Soap milling

Posted by Sandy - 1998/06/01 02:55

_____

"I have tried to mill several batches of soap and can never get it to melt down. I have used a tallow and oil combinattion and I have tried coconut, palm and olive oil. It starts to get a clear look to it then it just globs up and never gets any further. I have it in a double boiler and have let it cook for 6 hrs. to no avail. Any solutions?

"

==

Re: soap milling

Posted by DJ - 1998/06/01 09:59

_____

"I know that this sounds king of strange, but try adding about 1/4 cup of powdered milk to each 12 oz. batch. Let it melt as much as it will, and add the dry milk and let it heat some more. I found this out by accident when I was struggling with some that wouldn't melt and trying various hand milled recipes. I tried adding more water, but then it wouldn't dry at all; I even put it in a dehydrator for 2 days and it wouldn't firm up. I tried a recipe for milk and honey soap that called for powdered milk, and after adding the milk, it melted right down within 5 minutes and was as smooth and shiny as satin. I now add the milk as a matter of course. "

==

Re: soap milling

Posted by Sandy - 1998/06/01 22:00

_____

Thanks for the help. How much water do you add to a 12 ounch batch. I have made milk soaps before with milk in place of the water. Would you be interested in e-mailing about other soap talk?

==

Re: soap milling
Posted by DJ - 1998/06/03 01:49

_____

"Sandy,
The instructions that I have call for 9 oz water for each 12 oz grated soap. I usually start with about 4 oz and add more if it looks like it needs it. During the milling process you don't have to be as precise as when you were making the basic soap. The only hazard is adding too much water and ending up with bars that take forever to dry and when they are dry have shrunk down to nothing. What you are aiming for during milling is to end up with a mixture that is smooth and pourable at a temp. at or below 160'.

Keep in mind that the milk trick that I told you about calls for adding the dry milk powder; do not dissolve it with the water.

DJ"

==