

Glossary of Animal Substances

A '#' indicates that non-animal (synthetic, vegetable or plant/mineral-derived) versions/sources by the same name are known to exist.

* **albumen/albumin** egg white *Use/s:* food binder * **alpha hydroxy acids (AHAs)**# naturally occurring chemicals derived from fruit or milk *Use/s:* cosmetics * **amberggris** morbid concretion obtained from the intestine of the sperm whale *Use/s:* perfumes * **amino acids**# 'building blocks' of proteins * **amniotic fluid** fluid surrounding the foetus within the placenta *Use/s:* cosmetics * **anchovy** small fish of the herring family. Often an ingredient of Worcester sauce and pizza toppings *Use/s:* flavour enhancer * **angora** fibre obtained from rabbits or goats *Use/s:* clothing * **aspic** savoury jelly derived from meat and fish *Use/s:* glazing agent * **astrakhan** skin of still born or very young lambs from a breed originating in Astrakhan, Russia *Use/s:* clothing * **beeswax (E901)**# secreted by bees to produce combs *Use/s:* furniture and floor polishes, candles, cosmetics * **bone/bonemeal** animal bone *Use/s:* horticultural fertiliser, bone china ornaments, crockery, supplements * **brown** boiled meat, ears and tongue of pig *Use/s:* foodstuff * **bristle** stiff animal hair, usually from pigs *Use/s:* brushes * **calcium mesoinositol hexaphosphate** *Use/s:* baked goods, soft drinks, processed vegetables * **capiz** shell *Use/s:* lampshades * **carmine/carminic acid (E120)** red pigment obtained from cochineal *Use/s:* food and drink dyes * **casein**# main protein of milk *Use/s:* cheese making * **cashmere** fine wool from the cashmere goat and wild goat of Tibet *Use/s:* clothing * **castoreum** obtained from the anal sex gland of the beaver *Use/s:* fixative in perfumes * **catgut** dried and twisted intestines of the sheep or horse *Use/s:* stringed musical instruments, surgical stitching * **caviar(e)** roe of the sturgeon and other fish *Use/s:* a relish * **charcoal**# charred bone or wood *Uses:* clarifying agent * **chitin** organic base of the hard parts of insects and crustacea eg shrimps, crabs *Use/s:* conditioners and skin care products, thickener and moisturiser in shampoos * **chamois** soft leather from the skin of the chamois antelope, sheep, goats, deer etc *Use/s:* cleaning cloth * **cholecalciferol** see **D3** * **civet**# substance scraped from glands in the anal pouch of the civet cat *Use/s:* fixative in perfumes * **cochineal (E120)** dye-stuff consisting of the dried bodies of scale insects. Used for making carmine *Use/s:* red food and drink colouring * **cod liver oil** oil extracted from the liver of cod and related fish *Use/s:* food supplement * **coral** hard calcareous substance consisting of the continuous skeleton secreted by coelenterate polyps for their support and habitation *Use/s:* ornaments * **collagen** constituent of connective tissue which yields gelatin(e) on boiling *Use/s:* cosmetics, sausage skins * **D3 (cholecalciferol)** vitamin derived from lanolin or fish oil *Use/s:* vitamin and food supplements * **deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA)**# controls protein synthesis/stores genetic information. Found in all animal and plant cells *Use/s:* cosmetics, genetically-modified organisms, shampoos * **down** underplumage of fowls (especially duck and goose) *Use/s:* filling quilts, pillows, sleeping bags, padded clothing * **dripping** melted animal fat *Use/s:* frying * **eider down** small, soft feathers from the breast of the eider duck *Use/s:* filling quilts * **elastin** protein uniting muscle fibres in meat *Use/s:* moisturiser in cosmetics * **fatty acids**# organic compounds: saturated, polyunsaturated and unsaturated * **feather**# epidermal appendage of a bird *Uses:* fashion accessory, feather dusters * **felt**# cloth made of wool, or of wool and fur or hair *Use/s:* clothing * **gelatin(e)** jelly obtained by boiling animal tissues (skin, tendons, ligaments etc) or bones *Use/s:* confectionery, biscuits, capsules, jellies, photographic film, match heads * **glycerin(e)/glycerol (E422)**# clear, colourless liquid which may be derived from animal fats, synthesised from propylene or from fermentation of sugars *Use/s:* solvent for flavours, texture improver, humectant * **hide** animal skin (raw or tanned) *Use/s:* clothing and footwear, clothing accessories, upholstery * **insulin**# pancreas of cattle, sheep or pigs *Uses:* managing diabetes * **isinglass** very pure form of gelatin(e) obtained from the air bladders of some freshwater fishes, especially the sturgeon *Use/s:* clarifying alcoholic drinks, jellies * **keratin** protein found in hair, horns, hoofs and feathers *Use/s:* shampoos and conditioners, fertiliser * **L-cysteine hydrochloride (E920)**# manufactured from animal hair and chicken feathers, or synthetically from coal tar *Use/s:* shampoo, improving agent for white flour * **lactic acid (E270)**# acid produced by the fermentation of milk sugar but also by fermentation in pickles, cocoa and tobacco *Use/s:* acidulant in confectionery, soft drinks, pickles and sauces * **lactose** milk sugar *Use/s:* tablet filler, sweetener, 'carrier' for flavouring agents — especially in crisps * **lanolin(e)** fat extracted from sheep's wool *Use/s:* cleaning products, an emollient and emulsifier used in cosmetics — especially lipsticks * **lard** fat surrounding the stomach and kidneys of the pig, sheep and cattle *Use/s:* culinary * **leather** tanned hide (mostly from cattle but also sheep, pigs, goats etc) *Use/s:* clothing and footwear, clothing accessories, upholstery * **lecithin (E322)**# fatty substance found in nerve tissues, egg yolk, blood and other tissues. Mainly obtained commercially from soya bean, peanut and corn *Use/s:* emulsifier in baked goods and confectionery * **lutein(E161(b))**#

substance of deep yellow colour found in egg yolk. Obtained commercially from marigold
Use/s: food colouring * **mohair** cloth or yarn made from the hair of the angora goat *Use/s:*
clothing * **musk**# substance secreted in a gland or sac by the male musk deer *Use/s:*
perfume * **oleic acid**# fatty acid occurring in animal and vegetable fats *Use/s:* soaps,
cosmetics, ointments * **oleoic oil** liquid obtained from pressed tallow *Use/s:* margarines *
oleostearin solid obtained from pressed tallow *Use/s:* soap and candle making * **oestrogen**#
female sex hormone from cow ovaries or pregnant mares' urine *Use/s:* cosmetics, body
building supplements, hormone creams * **parchment**# skin of the sheep or goat, dressed and
prepared for writing etc * **pearl** ('Mother of', or 'cultured') concretion of layers of pain-dulling
nacre formed around a foreign particle within the shell of various bivalve molluscs, principally
the oyster *Use/s:* jewellery and decorative * **pepsin** enzyme found in gastric juices *Use/s:*
cheese making * **placenta** organ by which the foetus is attached to the umbilical cord *Use/s:*
cosmetics * **progesterone**# sex hormone *Use/s:* hormone creams * **propolis** bee glue. Used
by bees to stop up crevices and fix combs to the hive *Use/s:* toiletries and cosmetics *
rennet# extract of calf stomach. Contains the enzyme renin which clots milk *Use/s:* cheese
making, junkets * **reticulin** one of the structural elements (together with elastin and collagen)
of skeletal muscle * **ribonucleic acid (RNA)** see **deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA)** * **roe** eggs
obtained from the abdomen of slaughtered female fish *Use/s:* a relish * **royal jelly** food on
which bee larvae are fed and which causes them to develop into queen bees *Use/s:* food
supplement * **sable** fur from the sable marten, a small carnivorous mammal *Use/s:* clothing,
artists' brushes * **shellac (E904)** insect secretion *Use/s:* hair spray, lip sealer, polishes,
glazing agent * **silk** cloth made from the fibre produced by the larvae ('silk worm') of certain
bombycine moths, the harvesting of which entails the destruction of the insect *Use/s:* clothing,
cosmetics * **sodium 5'-inosinate** occurs naturally in muscle. Prepared from fish waste *Use/s:*
flavour enhancer * **sperm oil** oil found in the head of various species of whales *Use/s:* candle
making * **spermaceti wax** fatty substance found mainly in the head of the sperm whale, other
whales and dolphins *Use/s:* medicines, candle making, cosmetics * **sponge**# aquatic animal
or colony of animals of a 'low order', characterised by a tough elastic skeleton of interlaced
fibres *Use/s:* bathing aid * **squalene/squalane**# found in the liver of the shark (and rats)
Use/s: toiletries and cosmetics * **stearate**# salt of stearic acid *Use/s:* body building
supplements * **stearic acid (E570)**# organic acid prepared from stearin * **stearin(e)**# general
name for the three glycerids (monostearin, distearin, tristearin). Formed by the combination of
stearic acid and glycerin; chiefly applied to tristearin, which is the main constituent of tallow or
suet *Use/s:* medicines, skin softener in toiletries and cosmetics * **suede**# kid-, pig- or calf-
skin, tanned *Use/s:* clothing and footwear * **suet**# solid fat prepared from the kidneys of cattle
and sheep *Use/s:* cooking * **tallow** hard animal fat, especially that obtained from the parts
about the kidneys of ruminating animals *Use/s:* soap and candle making * **testosterone**#
male hormone *Use/s:* body building supplements * **urea**# waste nitrogen formed in the liver
and excreted by the kidneys *Use/s:* toiletries and cosmetics * **vellum**# fine parchment
prepared from the skins of calves, lambs or kids *Use/s:* writing material * **vitamin A**# (retinol)
derived from fish liver oil or egg yolk *Use/s:* cosmetics, food supplement * **velvet**# fabric
made usually of silk but also rayon or nylon *Use/s:* clothing * **volaise** ostrich meat * **whhey**
residue from milk after the removal of the casein and most of the fat. By-product of cheese
making *Use/s:* margarines, biscuits, crisps, cleaning products * **wool** hair forming the fleecy
coat of the domesticated sheep (and similar animals) *Use/s:* clothing

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