Preparation of Simple Ointment Base

Experiment 9 - Practical Notes

Name: _____ Roll no.: _____ Date: _____

Aim

To prepare, evaluate, package and label a simple ointment base.

Principle

Fusion distributes the higher-melting components through the soft base. Stirring during cooling helps maintain a uniform consistency.

Working Formula

Use the assigned current monograph for ingredient grades, amounts and specifications. Enter the working quantities before starting.

Ingredient	Purpose	Working quantity
Hard paraffin	Stiffening	_____
Cetostearyl alcohol	Consistency	_____
Wool fat	Water absorption	_____
White soft paraffin	Base	_____

Scaling factor = required batch size / master batch size. Working ingredient amount = master amount × scaling factor.

Requirements

- Assigned master formula and ingredients
- Balance, measuring glassware and suitable mixing equipment
- Appropriate clean container and label

Procedure

1. Weigh

Record each ingredient and the working quantity.

2. Fuse

Melt the higher-melting components on a controlled water bath and add the softer base.

3. Cool with stirring

Mix gently as the mass cools; avoid entrapping air.

4. Fill

Transfer to the assigned wide-mouth container.

5. Evaluate

Record uniformity, smoothness, consistency and final mass.

Evaluation and Label

- Check homogeneity, absence of grit, spreadability and final yield.
- Label the name, strength where relevant, route, batch/date, storage and institution-assigned use period. Mark laboratory preparations as training material.

Observations and Record

Check	Observation
Appearance / consistency	_____
Final mass or volume	_____
pH or other assigned test	_____
Packaging / label check	_____

Worked Example

The numbers below are illustrative; enter your own observations in the record.

- Teaching composition per 100 g: hard paraffin 5 g, cetostearyl alcohol 5 g, wool fat 5 g and white soft paraffin 85 g.
- For 20 g, the corresponding quantities are 1 g, 1 g, 1 g and 17 g; confirm the assigned official formula.

Result

The training preparation was obtained as _____. Final yield: _____. Assigned quality checks: _____. It was packaged and labelled for the intended route.

Precautions

- Avoid direct flame or overheating.
- Use dry equipment.
- The base is not a sterile ophthalmic preparation.

Viva Questions and Answers

1. Why scale every ingredient?

The proportions must remain constant when batch size changes.

2. Why record the method?

Mixing order, temperature and technique affect the product.

3. Which quality checks are needed?

Check homogeneity, absence of grit, spreadability and final yield.

4. Why is a label required?

It identifies the product, route, directions, storage and the training batch.

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