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Skin lightening effect of tetrahydrocurcumin

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Tetrahydrocurcuminoids (THC), a colorless hydrogenated product derived from the yellow curcuminoids, (the biologically active principles from the rhizomes of Curcuma longa), function as efficient antioxidant compounds used for skin whitening. The superior antioxidant property of THC, combined with the lack of yellow color, render this product useful in achromatic food and cosmetic applications that currently employ conventional synthetic antioxidants, anti-inflammatory and antioxidant properties, as well as providing UVB protection. It scavenges and prevents the formation of free radicals. It also inhibits tyrosinase, which inhibits the skin from producing melanin. This product is color-free, unlike the brilliant yellow color of other turmeric extracts and can be used in anti-aging, skin lightening, and sun care and after sun care formulations. THC offer protection to the skin and should be considered for inclusion as functional antioxidants in topical preparations. Tetrahydrocurcuminoids scavenges free radicals that are generated through exposure to ultraviolet radiation, chemicals or other environmental stress factors which age the skin. The efficacy of Curcuminoids and THC is also concentration dependent, with THC being even more effective at lower concentrations. THC also helps to improve the shelf life of topical formulations by inhibiting the autoxidation of fats by offering protection against rancidity of the fat components used in the formulation of cosmetics. The anti-inflammatory effects of THC combined with their efficient antioxidant action render them useful as ingredients in anti-aging formulations, skin lightening and brightening products and topical formulations designed to maintain general skin health and integrity.

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