



LetCo

LIQUID ENERGY TRADING COMPANY SWISS S.A.

Sugar Beet Molasses (General information)

(Product code INT1all)



General information on molasses

Sugar beet molasses / Sugar cane molasses

Molasses is highly valued as an animal feed owing to its many beneficial properties. It is used to enhance and regularize the taste of mixed feeds and roughage, resulting in increased feed intake. The use of molasses requires little in the way of investment in technical infrastructure, particularly in the silage sector, where effective use can be achieved with very simple means. Molasses is also widely used in the fermentation industry, as it provides a good substrate for a range of fermentation technologies.

Quality

Not all molasses is equal. There is a broad distinction between sugar cane and sugar beet molasses, as well as significant quality differences within these two classifications.

The guaranteed quality characteristics vary among European countries. As a rule, the price of molasses as a commodity is determined by its total sugar content and sometimes also by its water content, although sugar content and water content are generally mutually interdependent. The sugar in molasses is made up primarily of sucrose and inverted sugar. The sugar in cane molasses is about 2/3 sucrose and 1/3 inverted sugar, whereas the sugar in beet molasses is almost entirely sucrose, with the inverted sugar content never exceeding 1%.

Cane and beet molasses also vary in terms of their pH value and mineral and ash content. The mineral and ash content generally ranges from 8% (very low) to 13% (very high). Beet molasses has a protein content of approximately 8-9%, which is about twice that found in cane molasses. Molasses has a specific gravity of between 1.35 and 1.45, meaning that it is heavier than water. Under “normal” conditions, molasses can be stored for very long periods.

Sugar beet molasses – Analysis

Molasses is a by-product of a number of manufacturing processes and technologies. The process used determines both the amount and quality of the molasses produced.

Reference values for sugar beet molasses

Total sugar content	42 - 50	%
Moisture	20 - 25	%
Ash	approx. 9	%
Betaine	approx. 4,5	%
Nitrogen - total -	1,6 - 2,0	%

Feed-grade molasses has a guaranteed minimum sugar content of 40-42%, while industrial grade molasses for the most part has a guaranteed minimum sugar content of 47-50%. The moisture content is not guaranteed.

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