

ABSTRACT

A method of producing water-containing EVOH pellets comprises: a first step of introducing a water-containing EVOH with a water content W1 from 10 to 90 mass% and at a temperature from 80°C to 130°C into an extruder for melt kneading; and a second step of cutting the water-containing EVOH extruded from the extruder for obtaining water-containing EVOH pellets, wherein the extruder has a back slit and water is discharged from the back slit, the water-containing EVOH is extruded from the extruder at a temperature from 80°C to 120°C, the water-containing EVOH extruded from the extruder has a water content W2 from 5 to 50 mass%, and a ratio ($W2/W1$) of the water content W2 to the water content W1 is 0.2 or more and less than 1. The production method allows efficient reduction of water in the water-containing EVOH while inhibiting elution of the EVOH and thus allows efficient production of water-containing EVOH pellets, and also provides high drying efficiency and thus allows inhibiting degradation due to heat of dried EVOH pellets to be obtained.