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Blue Lotus

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Part One

Sourcing Blue Lotus

Blue Lotus Background

Nymphaea caerulea, or Blue Lotus Flower, is a blue-purple water lily with a bright yellow center. It requires hot, humid weather to grow and is native to parts of Asia where it holds historical and cultural significance to the communities where it grows. For ancient Egyptians, blue lotus flowers signified immortality because they resprouted after long periods of drought. In China, the blue lotus was a religious symbol and an emblem of femininity. More specifically to Buddhism, the blue lotus flower symbolizes both wisdom and enlightenment as represented in the way the flower blooms out of muddy water. Blue lotus flowers remain closed when it's dark or cloudy, only blooming when the sun appears in the morning.

Blue Lotus is not a steam-distilled essential oil but comes from using solvent extraction methods, which can be particularly useful when processing delicate floral raw materials like blue lotus flowers. It's also used when distillation simply cannot properly extract the aromatic compounds, like in the case of tonka beans or vanilla beans.

Behind the Bottle

doTERRA Blue Lotus is sourced from Guangzhou, Guangdong Province, China and Haikou, Hainan Island, China. While the plant grows wild in these areas, our blue lotus is grown and harvested in cultivation ponds with new seedlings being nurtured alongside the more mature flowers to ensure continuous health and supply of flowers. After about three to four months of growing in the pond, the blue lotus will bloom, enabling approximately three to four harvests per year, which usually take place between March and November.

In Guangzhou, the blue lotus ponds were built entirely from scratch, specifically to source Blue Lotus for doTERRA. The undertaking was led by a husband-and-wife duo who also produce several other oils for doTERRA from this area of the world. All of the flowers from the Guangzhou ponds are used to create





doTERRA Blue Lotus Touch. In Haikou, blue lotus ponds already existed for the fresh flower market, however our partner helped this pond to expand. Here, 30% of the flowers are now used for doTERRA Blue Lotus while 70% of the flowers still go to the flower market. The income farmers receive from the flower market can vary quite a lot in stability, making the addition of Blue Lotus extract production a great source of reliable, consistent revenue for local farmers.

Caring for the plant is labor intensive with men and women farmers working in waist-high water to reach them. Fish living in the pond are regularly checked to determine the cleanliness of the water. Since the ponds are pesticide free, harvesters manually remove snails who can invade the water, lay eggs and start eating the leaves. In Guangzhou, they also use the distilled biomass of camellia flowers in the ponds as a natural way of reducing infestation of snails. When it's time to harvest, the farmers bring floating baskets with them into the ponds to collect the flowers. Harvesters can usually collect up to 220 lbs. (100 kg) of flowers per day and are paid immediately via bank transfer based on the weight. Once harvested, the flowers are stored in a cool room and transported in a refrigerated truck to the extraction facility within 24 hours of harvest. After extraction, the leftover biomass is used as mulch for litsea trees, which also provide essential oil for doTERRA.

Impacting Lives

To provide Blue Lotus Touch, doTERRA has developed a partnership to ensure traceable, sustainable, and transparent supply chains that produce the best quality product. Through this partnership, 22 blue lotus farmers and laborers receive income. In Guangzhou, the land owner received (and continue to receive) prepayments to support the expansion of their lotus production ponds which provides cash flow to pay their upfront costs rather than waiting for full payment after harvest. The expanded lotus pond in Hainan allows farmers who previously sold the flowers for the fresh market alone to expand their business producing flowers for extraction--guaranteeing a reliable and sustainable supplemental income. The newer lotus pond set up in Guangzhou has generated job opportunities for the local community including many women who have learned new skills that support their livelihoods and provide a pleasant work environment. Furthermore, with the retirement

age being 55 years old for women, this supply chain allows additional income for their families. This produce supports 92 jobs, impacting 285 lives.

In one of the small villages where many of the blue lotus farmers live, many farmers often must leave to work in bigger cities to sufficiently provide for their families, only returning to visit their families once a year. By working with doTERRA, farmers can earn enough income in their hometown to stay to provide for their families.



Part Two

How to Use Blue Lotus Touch

Also known as Egyptian Lotus or Blue Water Lily, the Blue Lotus is notorious for its mysterious, mystical persona. A truly pure and natural Blue Lotus extract is incredibly rare.

Usage Tips:

- For feelings of hydrated, soft skin, apply Blue Lotus Touch to the face or hands routinely.
- Roll Blue Lotus Touch onto the feet or back as part of a relaxing massage.
- Apply Blue Lotus Touch with your favorite floral roll-on like Jasmine or Magnolia to create a personal fragrance that is both calming and uniquely you.



What is Blue Lotus Extract?

The blue lotus is a captivating blue-purple flower with a bright yellow center. Solvent extraction is used on the delicate blossoms to produce blue lotus extract. Blue Lotus Touch contains blue lotus extract in a base of fractionated coconut oil.



What Is Blue Lotus Touch Used For?

Squalene, one of the constituents in Blue Lotus, is a natural part of your body's ability to moisturize and hydrate the skin. Additionally, the fractionated coconut oil in Blue Lotus Touch adds even more moisturizing and hydrating properties. Benzyl alcohol, another major constituent found in blue lotus extract, supports conditions for a clean, healthy scalp when applied topically. These constituent properties make Blue Lotus Touch a powerful and fabulous choice when it comes to skin and hair care.

Apply Blue Lotus Touch as part of your morning or evening skin care routine for feelings of soft, hydrated skin. After showering, apply it to the scalp and hair. A nice side benefit to any topical application of Blue Lotus is the lingering aroma, which offers benefits of its own.

What Does Blue Lotus Smell Like?

The scent of blue lotus is distinctly floral. It smells sweet and almost green. The unique fragrance of Blue Lotus Touch makes for an enchanting personal "pure-fume." Simply roll on the neck and wrists. Tranquil and peaceful, the aroma of blue lotus is also commonly used for massage and meditation. Consider applying Blue Lotus Touch to the pulse points or crown of the head before meditating or your next yoga practice.

Are Blue Lotus Flowers Hallucinogenic?

Blue lotus flowers are known for their ability to induce lucid dreaming; however, Blue Lotus Touch poses no hallucinogenic side effects or dangers whatsoever. The extract does not contain the constituents associated with hallucinogenic effects and is safe for aromatic and topical uses.