<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Carbon atoms</th>
<th>Systematic Name</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Melting Point (°C)</th>
<th>Occurrence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ethanoic</td>
<td>Acetic</td>
<td>16.7</td>
<td>Esterified to glycerol in ruminant milk fats, in some plant triacylglycerols and as alcohol acetates in many plants. As a component of platelet-activating factor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Propanoic</td>
<td>Propionic</td>
<td>-22.0</td>
<td>In the rumen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Butanoic</td>
<td>Butyric</td>
<td>-7.9</td>
<td>In milk fat of ruminants, in the rumen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Hexanoic</td>
<td>Caproic</td>
<td>-8.0</td>
<td>In milk fat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Octanoic</td>
<td>Caprylic</td>
<td>12.7</td>
<td>Minor compound of most animal and plant fats, major component of milk and some seed triacylglycerols</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Decanoic</td>
<td>Capric</td>
<td>29.6</td>
<td>Minor compound in many tissues. Major acid in milk and some seed triacylglycerols</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Dodecanoic</td>
<td>Lauric</td>
<td>42.2</td>
<td>Widely occurring, major acid in some seed fats, e.g. coconut oil and palm kernel oil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Tetradecanoic</td>
<td>Myristic</td>
<td>52.1</td>
<td>Widespread, occasionally as a major acid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Hexadecanoic</td>
<td>Palmitic</td>
<td>60.7</td>
<td>The most common saturated fatty acid in animals, plants and microorganisms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Octadecanoic</td>
<td>Stearic</td>
<td>69.6</td>
<td>Major fatty acid in animal tissues and some fungi, usually minor in plants, major only in a few plant species (e.g. cocoa butter)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Eicosanoic</td>
<td>Arachidic</td>
<td>75.4</td>
<td>Usually minor compounds and only occasionally significant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Docosanoic</td>
<td>Behenic</td>
<td>80.0</td>
<td>Minor component in some seed triacylglycerols and plant waxes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Tetracosanoic</td>
<td>Lignoceric</td>
<td>84.2</td>
<td>Widespread as a constituent of sphingolipids, minor acid in some seed triacylglycerols and plant waxes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Hexacosanoic</td>
<td>Cerotic</td>
<td>87.7</td>
<td>Usual as component of plant and insect waxes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Octacosanoic</td>
<td>Montanic</td>
<td>90.9</td>
<td>Major acid in some plant waxes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>