Tall oil, a by-product of kraft pulping of pine wood, is formed by acidifying black liquor soap skimmings. It consists of resin acids or rosin, fatty acids, and neutrals. Crude tall oil is an excellent source of rosin and tall oil fatty acid, an industrial-grade oleic and linoleic acid blend. The bulk of the neutrals, largely esters of fatty acids, sterols, resin and wax alcohols, and hydrocarbons, boil at either lower or higher temperatures than the boiling range of the fatty and resin acids.

Tall oil itself has a variety of uses in industry. It is used as a frothing agent in the flotation process for reclaiming low grade copper-lead- and zinc-bearing ores, and as a solvent or wetting agent in a variety of textile and synthetic fibre manufacturing processes. The distilled fatty acids are used in soaps, detergents and disinfectants and as a base for lubricating greases, textile oils, cutting oils and metal polishes. They are also used as drying agents in paint, although synthetic substances are widely used. The fatty acids are unsaturated and on exposure to air undergo autoxidation and polymerization to form resin-like materials which form a tough protective coating. Resin acids are used in rubber polymerization and compounding, as size to impart water resistance to paper, and in adhesives and printing inks. Resin acids are the major component of a substance known as rosin, which is used by musicians to improve the grip of bows used for string instruments.

The book contains production details of different products like recovery of crude tall oil, Composition and properties of crude tall oil, Lab. Scale fractional vacuum distillation, tall oil soap acidulation, purification of sulphate soap, hydrodynamic separation of CTO, dimerization of tall oil fatty acid, black liquor soap recovery methods, tall oil in asphalt products and petroleum uses, tall oil in liquid soaps, tall oil in rubber, paper and printing inks etc. This book is very useful for scientists, scholars, consultants and technical institutions.

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