

# nutmeg newsletter



November 2020

## ★ Celebrating 2020 Achievements ★

Despite the unusual year, our chapter members have persevered to achieve great things. Let's take a moment to celebrate all these accomplishments, big and small!



**Rana Zaki** - *Adding more PPE and wearing a mask for our safety has been difficult and unpleasant while working in the lab. However, it is just like any change, hard at first, but then you get used to it and becomes the new normal.*



**Jennifer Macary**

Principal Scientist

Henkel

**Jen Macary** - *My professional achievement this year is coming up, I am speaking at the December SCC meeting about the benefits of antibacterial soap.*



**Jaclyn Marchetta** - *I am co-leading a workshop called 'Creating a Customer Centric Approach' for one of Unilever's partners, IFundWomen. I volunteered as a mentor with IFundWomen as part of Unilever's Day of Service this year.*

**Sue Sperring** - *I gave an SCC talk to two chapters - Formulating Effective Sunscreens - Presented at CASC Educational hour in February and MISCC dinner meeting in March.*



See more on page 3

### Inside this issue:

- Member achievements
- Letter from the Chair
- Technology corner: Challenges of developing natural products (Luciana Coutinho)
- Member spotlight: Tiffany Fielder

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## Letter from the Chair

Dear CTSCC Members and Friends,

Talk about a year flying by, welcome to November! As this year enters its final months, I would like to thank all our CTSCC members for staying with us and continuing to foster a community within the cosmetic science industry. This society provides great opportunities to learn and share wisdom, and I am grateful for the opportunity to be a part of it. I can also not express enough appreciation to our board members. Thank you for helping navigate this year, volunteering to commit to the 2021 board, and provide content to our members.

We would love volunteers to fill out our 2021 board, especially if you have ideas on how to keep our society connected virtually. If you are interested in joining our team or have any ideas, please contact me (Jennifer.Macary@Henkel.com).

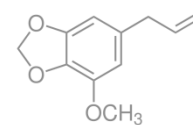
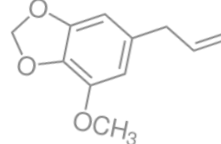
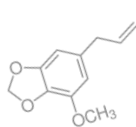
I hope you have made plans to virtually attend the SCC's 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting & Showcase, online December 7-11<sup>th</sup>. Although I will miss walking through the chilly NYC streets with the beautiful holiday decorations, it will be nice to be able to learn about so many topics from my cozy home. They have put together a great roster of speakers, and I am very much looking forward to learning all I can from them. Find out more information on the SCC's website – [sconline.org](http://sconline.org)

Enjoy the rest of the autumn and the holiday season, we hope to spend more time together in 2021!



### Jen Macary

2020 Chair, Connecticut Chapter  
Society of Cosmetic Chemists



## 2020 Achievements

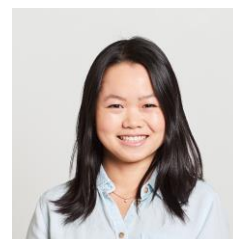
**Dan O'Neill** - As a sales organization, we at Charkit have adapted to all that has happened around us. We have been hiring and adding strategic positions to help with our growth. We have been able to sign on several exclusive principals to represent them in the US or regionally as dictated in those agreements. We have tried to be creative in the ways we stay in front of our customers with existing and new product offerings and social media posts. It has been a bit of a challenge to present as most of our customers are somewhat tired of zooms, webinars and the like. We are constantly trying to stay relevant in a virtual world until we can get out on the road again and see all the smiling faces again!!! I really hope it is sooner than later!



**Michele Margherita** – I ditto  
Dan's comments!



**Nina Miotto** - My professional achievement is that I was promoted to Senior Chemist I at the start of the pandemic 😊 Also that I'm officially 3/4ths complete with my Masters of Business & Science (MBS) program at Rutgers with a concentration in Personal Care Science (& with a cumulative 4.0 GPA)!!



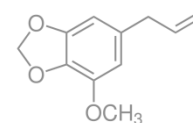
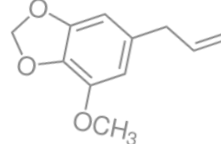
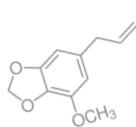
**Yingxia Wang** – This year I pivoted my role from antiperspirants/deodorants to skin care. Excited to add a new area of formulation to my professional experience!



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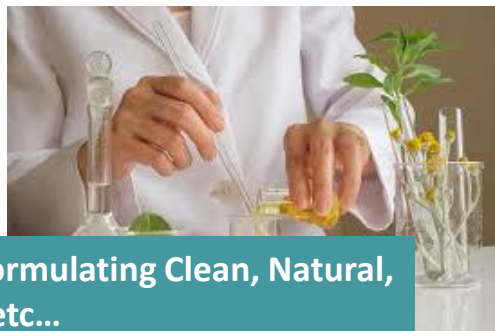


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## Technical Corner

*Luciana Coutinho was originally slated to be our speaker for the April monthly meeting (which was subsequently postponed and cancelled in November). We would like to thank Luciana for contributing this original technical article, providing great insights into clean formulating.*



### Product Development Challenges When Formulating Clean, Natural, Green, Sustainable, etc...

Luciana Coutinho  
Chief Product Officer - luluble

Start ups and Indie Beauty Brands are very passionate and creative when it comes to their vision. They are quite often looking for formulations that are clean, natural, ethical, sustainable, but most of them are not familiar with the product development process. The information that is given to a Product Development Scientist sometimes can be misleading or broken.

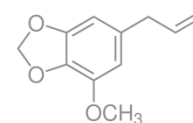
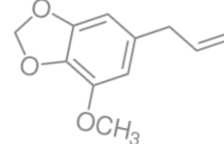
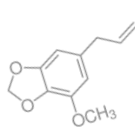
The Product Development brief is one of the most important tools for formulators to understand the Founder's minds when the conversation starts. It's the brand's vision stated in the brief that will be translated to a toolkit of ingredients and transformed into a formulation.

What makes a clean, natural, naturally derived, ethical formulation different from a standard formulation? Due to the fact that there is no standard definition of Clean, Ethical, Natural, Green, it's the effort of the Product Development Scientist to research and ask the right questions to raw ingredient suppliers to assess and vet ingredients that fit the product's brief. Formulating with these ingredients requires a lot of background knowledge, frequently updated information and in-depth investigation; it's a constant learning curve.

In this article, I will try to decode some of the language and highlight nuances that should be identified, answered, and cleared when a Product Development Scientist reads a product brief and starts formulating.

After receiving the brief, the first step of the Product Development Scientist is to review the benchmark(s) provided, client's No-No ingredient list, and create backbone formulation that meets the brief criteria above. Clean, natural, naturally derived, sustainable formulations are beautiful, yet complex to the point of going into paralysis analysis. One alternative is to use a qualitative approach and take the most relevant path related to ingredients selection and green design. Open communication with the raw ingredient suppliers is A MUST in order to vet the correct ingredients and avoid formula rework based on wrong raw ingredient selection.

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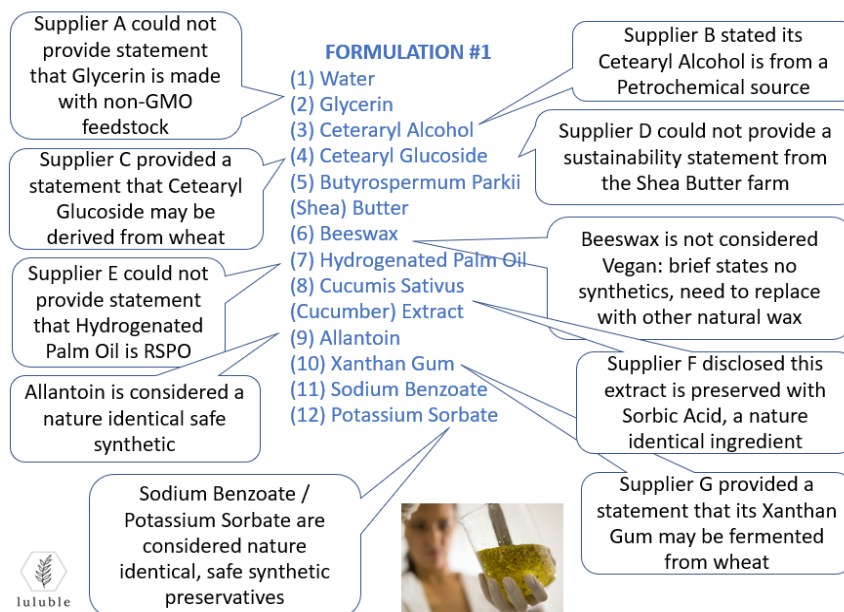
# Innovation Comes Naturally

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Given the brief example below:

Brief #1: Company ABC provides clean, ethical, cruelty free cosmetic products with natural and natural derived, non-GMO, no synthetics, sustainable sourced, vegan, gluten-free ingredients. Company ABC would like to launch a face moisturizer on the market that fits this vision.

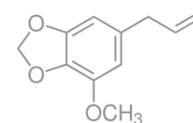
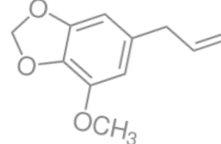
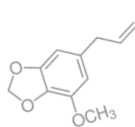
Let's use the simple backbone below as an example. The Product Development Scientist creates the formula backbone and retrieves raw ingredient information from the suppliers:



In the example above, none of the raw material specifications meet the brief provided, therefore the quest for the relevant raw ingredients should continue.

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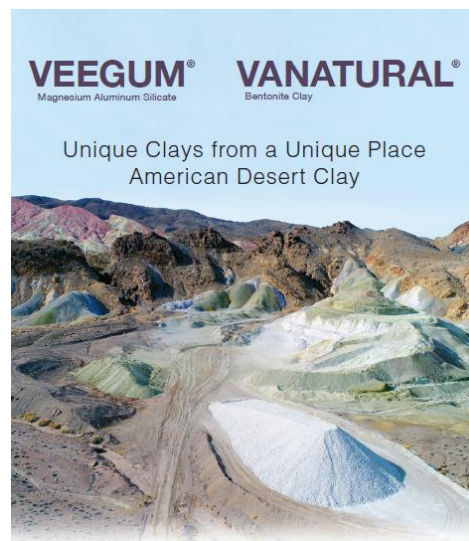


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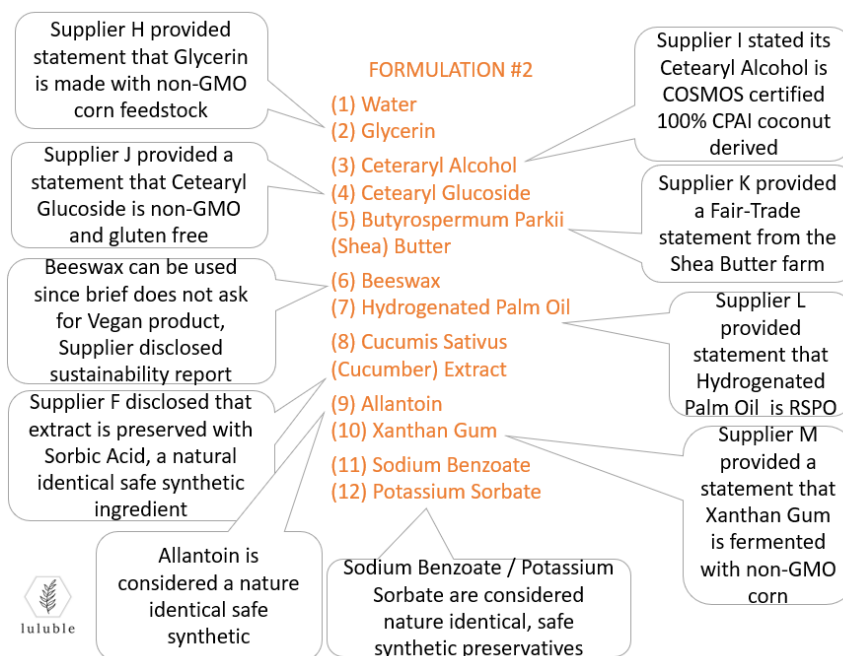
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Brief #2 is slightly different than #1: Company XYZ provides clean, ethical, cruelty free cosmetic products with natural and natural derived, non-GMO, safe synthetics, sustainable sourced, gluten-free ingredients. Company XYZ would like to launch a face moisturizer on the market that fits this vision.

Same backbone was created, following the same pathway, but this time the ingredient's sources listed below meet the brief criteria:



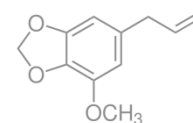
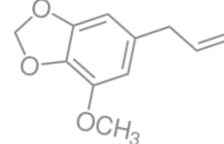
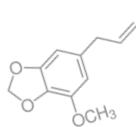
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## Technical Corner

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Even when the correct source of raw ingredients is selected, the Product Development Scientist must continue to deep dive into other characteristics to indeed confirm these ingredients are appropriate.

Some examples are:

**Hydrogenation:** being a chemical modification commonly used in the cosmetic industry to achieve fats with higher stability to oxidation and interesting textures, this process requires a catalyst, which often happens to be nickel, a metal linked to allergic contact dermatitis (1) Despite the fact that the nickel is removed after the processing, there may still be residues left behind, something that needs to be clarified with the raw ingredient supplier. More brands are now claiming “Nickel tested” in their products.

**Microbial contaminants:** natural ingredients - which I define where no chemical modification has been performed at all (the ingredient is only subjected to physical processing) - are very close to nature and, because of that, the ones with the highest microbial hazard potential, in the form of high microbial counts and spores. Contaminated vegetable oils are common natural ingredients that can compromise the finished product, particularly its preservative system and therefore its safety. It is good practice to question, understand, and vet natural ingredient suppliers with regards to their microbiological testing practices.

**Solvents:** botanical extracts have been used for thousands of years to beautify ourselves and science has demonstrated that they can be effective in a wide range of functionalities, however, some botanical extractions use solvents that are not clean or sustainable. It is important to ask the botanical extract supplier about the solvent used to make the extract (alcohol, hexane, supercritical CO<sub>2</sub>, etc) and provide information about any residues (if any) are left in the extract.

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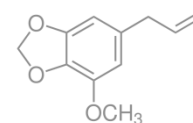
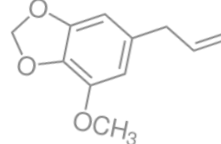
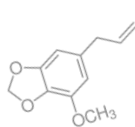
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## Technical Corner

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Incidentals and additives: it is very common to utilize ingredients that contain incidentals and additives that are not listed in the raw ingredient's technical literature or INCI, especially when dealing with mixtures/blends that involve water. Preservatives are in general the culprit.

This is a complex topic with a lot of detail involved. Formulating according to clean, natural, sustainable green beauty standards (Cosmos, Natrue, USDA, NSF) is challenging, especially if the Product Development Scientist is used to developing conventional cosmetics. In-depth attention to ingredient sources and changes in product stability that can affect performance is crucial for a successful product launch.

The key message is that ingredient selection depends very much on the source and process that raw ingredient suppliers utilize and on the correct questions that formulators ask in order to select the ingredient. Suppliers play a key role in delivering plant derived ingredients with good specifications, while formulators need to design formulas that meet the brief criteria while protecting natural ingredients from oxidation and selecting suitable preservatives and surfactants for the correct positioning of the formula.

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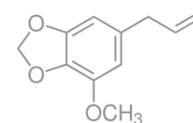
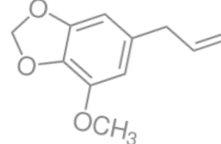
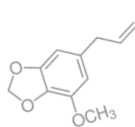
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## Technical Corner

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luluble assists Founders and start-ups understand how the cosmetic industry works and brings their beauty idea into a more realistic plan. luluble's core strength is developing customized formulations for selective clients. Please contact me at [luciana.coutinho@luluble.com](mailto:luciana.coutinho@luluble.com) if you have any questions.

(1) <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/cod.13327>



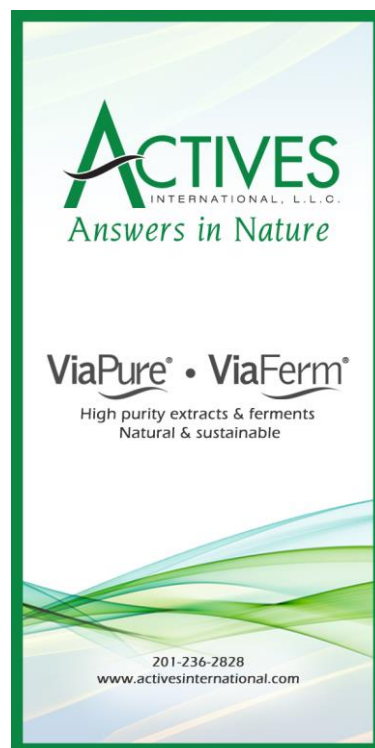
### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

The passion for cosmetics is what led Luciana Coutinho to successfully develop and launch over 1,000 cosmetics, OTC, and medical device products all over the world.

Luciana has over 20 years of experience in the CPG industry, holding several positions at Avon Products, Reckitt Benckiser and Prestige Consumer Healthcare. She led R&D product development laboratories, mentored scientists, earned awards and recognition for her work. She managed and expanded numerous brands including Summer's Eve, Nix, Little Remedies, Clearasil, Dettol, Avon Sun, Skin So Soft, Moisture Therapy, and AvonMen.

She is the Founder and Chief Product Officer at luluble, currently consulting in the natural and organic skin care, personal care, feminine hygiene, and pet care sectors. Her focus is on technical product development and brand strategy for the cosmetic, OTC, and medical device industry.

Luciana is an active member of the New York Society of Cosmetic Chemists, chairing programs and participating as guest educational speaker. She holds a B.S. in Chemical Engineering, a Certification in Cosmetic Technology, an M.S. in Analytical Chemistry.



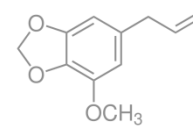
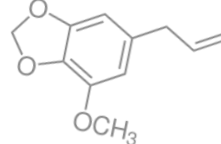
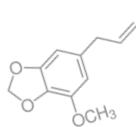
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## Member Spotlight

This month we're highlighting Tiffany, our chapter treasurer.

### Tiffany Fielder

Title & company: Director, R&D at Henkel  
Member of CTSCC since: 2001  
Member of SCC since: 1998

**How did you get into the industry? What's the best part about your job?** I stumbled into this industry through a temp job in San Diego. I stayed because I love experimenting in the lab and creating new products. The best part of my job is seeing products I've made on the shelf in stores.

**What's your favorite event that CTSCC (typically) hosts?** I love the golf event. It's one of a few times a year I get to go out and golf. Plus, there's usually an adventure (rain, animals, crazy colleagues).

**What advice would you give to someone just starting out in the industry?** Be on the bench as much as you can, try as many raw materials as possible and grow your knowledge of material science.

**How do you see the current pandemic shifting our industry for the long term?** I'm hopeful that we will eventually get to a new normal that is close to where we started from. I think we will continue with flexible working arrangements and a collaborative team project structure.

In the beauty regimen, I would predict that we will shift slightly from aesthetic modification to a caring regimen.

**Fun fact about you?** My family and I picked up a new pandemic hobby – fostering kittens. We keep getting the sickly ones and it's rewarding to see them start to flourish.

**Favorite restaurant in Connecticut? What was your favorite activity during lockdown?** We get take out once a week: Bodega (Darien), Tacos Mexico (Norwalk), Valencia (Norwalk) and my favorite is Brasitas (Norwalk/Stamford). My favorite lockdown activity is walking in the neighborhoods, either with a family member or listening to podcasts. I'm currently listening to one about the history of the English language.



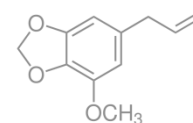
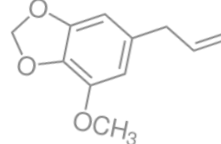
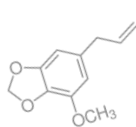
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## Upcoming Events



### NYSCC Clean Beauty Symposium

November 19, 2020

The pandemic has seen the rise of CLEAN BEAUTY increase as consumers demand high performance with clean ingredients and formulations. Join us as we define "Clean Beauty" and learn what's driving the growth of this category.

Experts:

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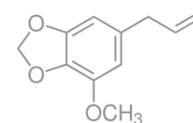
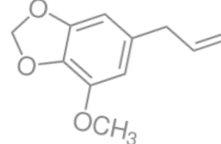
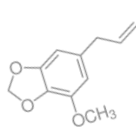
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## Connect with area professionals through the newsletter!

Do you have an **employment opportunity** in the Connecticut area or beyond?

Is there a **technical article**, raw material insight, relevant writing, or other piece you'd like to share with the community?

Have you captured **photos** at CTSCC events?

Please contact Yingxia Wang to be featured in the newsletter (yingxia.wang@unilever.com).

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