

# MOLAB Ltd.

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Date: 7/12/08

“Yes” publicity comments on:

The website ([yesyesyes.org](http://yesyesyes.org)) documents including comments about both “Yes” and competitors products have been examined and individual topics of concern discussed in detail.

## **Glycerine**

“Yes” makes much of the presence of glycerine in other products and its supposed adverse effects.

“Yes” states”:

- (1) Glycerine is a sugar that can stimulate Candida and cause thrush problems. Page/ ingredients.htm statement 3.(c).
- (2) Glycerine is an irritant.
- (3) There is a possibility that the commercial glycerine may have added or be the toxic compound diethylene glycol (digol).

The reality:Glycerine (glycerol) is not a sugar. It is non fermentable and is often actually produced by yeasts as a waste product.

Glycerine is synthesized by the human body from sugars, it is a normal human metabolite and is an integral component of fat.

Glycerine is used in many foods as a humectant, solvent for flavourings, as a non sugar sweetener for diabetic foods. Nutritionally it is considered to be a foodstuff. Pure glycerine will draw water from the skin tending to dry it. This is an osmotic pressure effect it is not specific to glycerine and applies to all water soluble materials including salt, sugar etc at high concentrations.

In the personal lubricant products, glycerine is used as a water activity control agent to match the osmotic pressure of the lubricant with that of the surroundings. This prevents the swelling and excessive softening of the skins stratum corneum (the crinkled prune effect seen on hands and feet after prolonged immersion in fresh water). The stratum corneum is the protective layer of the skin excessive softening of this layer increases the risk of damage to the basement skin layer.

It also prevents the removal of water from the lubricant causing it to dry out with a consequent loss in lubricity. “Yes water based” formulation appears to contain no

water activity control agent to retard its drying out in use. Is this why “Yes” also has an oil-based lubricant? The basic standard BP or USP tests for glycerine would specifically exclude the presence diethylene glycol.

Glycerine is extensively used in personal lubricants as the primary water activity control agent as its effective concentration is effective, non toxic, non-irritating and as it is not a sugar does not promote the growth of yeast (thrush).

### **Grape Fruit Extract**

There are a number of comments about the inefficiency of grape fruit seed extract as a preservative and the reported presence of synthetic materials in commercial grapefruit seed extracts. There are a large number of commercial “grapefruit seed” products on the market. The microbial activity of the genuine ones is a result of processing of the raw material. There have been a number of unscrupulous companies who, rather than do an expensive processing, have fraudulently added other biocides.

“Yes” makes a number of comments about benzalkonium chloride as it is reputed to be one of the fraudulently added biocides. Even if this was the case would it not be an objectionable component. Benzalkonium chloride is one of the most widely used surface antiseptics in surgery medicine first aid kits etc (it is the most common agent in anti microbial skin wipes). It is used because of its low skin absorbability, its low allergenicity, its low degree of skin irritation, and its wide anti-microbial spectrum. The natural antiseptic oils compare unfavourably in their objectionable effects at the same level of antimicrobial activity.

### **Sylk**

All “Sylk” ingredients are tested for identity and suitability prior to use in the product.

The glycerine tests would clearly show no adulteration with diethylene glycol.

The grapefruit seed extract is from one of the reputable manufacturers and every batch received is tested for identity and assayed.

Due to concerns related to thrush, all “Sylk” raw materials are tested for the presence of sugars.

### **“Yes water based”**

The listed components are Water, aloe vera, guar gum, locust bean gum, xanthan gum, flax extract, citric acid, potassium sorbate, phenoxy ethanol.

The consideration of the ingredient list shows;

- (1) No water activity control agent. In absence of a water-control agent, the product will tend to dry out and lose lubricity in use. Use of excessive amounts has the potential to cause excessive skin softening making the

- skin more susceptible to abrasion and damage.
- (2) The product contains the acidulant citric acid. Citric acid alone is not sufficient to adequately control pH. The pH must be controlled within a fairly narrow range for the product to be non-irritant and to not promote the growth of undesirable organisms at the site of use.
  - (3) The product uses phenoxyethanol as one of preservatives. Phenoxyethanol is a relatively non-irritant and useful preservative externally applied products it is not a permitted food preservative as claimed on the website.

Comments about components used in other lubricants are also incorrect and very misleading.