

Phase behavior of beta hydroxy-acids with laureth 4.

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Abstract

The colloidal structures of beta carboxylic acid topical vesicle formulations were determined and the changes during evaporation after applications were estimated from phase diagrams. The results showed significant difference during evaporation between salicylic acid on one hand and three water soluble acids; malic, tartaric, and citric acid, on the other. The water soluble acids showed an increase in the acid concentration in the aqueous solution to levels that must be considered harmful, while salicylic acid showed no increase in concentration in the individual phases even after 99% evaporation of water.