



Fatty Chemicals

QUESTION(S)

1. What are the names of the common fatty acids and their respective carbon chain lengths?

Answer:

Caprylic Acid	C 8
Capric Acid	C 10
Lauric Acid	C 12
Myristic Acid	C 14
Palmitic Acid	C 16
Stearic Acid	C 18
Oleic Acid	C 18-1 (Unsaturated with one double bond)
Linoleic Acid	C 18-2 (Unsaturated with two double bonds)

2. Concerning Stearic Acid, what does "triple-pressed" mean?

Answer:

When Stearic Acid was first produced, it was separated by physically pressing the mixture of fatty acids obtained from animal tallow. Hydraulic pressure squeezed the liquid oleic acid out of the crystalline solid fatty acids. The more times the pressings were repeated, the less oleic acid left in the stearic acid. More modern methods of separation are used today, but the old "pressed" designations are still used by many industry participants. "Triple-Pressed" describes a high quality grade of Stearic Acid with very low Oleic Acid content and low Iodine Value.