

Zeitschrift: Swiss textiles [English edition]
Herausgeber: Swiss office for the development of trade
Band: - (1955)
Heft: 2

Artikel: A color film about "cibalan" dyes
Autor: [s.n.]
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-798477>

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 15.02.2026

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

A colour film about «Cibalan» dyes

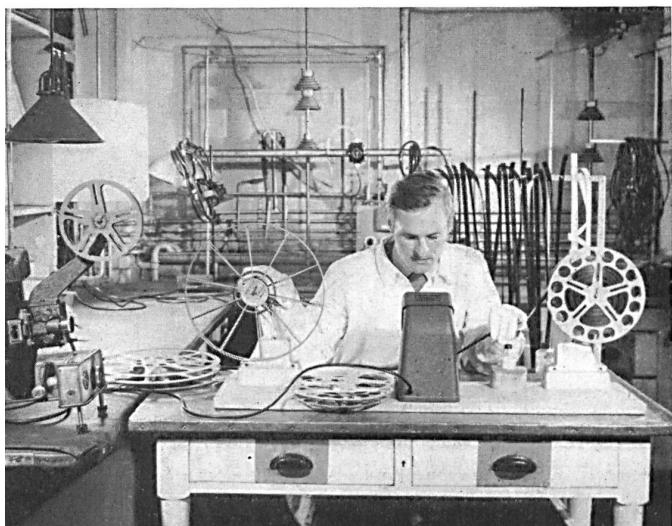
Illustrations taken from the film «Cibalan» by Ciba Co. Ltd.

«Cibalan» dyes, which were put on the market by Ciba Co. Ltd. in August 1952, are metallic compounds used for dyeing in neutral or slightly acid baths. With wool, natural silk and the polyamides, they give colours that are remarkably light- and wash-resistant. By inventing these products, the scientific department of Ciba has made a contribution of considerable importance to the fast dyeing of wool. Owing to the entirely new chemical constitution of Cibalan dyestuffs and its practical consequences, it was decided to make a documentary

F. Brichet. All the sequences were filmed in the laboratories of Ciba and in the factories of its Swiss clients who very kindly put their workshops at the disposal of the film unit.

The main purpose of this film was to show the most recent progress achieved in the field of scientific research and its practical application as well as the checking methods and the instruments used. The Cibalan film was made at a time when intensive research, particularly with regard to the practical application of these dyes, was still being carried out. This fact contributed to the success of the film, as the new ideas inspired by the direction taken by the research were particularly well suited to filming. The film begins with a general introduction and goes on to show the results obtained by Ciba in the field of metallic compounds, represented by Neolan dyes and, more recently, Cibalan dyes. Contrary to what occurs in the case of Neolan dyes, which can be considered chemically as 1:1 compounds, there are, in the Cibalan molecule, two azo components connected by a complex chemical relation to a metallic atom, hence the designation 1:2 compounds given to Cibalan dyes. They differ from Neolan dyes, which owe their solubility to the sulpho groups in

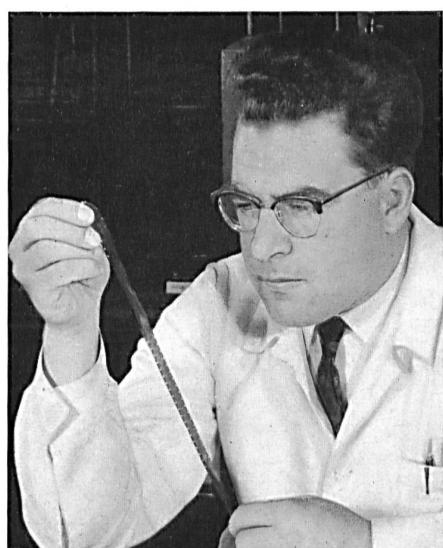
Mr. H. B. Stricker, one of the directors of the film.



film to initiate the specialists concerned in the use of these products. This is how Ciba came to make its first sound film in colour.

This film, which is of extreme interest to all connected with the textile industry, was made by N. Bigler and H. B. Stricker, at the instigation of the Director,

Mr. N. Bigler, one of the directors of the film.





Dyeometer for measuring the time required by the textiles to absorb the dye in the bath.

A part of the film is devoted to the fastness of Cibalan dyes. Some interesting shots showing the practical application of these dyes give a very good idea of their development and the particular problems affecting their use.

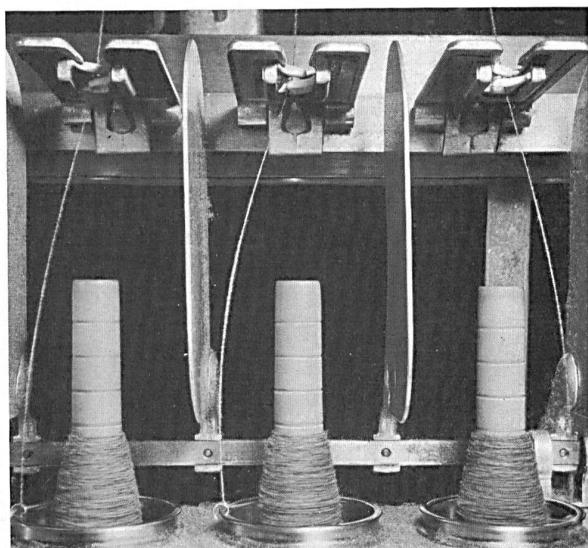
In the making of this film, Ciba voluntarily restricted itself to the technical and scientific fields. It has thus been possible to give users of Cibalan dyes a better idea of the composition of these products and to help them make more efficient use of them. The film has been made in English, French, German and Spanish versions, which Ciba graciously places at the disposal of trade circles and schools for instructional purposes.

their molecule, in the fact that their solubility is due to other groups, which gives them other colouring characteristics.

The checking methods are then very clearly demonstrated, as well as the various apparatuses made in the laboratories of certain technical schools and dyestuffs factories. These methods make it possible to follow and analyse with the greatest precision the various stages of the Cibalan dyeing process.



Ring-spinning machine.
Cibalan dyed wool is particularly easy to spin.



Laboratory dyeing apparatus.

