

KYOTO FU KYOTO SHI SHIMOGYO KU
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INARICHO 540



[Definition of Urushi]

<Definition of Urushi lacquer>

1. Sap collected by carving the bark of the Urushi tree (*Toxicodendron vernicifluum*). The sap is water in oil emulsion and dry-cures at a normal temperature.
2. Chemically, its principal component is a catechol having C15 or C17 at the 3-position of catechol or having alkenyl group, C17 at the 4-position of catechol. Also it contains water, water soluble polysaccharide (gum), glycoprotein (nitrogen oxide) and a small amount of laccase enzyme.
3. Except for artificial curing processes such as baking, initial drying is caused by laccase at normal temperature.

<Arami-urushi and Koshiage-kiurushi>

Arami-urushi: Sap just collected from the Urushi tree by following the definition of Urushi lacquer.

Koshiage-kiurushi: Urushi lacquer after removing bark chips and impurities from Arami-urushi.

<Labeling and definition of refined Urushi>

1. Suki-muyu-seisei-urushi (Transparent refined urushi without oil): Urushi lacquer gained after dispersing, dehydrating and filtering Arami or Koshiage-urushi.
2. Kuro-muyu-seisei-urushi (Black refined lacquer without oil): Urushi lacquer gained by blackening Arami or Koshiage-urushi with colorant such as iron, dispersing, dehydrating and filtering.
3. Suki-yuuyu-seisei-urushi (Transparent refined urushi with oil): Urushi lacquer gained by adding natural drying oil or a mixture of natural drying oil and rosin to Arami or Koshiage-urushi, dispersing, dehydrating and filtering.
4. Kuro-yuuyu-seisei-urushi (Black refined urushi with oil): Urushi lacquer gained by blackening Arami or Koshiage-urushi with colorant such as iron, adding natural drying oil or a mixture of natural drying oil and rosin, dispersing, dehydrating and filtering.
5. Nashiji-urushi (Nashiji (pear-skin) Urushi): Urushi lacquer gained by adding gamboge to 1. or 3. and then dispersing, dehydrating and filtering.

(Attention) This document is product information of Urushi lacquer and doesn't guarantee anything. Also it assumes that you use urushi in a normal and conventional manner.

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(Hazards Identification)

1. This material is exempt from Product Liability Act. However so called Neri-urushi, urushi containing pigment is regarded as a processed product. Therefore ask for a MSDS for it.
2. No hazard. However depending on the person, it can cause a rash after contact with skin.

(General note)

1. Store it in a cool, dark place, avoid hot and humid environment. Keep it away from living areas.
2. Before use, stir well from the bottom.
3. Except for baking and working outside, the desirable environment for urushi to harden is at a temperature between 15°C and 25°C, humidity between 60% and 70%.
4. Ki-urushi which is older than 6 months old and Seisei-urushi which is older than 1 year old will possibly have a problem curing therefore mix it with a fresher one.
5. As its weatherability is not good explain to your clients that urushi is not suitable as a coating that will be exposed to UV.

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(First aid measures against rash)

1. When urushi is on your skin, wipe it off immediately with oil such as salad oil.
2. When it gets into eyes, promptly rinse eyes thoroughly with clean water and get medical attention.
3. A person who has reaction before handling should stop using urushi immediately.
4. Before rash gets worse, consult with a specialist.

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