residue.

4. Summary of Practice

4.1 This practice provides for the identification of panelists selected and trained appropriately to evaluate the intensity and duration of defined sensory characteristics of skin care products. The details of specified procedures are defined in Sections 7 and 8 of this practice.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 The procedure recommended in this practice can be used to assess the sensory appearance and tactile properties of lotions and creams or ointment.

5.2 This practice is applicable to product categories that include skin lotions and creams; facial moisturizers; hand lotions and creams; and skin care products for which the appearance and tactile properties need to be assessed.

5.3 Procedures of the type described herein may be used to communicate perceived sensory properties (appearance and feel) between manufacturers and to the consumer through the media. These guidelines are suggested to meet the need for ascertaining the performance of experimental or commercial samples.

5.4 These procedures are to be used by persons who have familiarized themselves with the procedures and have had previous experience with sensory evaluation.

5.5 This practice provides suggested procedures and is not meant to exclude alternate procedures that may be effective in providing sensory evaluation descriptions.

6. Equipment

6.1 The following equipment may be used during the evaluation process.

6.1.1 *Template*, used to outline the 2-in. (51-mm) diameter

[1] This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee E-18 on Sensory Evaluation of Materials and Products and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee E 18.07 on Personal Care and Household Evaluation.

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[2] *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol. 15.07.

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