

Burned-in leaf structures on the vehicle surfaces

Paint damage by wet autumn leaves

Leutenberg, August 29, 2017 – Damp leaves accumulating on vehicles in autumn give off tannins that attack the paint and soften it. This can cause damage to the surfaces, which can only be removed by a paint polish. The best possible protection against further traces is a sealant with carnauba wax.

Colorful autumn leaves transform the world into a colorful wonderland every year. Often, however, drivers also get to know their dark side. Jens Möller, Head of Research & Development at bluechemGROUP, explains: "Wet leaves that lie on a vehicle for a long time can lead to significant traces on the surfaces. The moisture solves the tannins in the foliage that soften the paint causing the leaves to "burn" into the surfaces." Drivers who regularly place their vehicles under beeches, poplars, plane trees, oaks or chestnuts are particularly affected because the foliage of these trees contains very high amounts of tannins.

Clean, polish, protect

If traces are already present on the surfaces, a paint preparation is necessary. Alexander Bienek, Product Manager at bluechemGROUP, describes the process: "We recommend a thorough cleaning of the vehicle in the first step. Subsequently, a paint polish should be used which contains both friction agent and wax. It allows a deep cleaning and smoothens the paint. The wax ensures protection, care and surface gloss. To finish the treatment, we recommend a sealant containing a high proportion of carnauba wax (the hardest natural wax in the world), as it protects the surfaces from further damage caused by autumn leaves."

About the bluechemGROUP

The bluechemGROUP is a group of companies with global activities and partners in more than 100 countries. As an umbrella brand, it contains a wide range of products for cleaning, care and maintenance in the automotive and industrial sector. The success of the group is based upon the development and patenting of consumption oriented and environmentally friendly products of highest quality expanded by modern workshop, industry and service concepts.

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