

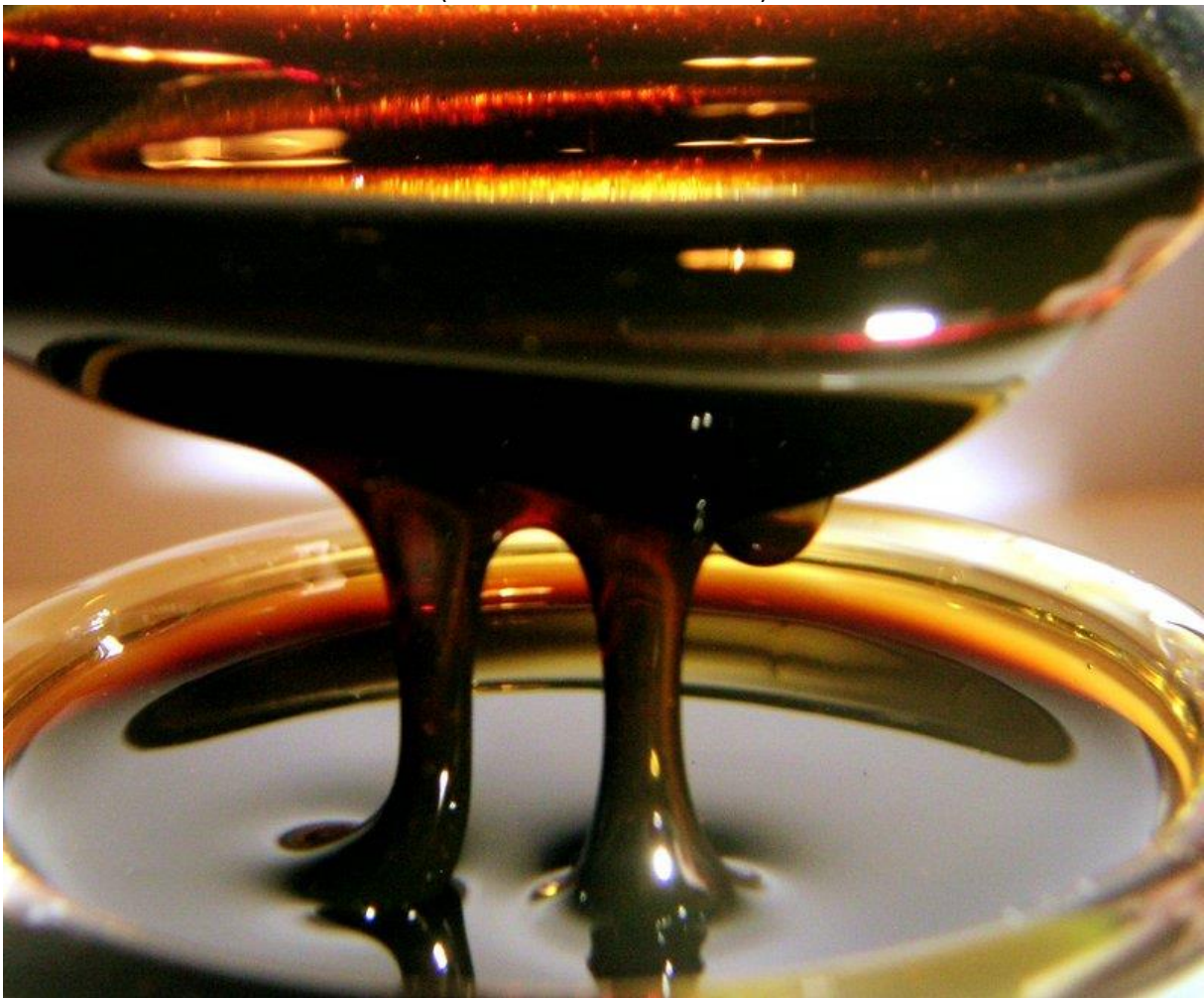


LetCo

LIQUID ENERGY TRADING COMPANY SWISS S.A.

Sugar Cane Molasses

General information
(Product code LQS INT8alle)



Sugar beet molasses / Sugar cane molasses

Molasses is highly valued as an animal feed owing to its many beneficial properties. It is used to enhance and regularize the taste of mixed feeds and roughage, resulting in increased feed intake. The use of molasses requires little in the way of investment in technical infrastructure, particularly in the silage sector, where effective use can be achieved with very simple means. Molasses is also widely used in the fermentation industry, as it provides a good substrate for a range of fermentation technologies.

Quality

Not all molasses is equal. There is a broad distinction between sugar cane and sugar beet molasses, as well as significant quality differences within these two classifications.

The guaranteed quality characteristics vary among European countries. As a rule, the price of molasses as a commodity is determined by its total sugar content and sometimes also by its water content, although sugar content and water content are generally mutually interdependent. The sugar in molasses is made up primarily of sucrose and inverted sugar. The sugar in cane molasses is about 2/3 sucrose and 1/3 inverted sugar, whereas the sugar in beet molasses is almost entirely sucrose, with the inverted sugar content never exceeding 1%.

Cane and beet molasses also vary in terms of their pH value and mineral and ash content. The mineral and ash content generally ranges from 8% (very low) to 13% (very high). Beet molasses has a protein content of approximately 8-9%, which is about twice that found in cane molasses. Molasses has a specific gravity of between 1.35 and 1.45, meaning that it is heavier than water. Under “normal” conditions, molasses can be stored for very long periods.

Sugar cane molasses – Analysis

Cane molasses generally has a higher sugar content than beet molasses. This difference is due in part to the outmoded factories used in some sugar cane-producing countries. The older the machinery and technology, the lower the sugar extraction rate. Sugar cane plants store sugar in their stalks, the most important sugar type being sucrose. The term “total sugar content” normally means the combined sucrose and inverted sugar content.

Reference values for sugar cane molasses

Total sugar	45 - 58	%
Moisture	18 - 25	%
Ash	approx. 7 - 15	%
Nitrogen - total -	0,2 - 0,8	%

Cane molasses is traded in its original state – that is, with a guaranteed minimum sugar content of 43-47%. The water content is in many cases also guaranteed and can range up to 30%.

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