

TEA STEARATE

This ingredient is the triethanolamine salt of stearic acid. Data submitted to FDA indicate that this surfactant is used in over 60 products across a dozen or so product categories. The CIR Expert panel found that this ingredient is safe as used in cosmetic formulations designed for discontinuous, brief use followed by thorough rinsing. The Panel, based on historical data, recognized that the concentration could be as high as 25% in such "rinse-off" products. In products intended for prolonged contact with the skin, however, the Panel concluded that the concentration of TEA Stearate should not exceed 15%. A further qualification stated that TEA Stearate should not be used in products under conditions resulting in N-nitrosating reactions.

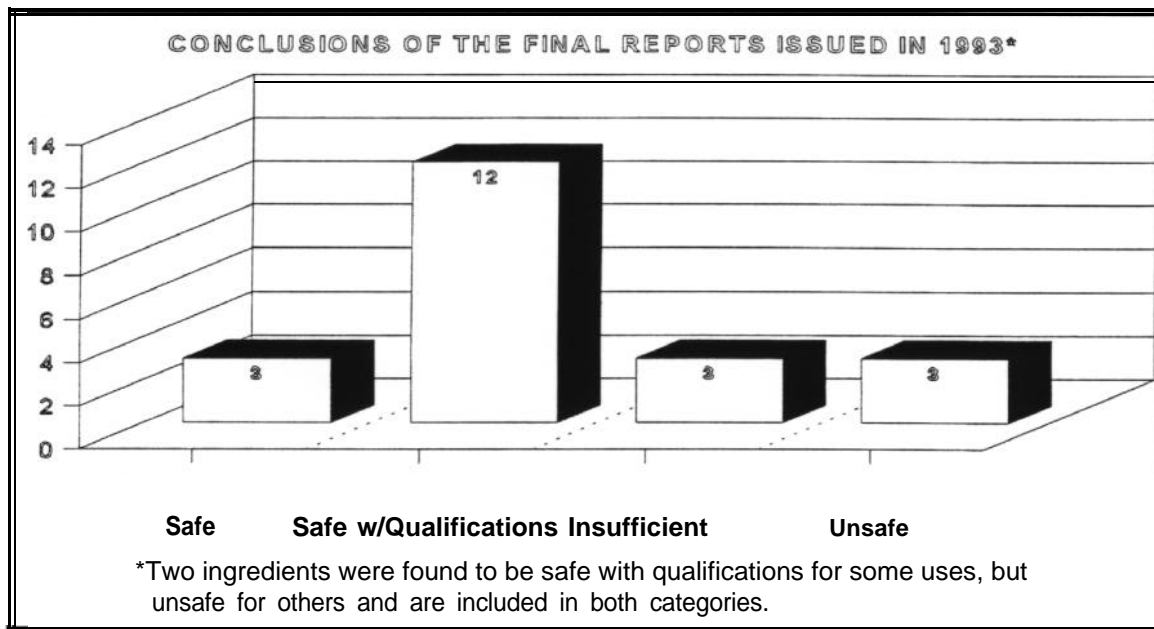


Figure 2. Distribution of conclusions.