



## Pau D'Arco Lotion

Stock #1614-4 (4 fl. oz.)

Pau D'Arco Lotion provides the powerful antibacterial, antifungal and anti-inflammatory benefits of this herbal medicine in a soothing, easy-to-apply cream. Topical application of pau d'arco is recommended throughout the world for a variety of skin diseases and infections. Pau D'Arco Lotion also contains safflower seed oil, sunflower oil, aloe vera and vitamin E, which together provide multiple healing and therapeutic benefits.

**Pau d'Arco** (*Tabebuia heptaphylla*) is a large tree found in Eastern Paraguay, whose wood or stem bark is traditionally used in Paraguay and other South American countries to treat fungal infections, inflammatory conditions, skin diseases and wounds. Pau d'arco exhibits broad-spectrum antimicrobial activity against bacteria, viruses, parasites and fungi. Pau d'arco contains over 20 active constituents, the most researched of which are lapachol and beta-lapachone. These ingredients have exhibited antifungal activity comparable to the drug, ketaconazole, commonly used to prevent and treat skin and fungal infections. Lapachol has also demonstrated analgesic (pain-relieving), anti-inflammatory and antipsoriatic (psoriasis-combating) effects. Research suggests that lapachol may be an effective treatment for both dermal and subdermal injuries. Beta-lapachone has also been shown to speed the healing of wounds and may be a beneficial topical treatment for serious wound infections, including those caused MRSA (*methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus*).<sup>1-10</sup>

**Safflower seed oil** (*Carthamus tinctorius*) is a rich source of essential fatty acids (EFAs). Safflower oil also contains vitamin E, as well as other vitamins and minerals. Safflower oil has been used to heal skin rashes and inflammatory skin conditions. Safflower oil has also been shown to inhibit the growth of malignant melanoma (the most dangerous type of skin cancer) in vitro.<sup>4,11-19</sup>

**Sunflower oil** (*Helianthus annuus*) is a rich source of vitamin E, as well as various essential fatty acids (EFAs), vitamins and minerals. Sunflower oil may be beneficial for the treatment of atopic dermatitis (a type of eczema). Sunflower oil may also be useful for preventing pressure ulcers and improving skin barrier function against infection.<sup>11,12,20-22</sup>

**Aloe vera** (*Aloe barbadensis*) use for medicinal and therapeutic purposes dates back over 4,000 years. Aloe vera has demonstrated antibacterial, anti-fungal, anti-inflammatory, antipruritic (anti-itching), and analgesic properties. Aloe vera has been shown to improve the healing of burns, wounds and abrasions, and has been effective in the treatment of skin conditions, including psoriasis, dermatitis, frostbite and scabies (a contagious skin disease). Aloe vera may also be beneficial for the treatment of genital herpes and skin cancer.<sup>4,23-36</sup>

**Vitamin E** (tocopheryl acetate) is a common ingredient in skin care products and has been used for over 50 years in experimental and clinical dermatology. Vitamin E exhibits antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, photoprotective (protecting against sun/UV light damage), skin barrier stabilizing, and potential antitumorigenic (tumor formation/growth-inhibiting) effects. Vitamin E has been shown to relieve dry, itchy skin conditions; aid in the healing of burns, abrasions, and skin ulcers; and, prevent and dissolve scar tissue. Vitamin E may also provide some improvement for skin wrinkles and prematurely-aged skin by preventing free radical damage to the skin. In addition, a recent study found that vitamin E applied topically before and after surgery improved the healing of the incision site (surgical wound) and provided very good cosmetic results.<sup>37-41</sup>

### References:

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