

**CLAY DATA SHEET:
RED CLAY**

Red clay is extracted from a Spanish quarry then air-dried naturally in the sun; afterwards it is crushed and sifted to obtain a fine, smooth powder.

INCI name: ILLITE

1. Qualitative composition

Technical characteristics:
Clay from Europe (Spain)
Natural clay without preservatives
NON-irradiated, NON-ionised clay
Clay not tested on animals
Clay without nanoparticles

2. Quantitative composition

a) *Major elements*

Elements	SiO ₂	Al ₂ O ₃	Fe ₂ O ₃	CaO	MgO	Na ₂ O	K ₂ O	TiO ₂	MnO
%	54.00	18.35	5.90	4.95	2.40	0.25	3.70	0.80	0.80

b) *Minor elements*

Hg: < DL: 0.038
Cd: 0.067 to 0.171
As: 10.3 to 15.9
Pb 13.0 to 19.8

3. Granulometric specifications and physical properties

a) *Granulometric specifications*

Red clay	Granulometry
y	+ 120 microns

b) *Physical properties*

Odourless reddish-brown powder

4. Microbiological specifications

- The microbiological thresholds retained are taken from the European Pharmacopoeia, th edition 5.1.8 A 'Microbiological quality of herbal medicinal products for oral use' (the mineral thresholds not being established).
- According to the Pharmacopoeia, 'higher acceptance criteria can be applied on the basis of a risk assessment taking account of the qualitative and quantitative features of the bioburden and the intended use of the product': non-pathogenic telluric bacteria in topical use.
- The microbiological specifications taken into account are as follows:

Criteria	Values
Moulds and yeasts (TYMC)	< 10 ⁵ CFU/g
Gilded Staphylococcus (Staphylococcus aureus)	None

Complementary control indicated in the Pharmacopoeia: Total viable aerobic microbial count: TAMC :S 10⁷ CFU/g: irrelevant in mineral matter.

5. Lifespan

The recommended life of red clay is 3 years.