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## *t*-フラバノンの育毛効果

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### Effect of *t*-Flavanone on Hair Growth

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#### Abstract

In 1998 the domestic market for hair growth agent was about 30 billion yen in Japan. The market's growth spurt was set off by the launch of RiUP, which is a hair growth stimulant hit shelves in 1999. The market has been sliding down since its peak of 60 billion yen.

The recent market research estimates that more than 8 million men in Japan suffer some degree of hair loss. Industry sources estimate the size of the market will grow again due to the marketing of powerful products, such as Propecia, which was launched in December 2005 as the first oral medication for androgenic alopecia. Accordingly, a great amount of R&D effort in cosmetic, pharmaceutical, and bio-venture industries centers on developing a hair growth agent with higher efficacy.

This paper aims to outline the mechanism of action of chief ingredients for hair growth agents on the market, and to explain the mechanism and efficacy of *t*-flavanone with detailed information.

**Key words:** *t*-flavanone, hair growth promoter, hair-loss prevention, TGF- $\beta$ , desmoglein.