



LabCat

The international division
of Laboratório Catarinense

where Nature and Science come together

PLANT EXTRACT

Euterpe oleraceae Mart.



AÇAÍ

Açaí (*Euterpe oleracea* Mart., Palmae) is a palmtree typical from the Amazon region. It is also found in Equator, Colombia, Guiana and Venezuela. It grows in seasonally flooded habitats and along water margins.

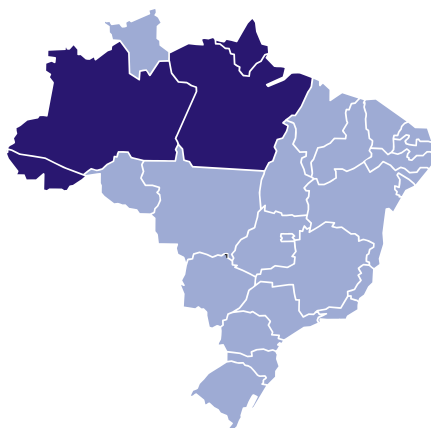
In the Amazon, the açai palm heart is widely consumed as a vegetable, the fruit is prepared into a popular fruit drink and used as a natural ink or dye, and the wood is used in house construction (palm thatched roofs). Ethnobotanists have recorded no less than 22 different uses for all parts of the tree. In the Brazilian Amazon, the Indian tribes of the forest use all parts of the tree. They fell the tree and eat the palm heart, turn the fruit into a juice drink, and use the mature palm fronds for thatch for their house roofs.

The juice of the açai fruit is an energy drink rich in lipids, proteins, minerals and anthocyanin pigments. The juice is extracted from the fruit produced between May and August.

Anthocyanins, the water-soluble pigments responsible for the fruit's reddish color, are widely found in açai. Anthocyanins absorb light from the green and blue waves, allowing the red ones to be captured by the plant tissues, presenting the red color of the fruit to our eyes. Anthocyanins are known antioxidants and are quickly absorbed through the stomach.

The major anthocyanin found in açai is cyanidin-3-O-glycoside. This anthocyanin can act on the anti-inflammatory process to protect tissues and skin. Studies have linked açai and its antioxidant activity to the inhibition of anemia and prostate hyperplasia and a reduction of the effects of aging.

As açai deteriorates rapidly after harvest, its raw material is generally only available outside the immediate growing region as juice or fruit pulp that has been frozen.



Harvesting

JAN | FEB | MAR | APR | **MAY** | JUN | JUL | **AUG** | SEP | OCT | NOV | DEC

Characteristics:

018856 - Dry extract - maltodextrin.

910103 - Dry extract - starch.

910217 - Dry extract - soluble.

Benefits:

Energetic.

Anti-oxidant; anti-aging.

Improves mental clarity.

Applications:

Functional and sport drinks, soft drinks, juices, cereal bars, nutraceuticals, cosmetics.

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