The production of primary fatty amines from natural raw materials is one of our experiences in the field of hydrogenation. DHW fatty amines are made and distributed under the trade name Rofamin. Through extensive research and development, continuous quality assurance and customer feedback the Rofamin range has expanded to include products for a large variety of applications in industrial and chemical processing. The amines are used as:
- flotation agents,
- anticaking agents,
- corrosion inhibitors,
- dispersants,
- emulsifiers and additives,
- and chemical intermediates.

Functional and chemical properties of primary fatty amines explain their different behaviour:
1. Surface active properties – The molecular structure of fatty amines is characterised by aliphatic alkyl groups, which cause the hydrophobic character and the insolubility in water. Because of the hydrophilic character of the nitrogen function primary amines are amphiphilic substances.
2. Substantivity – The substantivity is a characteristic property of fatty amines and their derivatives which allows them to be absorbed onto solids and forms a cationic film on them. The absorption results from the attraction between the positive charge on the nitrogen atom and the negative charge of most surfaces.
3. Solubility – While fatty amines are virtually insoluble in water, their salts (acetates or hydrochlorides etc.) as well as ethoxylated amines at more than 5 moles EO can readily be dissolved in water. Most of the fatty amines and their derivatives dissolve in organic solvents.

The affinity of primary fatty amines for metal surfaces combined with their hydrophobic character makes them attractive as corrosion inhibitors and intermediates for corrosion inhibitors. Furthermore Rofamin’s (tallow amine, cocos amine, stearyl amine, hydrogenated tallow amine, oleyl amine) and their derivatives are suitable for the use as lube additives. In lubricant applications primary fatty amines are used in the manufacturing of urea greases. Urea based greases use organic thickeners derived from the reaction of fatty amines with an isocyanate. The resulting thickener mixed with base-oils affords a grease that has particularly a good thermal stability making it suitable for applications such as the lubrication of high-speed bearings.
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