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(54) Title: PESTICIDE AND/OR PLANT GROWTH REGULATING COMPOSITIONS (54) Titre: COMPOSITIONS PESTICIDES ET/OU REGULATRICES DE LA CROISSANCE DES PLANTES (57) Abstract <p>The invention concerns pesticide and/or insecticide and/or plant growth regulating compositions comprising specific dendrimers, said compositions being, in particular, useable for agriculture and/or public health or domestic hygiene; the invention also concerns methods for treating and/or protecting crops and/or for public health and domestic hygiene using said compositions. The invention further concerns specific dendrimers.</p> (57) Abrégé <p>La présente invention concerne des compositions pesticides et/ou régulatrices de croissance des plantes et/ou des insectes comprenant des dendrimères particuliers, les dites composition étant, notamment, utilisables dans les domaines de l'agriculture et/ou de l'hygiène publique ou domestique; de même que des procédés de traitement et/ou de protection des cultures et/ou d'hygiène publique ou domestique mettant en oeuvre les dites compositions; ainsi que des procédés de préparation de telles compositions; ou encore des dendrimères particuliers.</p>		

NOVEL PESTICIDE AND/OR GROWTH REGULATING COMPOSITIONS

Description

The present invention relates to pesticide
5 and/or insecticide and/or plant growth regulating
compositions comprising specific dendrimers, said
compositions being, in particular, usable in the fields
of agriculture, and/or public health or domestic
hygiene, and to methods for treating and/or protecting
10 crops and/or for public health or domestic hygiene
using said compositions, and methods for preparing such
compositions, or specific dendrimers.

Many pesticide and/or insecticide and/or
plant growth regulating compositions are known, in
15 particular from French or European patents or patent
applications EP-869 712, FR-2 733 502, EP-854 676,
EP-851 729, EP-823 212, and the like.

The documents, French, European or
international patents or applications WO-88/01179, FR-2
20 734 268, FR-2 761 601, EP-765 357, EP-736 059, EP 726
502 or the publication Synthesis, no. 10, 1997, pages
1199-1207, describe uses of dendrimers.

An object of the present invention is to
provide compositions comprising a dendrimer capable of
25 forming a gel combined with a pesticide and/or
insecticide and/or plant growth regulating active
substance and which can be used for agriculture and/or

for public health or domestic hygiene, said compositions being in the form of a gel.

An object of the present invention is to provide compositions based on dendrimers capable of forming a gel and whose structure has two types of volume for insertion, in particular of an active substance.

An object of the present invention is to provide compositions based on dendrimers capable of forming a gel and whose structure comprises inner cavities characteristic of the molecules of dendrimers themselves and spaces characteristic of the structure of the gel formed by said dendrimers.

An object of the present invention is to provide compositions in which the active substance is partly located in the inner cavities of the dendrimers used and the remainder in the structure of the gel which said dendrimers form.

An additional object of the present invention is to provide compositions in which at least half of the active substance is located in the structure of the gel formed by the dendrimers used.

An object of the present invention relates to dendrimers with enhanced capacity, in particular dendrimers capable of forming a gel.

Another object of the present invention is to provide pulverulent compositions based on a dendrimer

capable of forming a gel and combined with one or more pesticide and/or insecticide and/or plant growth regulating active substances.

An object of the present invention is to
5 provide gelled insecticide compositions based on a dendrimer capable of forming a gel.

An object of the present invention is to provide gelled fungicide compositions based on a dendrimer capable of forming a gel.

10 An object of the present invention is to provide gelled herbicide compositions based on a dendrimer capable of forming a gel.

An object of the present invention is to provide gelled insecticide and/or plant growth
15 regulating compositions based on a dendrimer capable of forming a gel.

An additional object of the present invention is to provide a method for protecting and/or treating crops using the compositions according to the
20 invention.

Another object of the present invention is to provide compositions in pulverulent form which can be used in the fields of agriculture and/or public health or domestic hygiene, it being possible for said
25 pulverulent compositions to be stored for long periods and in the absence of any precaution, without any substantial impairment of their characteristics.

An object of the present invention is also to provide methods of protection and/or treatment useful for public health or domestic hygiene and using the compositions of the invention, in particular the
5 insecticide compositions and/or compositions for regulating the development of insect and/or animal pests.

An additional object of the present invention is to provide insecticide and/or nematocide and/or
10 acaricide and/or rodenticide baits.

Said insecticide and/or nematocide and/or acaricide and/or rodenticide baits provided in the form of gelled compositions are also a subject of the present invention.

15 An additional object of the present invention is to provide compositions usable in the fields of agriculture and/or public health or domestic hygiene and exhibiting enhanced stability over time, particularly during long periods of storage and thus to
20 allow the active substance used to retain all its efficacy.

Another object of the present invention is to provide compositions whose handling hazard is very substantially reduced by virtue of their gelled form.

25 An object of the present invention also relates to compositions in gelled form which are usable in the fields of agriculture and/or public health or

domestic hygiene and whose active substance is gradually released.

An additional object of the present invention relates to compositions in gelled form which are usable
5 in the fields of agriculture and/or public health or domestic hygiene and whose active substance is released in a controlled manner.

Another object of the present invention is to provide compositions comprising, in addition to the
10 abovementioned advantages, an increased safety for users and/or for the environment, particularly compositions according to the invention using one or more toxic active substances.

Another object of the present invention is to
15 provide methods for preparing compositions in gelled form which are usable in the fields of agriculture and/or public health or domestic hygiene.

Another object of the present invention is to provide specific dendrimers capable of forming a gel.

20

Compositions according to the invention

It has now been found that these objectives could be fully or partially achieved by means of the compositions according to the invention which are
25 usable in particular in the fields of agriculture and/or public health or domestic hygiene. Said compositions according to the invention comprise

- one or more active substances which are usable in particular in the fields of agriculture and/or public health or domestic hygiene;

- one or more gellable dendrimers;

5 - an inorganic or organic liquid carrier.

For the present text, the expression active substance is understood to mean any active substance which can be used for agriculture and/or public health or domestic hygiene, in particular any pesticide active
10 substance and/or any active substance for regulating the development of plants and/or insects or animal pests.

The invention also relates, and this will be presented in greater detail later, to compositions
15 according to the invention which comprise mixtures, associations, combinations or any other form of formulation of several of said active substances.

An essential aspect of the present invention consists in the use of specific dendrimers.

20 The term dendrimer denotes polymers whose spatial structure adopts an arborescent shape, and the use of a prefix borrowed from Greek and derived from the term *dendro* meaning tree, to denote this family of polymeric macromolecules having an arborescent
25 structure.

The dendrimers useful for the compositions according to the invention are more particularly

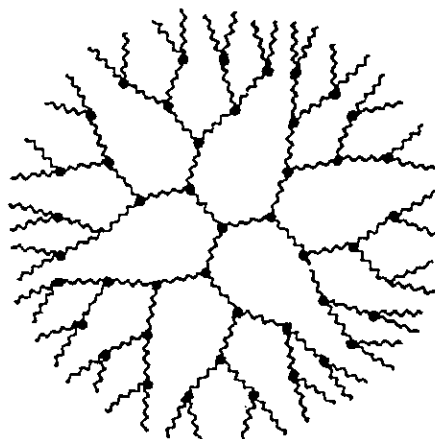
macromolecules whose arborescent structure extends in all directions from a central part.

Thus, the dendrimers used in the compositions according to the invention are macromolecules
5 consisting of a central part, termed core of the dendrimer, and to which a series of branched chains, called dendrons, are linked.

Figure (I) gives a schematic representation of the arborescent structure resembling that of the
10 dendrimers of the compositions according to the invention. Said structure comprises

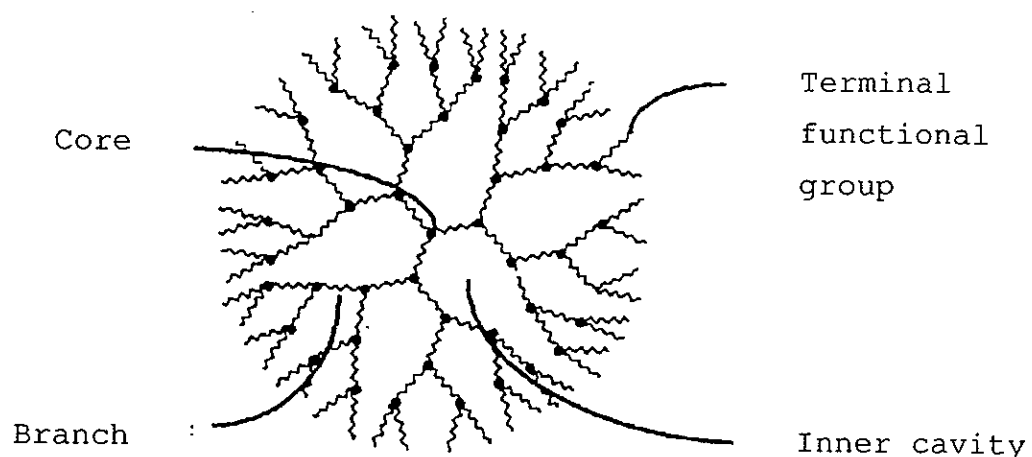
- a core, most often consisting of a polyfunctional chemical group capable of being linked to a plurality of branched chains or dendrons;
- 15 - branches, generally composed of linear or branched organic fragments, linked to each other and to the core, and arborescently organized;
- terminal chemical functional groups, that is to say constituting the peripheral end of said
20 branches;
- inner cavities inherently resulting from the branchings of said branches.

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(I)

The schematic representation of Figure (II) presents Figure (I) supplemented with a legend, thus
5 allowing a more precise illustration of the components which the arborescent structure, resembling that of the dendrimers of the invention, may comprise.



(II)

The organic core is therefore the central
10 part of the dendrimers useful for the compositions according to the invention. It consists, in general, of

a chemical group, most often an organic, polyfunctional chemical group capable of being attached to multiple branched chains. The core of the dendrimers of the present invention is also characterized by a multiple
5 valency which corresponds to the number of dendrons to which it is capable of being attached. Details relating to the core of said dendrimers used in the compositions according to the invention will be given in the present text during the detailed description of said
10 dendrimers.

The dendrons of said dendrimers are branched organic chains linked to the core. Generally, said dendrons are series of said branched chains.

The terminal functional groups of the
15 dendrimers useful for the compositions according to the invention are chemical functional groups present at the ends of the dendrons; among the very many chemical functional groups which may constitute said terminal functional groups, there may be mentioned, for example,
20 the ammonium, amidinium, pyridinium, guanidinium or carboxylate functional groups or carboxylic acids. Said terminal functional groups usually confer on said dendrimers some of their characteristics, in particular the possibility of very many individual reactions at
25 the periphery.

The inner cavities of the dendrimers used in the compositions according to the invention inherently

result from the existence of the branches of said dendrimers. Said inner cavities allow in particular the inclusion of a variety of substances within the arborescent structure of said dendrimers. However, the size and the accessibility of these inner cavities limits the inclusion of said substances to only molecules whose size and properties are compatible therewith.

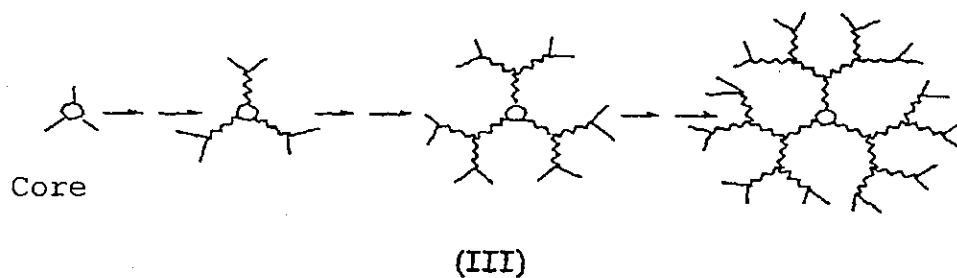
For the preparation of the dendrimers useful for the compositions of the present invention, there may be mentioned, mainly, two types of method of synthesis, divergent syntheses and convergent syntheses:

- in the divergent methods, the synthesis is carried out from the core to the periphery by grafting an increasingly large number of small molecules onto the surface of the dendrimer possessing multiple chemical functional groups, a representation of such a route of synthesis is given by scheme (III):

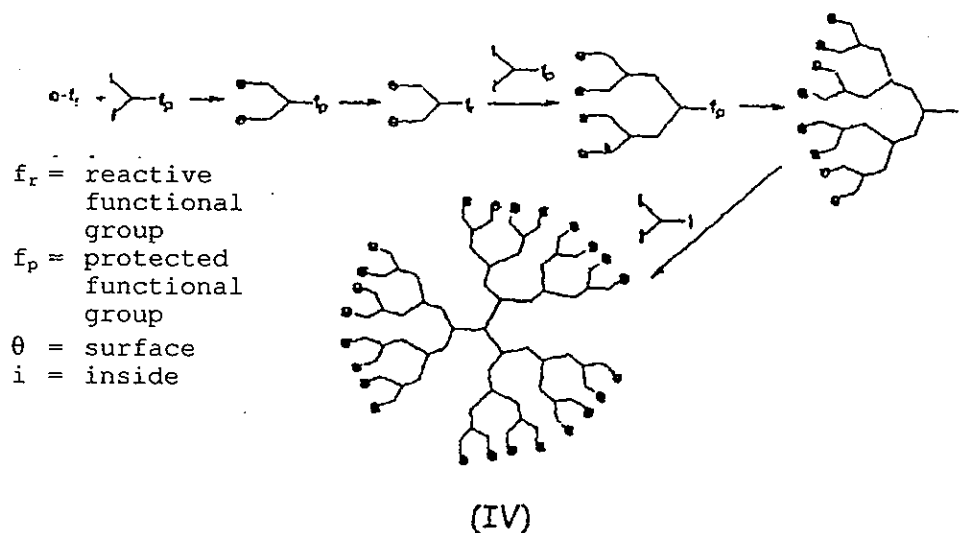
- in the convergent methods, the synthesis is carried out from the periphery toward the core by combining with each other increasingly larger molecules constantly having an available chemical functional group at the level of the core, a

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representation of such a route of synthesis
is given by scheme (IV).



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In addition, using these modes of construction, all the joining points for the branches situated at a similar distance from the core of the dendrimers used for the compositions according to the invention can be defined as forming part of the same generation, each generation may then define, for said dendrimers, layers consisting of these joining points.

Moreover, this mode of constructing the dendrimers, by repetition of steps, is advantageous in that it can allow precise control, inter alia, of their molecular mass, of their size, of their shape and of
5 their capacity to react chemically.

Reference may be made to the various texts of the manual Les dendrimères by the ECRIN association, published in June 1998 by the publishers SACER, in which dendrimers are described.

10 The compositions according to the invention are characterized in that they comprise an active substance as defined above, a dendrimer capable of forming a gel and an inorganic or organic liquid carrier.

15 In addition and according to the needs or the nature of the disease to be treated, the weed plants, the insect and/or animal pests to be controlled, destroyed or eradicated, or according to the levels of infestation by these pests, or according to the
20 climatic and/or edaphic conditions, the compositions according to the invention may contain any other customary substances for the formulation of compositions useful in the fields of agriculture and/or public health or domestic hygiene.

25 Among these compounds, there may be mentioned, by way of example, adjuvants, anticaking agents, colorants, thickeners, surfactants, antifoaming

compounds, detergents such as alkaline-earth metal salts, dispersants, alkalizing agents such as bases, bonding agents, emulsifiers, oxidizing agents such as free radical scavengers or catalytic destroyers of hydroperoxides, anticorrosive agents, attractants and/or food substances for the preparation of insecticide baits in particular.

More generally, the compositions according to the invention may comprise any solid or liquid additives corresponding to the usual formulation techniques which are acceptable for uses for agriculture and/or public health or domestic hygiene for example.

These additives may be present in the compositions according to the invention in quantities of between 0 and 50% by weight of said compositions.

Also according to the needs, the nature of the diseases to be treated, of the insect and/or animal pests and/or of the weed plants to be controlled, destroyed or eradicated, the levels of infestation of these pests, the climatic and/or edaphic conditions, the compositions according to the invention may contain one or more combined active substances of the type including fungicides and/or insecticides and/or acaricides and/or rodenticides and/or nematocides and/or insect and/or animal pest repellents and/or

agents regulating the development of plants and/or insects and/or one or more herbicide active substances.

In general, the pesticide and/or growth regulating active substances which may enter into the formulation of the compositions according to the invention are those listed in any plant-protection manual, for example L'Index Phytosanitaire (published by the Technical Directorate of the Association de Coordination Technique Agricole or A.C.T.A.) or The Pesticide Manual (by the British Crop Protection Council, edited by Clive Tomlin) or The Electronic Pesticide Manual version 1.1 (by the British Crop Protection Council, edited by Clive Tomlin).

Preferably, and among the fungicide active substances which may be used alone or in combination with other active substances, in particular pesticides, in the compositions according to the invention, there may be mentioned 2-phenylphenol; 8-hydroxyquinoline sulfate; AC 382042; *Ampelomyces quisqualis*; Azaconazole; Azoxystrobin; *Bacillus subtilis*; Benalaxyl; Benomyl; Biphenyl; Bitertanol; Blastacidin-S; Bordeaux mixture; Borax; Bromuconazole; Bupirimate; Calboxin; calcium polysulfide; Captafol; Captan; Carbendazim; Carpropanmid (KTU 3616); CGA 279202; Chinomethionat; Chlorothalonil; Chlozolate; copper hydroxide; copper naphthenate; copper oxychloride; copper sulfate; cuprous oxide; Cymoxanil;

Cyproconazole; Cyprodinil; Dazomet; Debacarb;
 Dichlofluanid; Dichlomezine; Dichlorophen; Diclocymet;
 Dicloran; Diethofencarb; Difenconazole; Difenzoquat;
 Difenzoquat metilsulfate; Diflumetorim; Dimethirimol;
 5 Dimethomorph; Diniconazole; Diniconazole-M; Dinobuton;
 Dinocap; diphnenylamine; Dithianon; Dodemorph;
 Dodemorph acetate; Dodine; Dodine free base;
 Edifenphos; Epoxiconazole (BAS 480F); Ethasulfocarb;
 Ethirimol; Etridiazole; Famoxadone; Fenamidone;
 10 Fenarimol; Fenbuconazole; Fenfin; Fenfuram; Fenhexamid;
 Fenpiclonil; Fenpropidin; Fenpropimorph; Fentin
 acetate; Fentin hydroxide; Ferbam; Ferimzone;
 Fluazinam; Fludioxonil; Fluoroimide; Fluquinconazole;
 Flusilazole; Flusulfamide; Flutolanil; Flutriafol;
 15 Folpet; formaldehyde; Fosetyl; Fosetyl-aluminum;
 Fuberidazole; Furalaxyl; Fusarium oxysporum;
 Gliocladium virens; Guazatine; Guazatine acetates; GY-
 81; hexachlorobenzene; Hexaconazole; Hymexazol;
 ICIA0858; IKF-916; Imazalil; Imazalil sulfate;
 20 Imibenconazole; Iminoctadine; Iminoctadine triacetate;
 Iminoctadine tris[Albesilate]; Ipconazole; Iprobenfos;
 Iprodione; Iprovalicarb; Kasugamycin; Kasugamycin
 hydrochloride hydrate; Kresoxim-methyl; Mancopper;
 Mancozeb; Maneb; Mepanipyrim; Mepronil; mercuric
 25 chloride; mercuric oxide; mercurous chloride;
 Metalaxyl; Metalaxyl-M; Metam; Metam-sodium;
 Metconazole; Methasulfocarb; methyl isothiocyanate;

Metiram; Metominostrobin (SSF-126); MON65500;
 Myclotbutanil; Nabam; naphthenic acid; Natamycin;
 nickel bis(dimethyldithiocarbamate); Nitrothal-
 isopropyl; Nuarimol; Octhilinone; Ofurace; oleic acid
 5 (fatty acids); Oxadixyl; Oxine-copper; Oxycarboxin;
 Penconazole; Pencycuron; Pentachlorophenol;
 pentachlorophenyl laurate; Perfurazoate; phenylmercury
 acetate; Phlebiopsis gigantea; Phthalide; Piperalin;
 polyoxin B; polyoxins; Polyoxorim; potassium
 10 hydroxyquinoline sulfate; Probenazole; Prochloraz;
 Procymidone; Propamocarb; Propamocarb Hydrochloride;
 Propiconazole; Propineb; Pyrazophos; Pyributicarb;
 Pyrifenox; Pyrimethanil; Pyroquilon; Quinoxifen;
 Quintozene; RH-7281; sec-butylamine; sodium 2-
 15 phenylphenoxide; sodium pentachlorophenoxide;
 Spiroxamine (KWG 4168); Streptomyces griseoviridis;
 sulfur; tar oils; Tebuconazole; Tecnazene;
 Tetraconazole; Thiabendazole; Thifluzamide;
 Thiophanate-methyl; Thiram; Tolclofos-methyl;
 20 Tolyfluanid; Triadimefon; Triadimenol; Triazoxide;
 Trichoderma harzianum; Tricyclazole; Tridemorph;
 Triflumizole; Triforine; Triticonazole; Validamycin;
 vinclozolin; zinc naphthenate; Zineb; Ziram; the
 compounds having the chemical name methyl (E,E)-2-(2-
 25 (1-(1-(2-pyridyl)propyloxyimino)-1-
 cyclopropylmethyloxymethyl)phenyl)-3-ethoxypropenoate
 and 3-(3,5-dichlorophenyl)-4-chloropyrazole.

Among the insecticide, acaricide and nematocide active substances which may be used alone or in combination with other active substances, in particular pesticides, in the compositions according to

5 the invention, there may be mentioned Abamectin; Acephate; Acetamiprid; oleic acid; Acrinathrin; Aldicarb; Alanycarb; Allethrin [(1R) isomers]; α -Cypermethrin; Amitraz; Avermectin B1 and its derivatives, Azadirachtin; Azamethiphos; Azinphos-

10 ethyl; Azinphosmethyl; Bacillus thurigiensi; Bendiocarb; Benfuracarb; Bensultap; β -cyfluthrin; β -cypermethrin; Bifenazate; Bifenthrin; Bioallathrin; Bioallethrin (S-cyclopentenyl isomer); Bioresmethrin; Borax; Buprofezin; Butocarboxim; Butoxycarboxim;

15 piperonyl butoxide; Cadusafos; Carbaryl; Carbofuran; Carbosulfan; Cartap; Cartap hydrochloride; Chordane; Chlorethoxyfos; Chlorfenapyr; Chlorfenvinphos; Chlorfluazuron; Chlormephos; Chloropicrin; Chlorpyrifos; Chlorpyrifos-methyl; mercurous chloride;

20 Coumaphos; Cryolite; Cryomazine; Cyanophos; calcium cyanide; sodium cyanide; Cycloprothrin; Cyfluthrin; Cyhalothrin; cypermethrin; cyphenothrin [(1R) transisomers]; Dazomet; DDT; Deltamethrin; Demeton-S-methyl; Diafenthiuron; Diazinon; ethylene dibromide;

25 ethylene dichloride; Dichlorvos; Dicofol; Dicrotophos; Diflubenzuron; Dimethoate; Dimethylvinphos; Diofenolan; Disulfoton; DNOC; DPX-JW062 and DP; Empenthrin

- [(EZ)-(1R) isomers]; Endosulfan; ENT 8184; EPN;
Esfenvalerate; Ethiofencarb; Ethion; Ethiprole having
the chemical name 5-amino-3-cyano-1-(2,6-dichloro-4-
trifluoromethylphenyl)-4-ethylsulfinylpyrazole;
- 5 Ethoprophos; Etofenprox; Etoxazole; Etrimfos; Famphur;
Fenamiphos; Fenitrothion; Fenobucarb; Fenoxycarb;
Fenpropathrin; Fenthion; Fenvalerate; Fipronil and the
compounds of the arylpyrazole family; Flucycloxuron;
Flucythrinate; Flufenoxuron; Flufenprox; Flumethrin;
- 10 Fluofenprox; sodium fluoride; sulfuric acid;
Fonofos; Formetanate; Formetanate hydrochloride;
Formothion; Furathiocarb; Gamma-HCH; GY-81;
Halofenozide; Heptachlor; Heptenophos; Hexaflumuron;
sodium hexafluorosilicate; tar oils; petroleum oils;
- 15 Hydramethylnon; hydrogen cyanide; Hydroprene;
Imidacloprid; Imiprothrin; Indoxacarb; Isazofos;
Isofenphos; Isoprocab; Methyl isothiocyanal;
Isoxathion; lambda-Cyhalothrin; pentachlorophenyl
laurate; Lufenuron; Malathion; MB-599; Mecarbam;
- 20 Methacrifos; Methamidophos; Methidathion; Methiocarb;
Methomyl; Methoprene; Methoxychlor; Metolcarb;
Mevinphos; Milbemectin and its derivatives;
Monocrotophos; Naled; nicotine; Nitenpyram; Nithiazine;
Novaluron; Omethoate; Oxamyl; Oxydemeton-methyl;
- 25 Paecilomyces fumosoroseus; Parathion; Parathion-methyl;
pentachlorophenol; sodium pentachlorophenoxide;
Permethrin; Penothrin [(1R)-trans-isomers]; Phenthoate;

Phorate; Phosalone; Phosmet; Phosphamidon; phosphine;
 aluminum phosphide; magnesium phosphide; zinc
 phosphide; Phoxim; Pirimicarb; Pirimiphos-ethyl;
 Pirimiphos-methyl; calcium polysulfide; Prallethrin;
 5 Profenfos; Propaphos; Propetamphos; Propoxur;
 Prothiofos; Pyraclofos; pyrethrins (chrysanthemates,
 pyrethrates, pyrethrum; Pyretrozine; Pyridaben;
 Pyridaphenthion; Pyrimidifen; Pyriproxyfen; Quinalphos;
 Resmethrin; RH-2485; Rotenone; RU 15525; Silafluofen;
 10 Sulcofuron-sodium; Sulfotep; sulfuramide; Sulprofos;
 Ta-fluvalinate; Tebufenozide; Tebupirimfos;
 Teflubenzuron; Tefluthrin; Temephos; Terbufos;
 Tetrachlorvinphos; Tetramethrin; Tetramethrin [(IR)
 isomers]; θ -cypermethrin; Thiametoxam; Thiocyclam;
 15 Thiocyclam hydrogen oxalate; Thiodicarb; Thiofanox;
 Thiometon; Tralomethrin; Transfluthrin; Triazamate;
 Triazophos; Trichlorfon; Triflumuron; Trimethacarb;
 Vamidothion; XDE-105; XMC; Xylylcarb; Zeta-
 cypermethrin; ZXI 8901; the compound whose chemical
 20 name is 3-acetyl-5-amino-1-[2,6-dichloro-4-
 (trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-2-methylsulfinylpyrazole.

Among the herbicide active substances which
 may be used alone or in combination with other active
 substances, in particular pesticides, in the
 25 compositions according to the invention, there may be
 mentioned 2,3,6-TBA; 2,4-D; 2,4-D-2-ethylhexyl; 2,4-DB;
 2,4-DB-butyl; 2,4-DB-dimethylammonium; 2,4-DB-isooctyl;

2,4-DB-potassium; 2,4-DB-sodium; 2,4-D-butotyl (2,4-D-Butotyl (2,4-D Butoxyethyl Ester)); 2,4-D-butyl; 2,4-D-dimethylammonium; 2,4-D-Diolamine; 2,4-D-isooctyl; 2,4-D-isopropyl; 2,4-D-sodium; 2,4-D-trolamine; Acetochlor;

5 Acifluorfen; Acifluorfen-sodium; Aclonifen; Acrolein; AKH-7088; Alachlor; Alloxymid; Alloxymid-sodium; Ametryn; Amidosulfuron; Amitrole; ammonium sulfamate; Anilofos; Asulam; Asulam-sodium; Atrazine; Azafenidin; Azimsulfuron; Benazolin; Benazolin-ethyl; Benfluralin;

10 Benfuresate; Benoxacor; Bensulfuron; Bensulfuron-methyl; Bensulide; Bentazone; Bentazone-sodium; Benofenap; Bifenox; Bilanofos; Bilanafos-sodium; Bispyribac-sodium; Borax; Bromacil; Bromobutide; Bromofenoxim; Bromoxynil; Bromoxynil-heptanoate;

15 Bromoxynil-octanoate; Bromoxynil-potassium, Butachlor; Butamifos; Butralin; Butroxydim; butylate; Cafenstrole; Carbetamide; Carfentrazone-ethyl; Chlomethoxyfen; Chloramben; Chlorbromuron; Chloridazon; Chlorimuron; Chlorimuron-ethyl; Chloroacetic Acid; Chlorotoluron;

20 Chlorpropham; Chlorsulfuron; Chlorthal; Chlorthal-dimethyl; Chlorthiamid; Cinmethylin; Cinosulfuron; Clethodim; Clodinafop; Clodinafop-Propargyl; Clomazone; Clomeprop; Clopyralid; Clopyralid-Olamine; Cloquintocet; Cloquintocet-Mexyl; Chloransulam-methyl;

25 CPA; CPA-dimethylammonium; CPA-isooctyl; CPA-thioethyl; Cyanamide; Cyanazine; Cycloate; Cyclosulfamuron; Cycloxydim; Cyhalofop-butyl; Daimuron; Dalapon;

- Dalapon-sodium; Dazomet; Desmeduipham; Desmetryn;
Dicamba; Dicamba-dimethylammonium; Dicamba-potassium;
Dicamba-sodium; Dicamba-trolamine; Dichlobenil;
Dichlormid; Dichlorprop; Dichlorprop-butotyl
5 (Dichlorprop-butotyl (Dichlorpropbutoxyethyl ester));
Dichlorprop-dimethylammonium; Dichlorprop-isooctyl;
Dichlorprop-P; Dichlorprop-potassium; Diclofop;
Diclofop-methyl; Difenzoquat; Difenzoquat metilsulfate;
Diflufenican; Diflufenzopyr (BAS 654 00 H); Dimefuron;
10 Dimepiperate; Dimethachlor; Dimethametryn;
Dimethenamid; Dimethipin; dimethylarsinic acid;
Dinitramine; Dinoterb; Dinoterb acetate; Dinoterb-
ammonium; Dinoterb-diolamine; Diphenamid; Diquat;
Diquat dibromide; Dithiopyr; Diuron; DNOC; DSMA;
15 Endothal; EPTC; Esprocarb; Ethalfluralin;
Ethametsulfuron-methyl; Ethofumesate; Ethoxysulfuron;
Etobenzanid; Fenchlorazole-ethyl; Fenclorim;
Fenoxaprop-P; Fenoxaprop-P-ethyl; Fenuron; Fenuron-TCA;
Ferrous Sulfate; Flamprop-M; Flamprop-M-Isopropyl;
20 Flamprop-M-methyl; Flazasulfuron; Fluazifop; Fluazifop-
butyl; Fluazifop-P; Fluazifop-P-butyl; Fluazolate;
Fluchloralin; Flufenacet (BAS FOE 5043); Flumetsulam;
Flumiclorac; Flumiclorac-Pentyl; Flumioxazin;
Fluometuron; Fluoroglycofen; Fluroglycofen-ethyl;
25 Flupaxam; Flupoxam; Flupropanate; Flupropanate-sodium;
Flupyr-sulfuron-methyl-sodium; Flurazole; Flurenol;
Flurenol-butyl; Fluridone; Flurochloridone; Fluroxypyr;

Fluroxypyr-2-Butoxy-1-methylethyl; Fluroxypyr-methyl;
 Flurtamone; Fluthioacet-methyl; Fluxofenim; Fomesafen;
 Fomesafen-sodium; Fosamine; Fosamine-ammonium;
 Furilazole; Glyphosate; Glufosinate; Glufosinate-
 5 ammonium; Glyphosate-ammonium; Glyphosate-
 isopropylammonium; Glyphosate-sodium; Glyphosate-
 trimesium; Halosulfuron; Halosulfuron-methyl;
 Haloxyfop; Haloxyfop-P-methyl; Haloxyfop-etotyl;
 Haloxyfop-methyl; Hexazinone; Hilanafos; Imazacluin;
 10 Imazamethabenz; Imazamox; Imazapyr; Imazapyr-
 isopropylammonium; Imazaquin; Imazaquin-ammonium;
 Imazemethabenz-methyl; Imazethapyr; Imazethapyr-
 ammonium; Imazosulfuron; Imizapic (AC 263,222);
 Indanofan; Ioxynil; Ioxynil octanoate; Ioxynil-sodium;
 15 Isoproturon; Isouron; Isoxaben; Isoxaflutole; Lactofen;
 Laxynel octanoate; Laxynil-sodium; Lenacil; Linuron;
 MCPA; MCPA-butotyl; MCPA-dimethylammonium; MCPA-
 isoctyl; MCPA-potassium; MCPA-sodium; MCPA-thioethyl;
 MCPB; MCPB-ethyl; MCPB-sodium; Mecoprop; Mecoprop-P;
 20 Mefenacet; Mefenpyr-diethyl; Mefluidide; Mesulfuron-
 methyl; Metam; Metamitron; Metam-sodium; Metezachlor;
 Methabenzthiazuron; methyl isothiocyanate;
 methylarsonic acid; Methyldymron; Metobenzuron;
 Metobromuron; Metolachlor; Metosulam; Metoxuron;
 25 Metribuzin; Metsulfuron; Molinate; Monolinuron; MPB-
 sodium; MSMA; Napropamide; Naptalam; Naptalam-sodium;
 Neburon; Nicosulfuron; nonanoic acid; Norflurazon;

oleic acid (fatty acids); Orbencarb; Oryzalin;
 Oxabetrinil; Oxadiargyl; Oxasulfuron; Oxodiazon;
 Oxyfluorfen; Paraquat; Paraquat Dichloride; Pebulate;
 Pendimethalin; Pentachlorophenol; Pentachlorophenyl
 5 Laurate; Pentanochlor; Pentoxazone; petroleum oils;
 Phenmedipham; Picloram; Picloram-potassium; Piperophos;
 Pretilachlor; Primisulfuron; Primisulfuron-methyl;
 Prodiamine; Prometon; Prometryn; Propachlor; Propanil;
 Propaquizafop; Propazine; Propham; Propisochlor;
 10 Propyzamide; Prosulfocarb; Prosulfuron; Pyraflufen-
 ethyl; Pyrazasulfuron; Pyrazolynate; Pyrazosulfuron-
 ethyl; Pyrazoxyfen; Pyribenzoxim; Pyributicarb;
 Pyridate; Pyriminobac-methyl; Pyriothiobac-sodium;
 Quinclorac; Quinmerac; Quinofolamine; Quizalofop;
 15 Quizalofop-ethyl; Quizalofop-P; Quizalofop-P-ethyl;
 Quizalofop-P-Tefuryl; Rimsulfuron; Sethoxydim; Siduron;
 Simazine; Simetryn; sodium chlorate; sodium
 chloroacetate; sodium pentachlorophenoxide; sodium-
 Dimethylarsinate; Sulcotrione; Sulfentrazone;
 20 Sulfometuron; Sulfometuron-methyl; Sulfosulfuron;
 Sulfuric acid; tars; TCA-sodium; Tebutam; Tebuthiuron;
 Tepraluxydim (BAS 620H); Terbacil; Terbumeton;
 Terbutylazine; Terbutryn; Thenylchlor; Thiazopyr;
 Thifensulfuron; Thifensulfuron-methyl; Thiobencarb;
 25 Tiocarbazil; Tralkoxydim; triallate; Triasulfuron;
 Triaziflam; Tribenuron; Tribenuron-methyl; Tribenuron-
 methyl; trichloroacetic acid; Triclopyr; Triclopyr-

butotyl; Triclopyr-triethylammonium; Trietazine;
Trifluralin; Triflusulfuron; Triflusulfuron-methyl;
Vernolate; YRC 2388.

In the compositions according to the
5 invention, the active substance(s) may be provided in
various physical forms, in particular in solid form, or
in liquid or semiliquid form.

The active substance(s) of the compositions
according to the invention is (are) provided in
10 quantities of between 0.5 and 99.99%, preferably
between 5 and 70% by weight of said compositions.

The dendrimers used in the compositions
according to the invention, also called dendrimers
according to the invention, are dendrimers capable of
15 forming a gel.

An advantageous method for knowing if a
particular dendrimer is capable of forming a gel
consists in mixing, at a temperature of about 65°C,
said dendrimer with water in the respective proportions
20 by weight of 1.5/98.5; the mixture forms a gel within
the meaning of the present invention if, after 48
hours, the product obtained does not flow when it is
placed, in the form of a cubic mass, on a flat surface.

According to another method which makes it
25 possible to know if a particular dendrimer is capable
of forming a gel of high quality which is particularly
advantageous for the invention, said dendrimer is

mixed, at room temperature, with water in the
respective proportions by weight of 1/1; the mixture
forms a gel within the meaning of the present invention
if, after two weeks, the product obtained does not flow
5 when it is placed, in the form of a cubic mass, on a
flat surface.

Another particularly advantageous method for
determining if a particular dendrimer is capable of
forming a gel may consist in proceeding as follows: the
10 particular dendrimer is mixed with water, preferably
solubilized in water, in the respective proportions by
weight of 1.8/98.2, at a temperature which may be
between 40 and 65°C, and then this mixture is heated
for 4 weeks at a temperature of about 60-65°C, to give
15 a gelled product which does not flow when it is placed,
in the form of a cubic mass, on a flat surface.

According to another aspect of the invention,
the gels which are capable of being formed by the
particular dendrimer useful for the composition
20 according to the invention are colloids with a
substantially continuous phase and which give a jelly
type viscous product; this may also include a dispersed
system consisting, for example, of a high-molecular
weight compound or an aggregate of molecules of
25 dendrimers useful for the compositions according to the
invention, in intimate association with an inorganic or
organic liquid carrier.

5

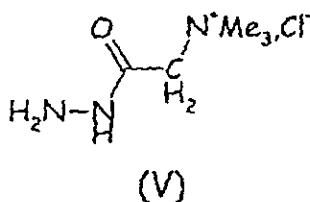
The dendrimers useful in the compositions according to the invention and which are therefore the dendrimers capable of forming a gel may be in particular neutral dendrimers or dendrimers of the ionic type, either of the anionic or
10 cationic type.

As dendrimers useful in the compositions according to the invention which are neutral, there may be mentioned those whose terminal functional groups mainly consist of groups of the carboxylic acid type and/or of the
15 phosphonic type and/or of the sulfonic, sulfonate or sulfate type and/or of the amine type.

As dendrimers useful in the compositions according to the invention and which are of the ionic type, there may be advantageously mentioned the dendrimers whose terminal
20 functional groups essentially comprise groups chosen from carboxylate and/or sulfonium and/or phosphonium and/or amidinium and/or guanidinium and/or ammonium groups, for example groups of the secondary, tertiary or quaternary ammonium type, most particularly groups
25 of the pyridinium type.

As dendrimers useful for the compositions according to the invention and which are most

particularly advantageous, there may be mentioned particular dendrimers whose terminal functional groups essentially comprise radicals derived from groups of the N-hydrazinoylcarbonylmethyl-N,N,N-trialkylammonium halide type, among which groups there may be mentioned, by way of example, N-hydrazinoylcarbonylmethyl-N,N,N-tri-(n-propyl)ammonium chloride called Girard PR reagent or N-hydrazinoylcarbonylmethyl-N,N,N-trimethylammonium chloride represented by Figure (V) below and which will be called Girard T reagent for the remainder of the present text; likewise there may be mentioned N-hydrazinoylcarbonylmethyl-N,N,N-pyridinium chloride called Girard P reagent for the remainder of the present text.



Said terminal functional groups of the dendrimers useful in the compositions according to the invention are attached to the ends of the branched chains which the branches of said dendrimers constitute, either directly or by means of an organic chemical reagent called connecting member for the present disclosure.

Said connecting member of the dendrimers useful in the compositions of the invention is most often composed of a hydrocarbon radical containing from 2 to 50 carbon atoms, preferably from 4 to 20 carbon atoms, it being possible
5 for said radical to be saturated or unsaturated and/or linear or branched and/or substituted or unsubstituted.

Said connecting member may also be composed of a hydrocarbon radical as defined above and containing, in addition to carbon atoms, one or more
10 heteroatoms, in particular oxygen, sulfur, nitrogen, phosphorus or halogens.

As connecting members useful for the dendrimers used in the compositions according to the invention, there may be mentioned groups of the type
15 including alkyl, aryl, alkoxyalkyl, alkoxyaryl, alkylhydrazinoyl, arylhydrazinoyl, carboxyalkyl-hydrazido and in particular carboxymethyl-hydrazido, cyanoalkyl, allyl, propargyl, halocycloalkyl, haloalkoxyalkyl, alkylthioalkyl, haloalkylthioalkyl,
20 aminoalkyl, N-alkylaminoalkyl, N,N-dialkylaminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, arylalkyl, phenyliminoalkyl, iminoaryl, imidoalkyl, amidoaryl, phosphoalkyl, phosphoryl, thiophosphoryl, phosphoraminoalkyl, phosphoraminoaryl, phosphoriminoalkyl, phosphoriminoaryl,
25 phosphorimidoalkyl, phosphorimidoaryl, hydrazinoalkyl, hydrazinoaryl, allylidenealkylhydrazinoyl, allylidenearylhydrazinoyl, epoxybenzylidene,

dialkylphosphorimidoyl, diarylphosphorimidoyl,
thioimidophosphoryl, thio-N-alkylazophosphoryl, thio-N-
arylazophosphoryl optionally substituted with one or
more groups chosen from the groups of the type
5 including hydroxyl, mercapto, nitro, thiocyanate,
azido, cyano, pentafluorosulfonyl, alkyl, aryl,
haloalkyl, alkoxy, haloalkoxy, alkylthio,
haloalkylthio, alkoxyalkyl, haloalkoxyalkyl,
alkylthioalkyl, haloalkylthioalkyl, cyanoalkyl,
10 cyanoalkoxy, cyanoalkylthio, alkylsulfinyl,
haloalkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, haloalkylsulfonyl and
alkoxysulfonyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl,
alkenyloxy, alkynyloxy, alkenylthio, alkynylthio,
amino, N-alkylamino, N,N-dialkylamino, acylamino,
15 hydroxy, alkoxy, carboxy, carbamoyl, N-alkylcarbamoyl,
N,N-dialkylcarbamoyl, alkoxycarbonyl, acyl.

Preferably, the dendrimers used in the
compositions according to the invention carry bonds
between atoms from group fifteen of the periodic table
20 of chemical elements, said group fifteen having
nitrogen as the first element and bismuth as the last
element. More preferably, said dendrimers carry bonds
between phosphorus atoms and nitrogen atoms.

These bonds between atoms from group fifteen
25 of the periodic table of chemical elements may be
present in the dendrimers useful for the compositions
according to the invention in quantities ranging from a

few units to several thousands, or even several tens of thousands because of the large size which said dendrimers may have, for example the number of said bonds may be between 2 and 80 000, preferably between
5 20 and 20 000.

As defined above, the organic core of the dendrimers useful for the compositions according to the invention most often consists of a polyfunctional organic chemical group capable of being attached to
10 multiple branched chains.

Said core may also be characterized by a multiple valency which corresponds to the number of dendrons to which it is capable of being directly attached so as to form a so-called first generation
15 dendrimer.

Preferably, the core of the dendrimers useful in the compositions according to the invention possesses a valency of between 2 and 20, preferably of between 3 and 10. Thus, the so-called first generation dendrimers according to
20 the invention may be attached to a number of dendrons which may be up to 20, preferably up to 10.

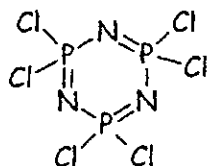
Most often, the core of the dendrimers useful in the compositions according to the invention is composed of a radical or of a chemical group which is complex to a greater or
25 lesser degree; this may include a hydrocarbon radical in general containing from 1 to 30 atoms and said hydrocarbon radical may be linear, branched or cyclic

or even polycyclic and/or saturated or unsaturated and/or substituted or unsubstituted.

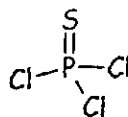
The core of the dendrimers used in compositions according to the invention is usually composed of a hydrocarbon radical containing one or more heteroatoms, in particular oxygen, sulfur, nitrogen, phosphorus or halogens, in particular chlorine. Where appropriate and in the preferred manner, the core of the dendrimers according to the invention contains up to 100%, as number of atoms, of said heteroatoms.

As examples of compounds which are precursors of heteroatom radicals useful as core for the dendrimers according to the invention, there may be mentioned hexachlorocyclotriphosphazene or trichlorothiophosphane; a representation of the chemical structure of these two compounds is given below by Figures (VI) and (VII).

The expression precursor compounds is understood to mean compounds which may precede the formation or the preparation of radicals useful as core for the dendrimers according to the invention.



(VI)



(VII)

As defined above, the branches or dendrons of the dendrimers according to the invention most often consist of branched organic chains linked to the core
5 of said dendrimers.

Said branched organic chains are usually composed of hydrocarbon radicals which are complex to a greater or lesser degree, said hydrocarbon radicals may also comprise a number of heteroatoms such as oxygen,
10 sulfur, nitrogen, phosphorus or halogens, in particular chlorine.

In general, said dendrons are series of said branched chains; in other words, the dendrimers according to the invention most often possess dendrons
15 which are composed of branched chains containing chemical motifs which are in part identical or similar to each other.

As the dendrimers useful in the compositions according to the invention may possess a large number of dendrons, the number of said
20 identical or similar chemical motifs is highly variable. Usually, the dendrimers useful in the compositions according to the

invention possess dendrons which are composed of series of branched chains containing chemical motifs among which 10%, preferably 20%, of the total number of
25 chemical motifs are identical or similar to each other.

In other words, the dendrons of the dendrimers used in

the invention may be composed of chemical

units of which 9/10, preferably 4/5, are different from each other.

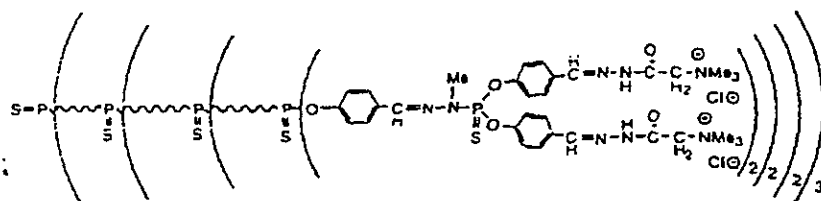
Said chemical motifs which compose the dendrons of the dendrimers used for the compositions according to the invention may, for example, be chosen from the groups of the type including alkyl, aryl, alkoxyalkyl, alkoxyaryl, alkylhydrazinoyl, arylhydrazinoyl, carboxyalkyl-hydrazido and in particular carboxymethyl-hydrazido, cyanoalkyl, allyl, propargyl, halocycloalkyl, haloalkoxyalkyl, alkylthioalkyl, haloalkylthioalkyl, aminoalkyl, N-alkylaminoalkyl, N,N-dialkylaminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, arylalkyl, phenyliminoalkyl, iminoaryl, imidoalkyl, amidoaryl, phosphoalkyl, phosphoryl, thiophosphoryl, phosphoraminoalkyl, phosphoraminoaryl, phosphoriminoalkyl, phosphoriminoaryl, phosphorimidoalkyl, phosphorimidoaryl, hydrazinoalkyl, hydrazinoaryl, allylidenealkylhydrazynoyl, allylidenearylhiazinoyl, epoxybenzylidene, dialkylphosphorimidoyl, diarylphosphorimidoyl, thioimidophosphoryl, thio-N-alkylazophosphoryl, thio-N-arylazophosphoryl optionally substituted with one or more groups chosen from the groups of the type including hydroxyl, mercapto, nitro, thiocyanate, azido, cyano, pentafluorosulfonyl, alkyl, aryl, haloalkyl, alkoxy, haloalkoxy, alkylthio, haloalkylthio, alkoxyalkyl, haloalkoxyalkyl,

alkylthioalkyl, haloalkylthioalkyl, cyanoalkyl,
cyanoalkoxy, cyanoalkylthio, alkylsulfinyl,
haloalkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, haloalkylsulfonyl and
alkoxysulfonyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl,
5 alkenyloxy, alkynyloxy, alkenylthio, alkynylthio,
amino, N-alkylamino, N,N-dialkylamino, acylamino,
hydroxy, alkoxy, carboxy, carbamoyl, N-alkylcarbamoyl,
N,N-dialkylcarbamoyl, alkoxycarbonyl, acyl.

In addition to the core, the dendrons and the
10 terminal functional groups, the dendrimers used in
compositions according to the invention comprise inner
cavities inherently resulting from the existence of
branches characteristic of the spatial structure of
said dendrimers.

15 Said inner cavities may in particular allow
the inclusion of a variety of substances within the
arborescent structure of said dendrimers. However, the
size and the accessibility of these inner cavities
limits the inclusion of said substances to only
20 molecules whose size and properties are compatible
therewith.

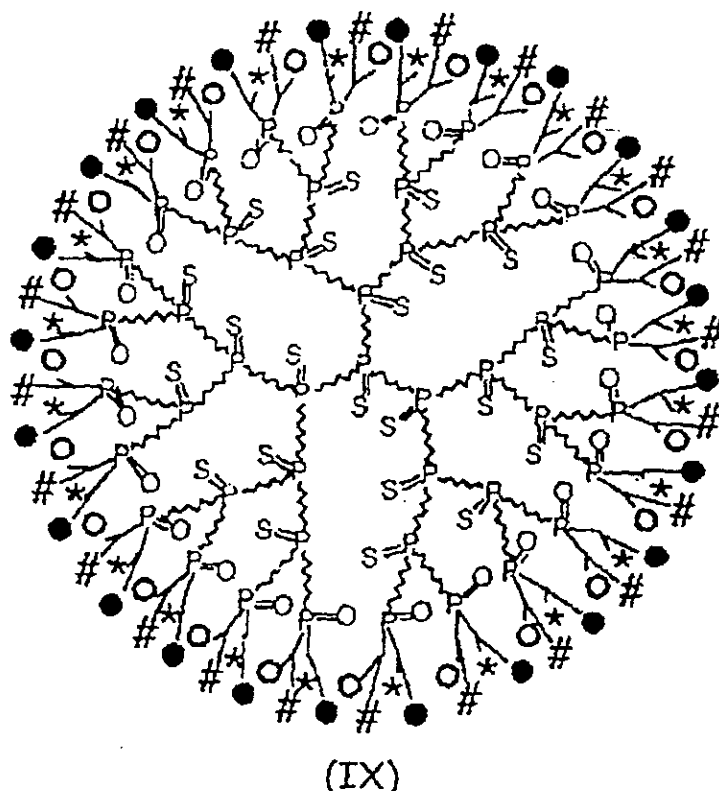
By way of purely illustrative example, Figure
(VIII) below gives a representation of such a
dendrimer.



(VIII)

Thus, multiplurifunctionalized describes a dendrimer used in the compositions according to the invention which carries, at its periphery, several terminal functional groups of different chemical types, hence the prefix pluri, and in which the plurality of said chemical functional groups is repeated because of the multiple functional groups of said dendrimer, hence the prefix multi.

A symbolic representation of such a multiplurifunctionalized, more precisely multitetrafunctionalized, dendrimer which may be used in the compositions according to the invention is given below by Figure (IX) in which the symbols O, ●, * and # represent terminal functional groups of four different chemical types and the broken lines represent the dendrons of the dendrimer represented.



The gels formed by the dendrimers useful for the compositions according to the invention have the characteristic feature of being able to comprise, in their structure, volumes for insertion, for example of active substance, of two types:

- the inner cavities characteristic of the branched structure of the dendrimers themselves;
- the so-called interstitial spaces derived from the three-dimensional structure of said gels which said dendrimers can form.

In other words, the inner cavities are in the dendrimers used in the compositions according to the invention while the interstitial spaces are outside the arborescent structure of said dendrimers.

Said inner cavities of the dendrimers useful in the compositions according to the invention have sizes generally of between 0.001 and 30 nm³, preferably between 0.01 and 10 nm³. The unit of measurement which makes it possible
5 to assess the size of these volumes corresponds to the volume of a cube 1 nm (nanometer) along the side.

The so-called interstitial spaces of the gels which the dendrimers useful for the compositions according to the invention may form have sizes in
10 general of between 0.0005 and 50 μm³, preferably between 0.001 and 20 μm³. The unit of measurement which makes it possible to assess the size of these volumes corresponds to the volume of a cube 1 μm (micrometer or micron) along the side.

15 The dendrimers used in compositions according to the invention are generally contained in compositions according to the invention in quantities of between 0.01 and 99.5%, preferably between 0.1 and 60%, by weight of said compositions.

20 The invention further relates to compositions which can be used in the fields of agriculture and/or public health or domestic hygiene and which contain dendrimers according to the invention and one or more active substances located as a whole or in part in the
25 interstitial spaces of said dendrimers and, for the remainder, integrated into the inner cavities of said dendrimers.

The compositions according to the invention which are particularly advantageous are those in which at least half of the active substance is contained in the interstitial spaces of the gels formed by the
5 dendrimers according to the invention.

This characteristic of the compositions according to the invention of being able to integrate part of the active substance into the said interstitial spaces, that is to say into the structure of the gels
10 which the dendrimers used may form, is particularly advantageous when the size of said active substance make its location within the inner cavities of said dendrimers difficult or even impossible.

The invention therefore relates to
15 compositions as described above, but also compositions according to the invention comprising several active substances, in particular several active substances which can be used in the fields of agriculture and/or public health or domestic hygiene, in particular
20 several pesticide active substances and/or several insecticide and/or plant growth regulating active substances.

The compositions according to the invention associating or combining several of said active
25 substances are of special interest when said compositions allow the use of several active substances possessing complementary activity spectra or when said

active substances possess properties such that their association or combination may allow substantial improvement in the respective action of each of these active substances or may allow a reduction in the
5 respective quantity of each active substance used, the latter quality being particularly important for easily understandable ecological reasons.

Thus, a most special advantage of the compositions according to the invention may consist in
10 the possibility of associating or combining several active substances, in particular in the possibility of associating or combining one or more substances of the type including insecticides and/or acaricides and/or rodenticides and/or nematocides and/or insects and/or
15 animal pest repellents with one or more attractants for said insects or animal pests.

In addition to one or more active substances as defined above and one or more dendrimers capable of forming a gel, the compositions according to the
20 invention comprise an inorganic or organic liquid carrier.

For the disclosure of the present invention, the expression inorganic or organic liquid carrier is most often understood to mean both a solvent used alone
25 and an association of several solvents. Such an association then consisting of a solvent and one or more co-solvents miscible with each other or not.

As solvents used in the compositions according to the invention, water and/or organic solvents may be used.

When water is used as solvent in the
5 compositions according to the invention, the values of its pH may either correspond to a basic medium or to an acidic medium, for example depending on the type of dendrimer used.

The organic solvents optionally used for the
10 compositions used according to the invention are protic or aprotic organic solvents.

Among the organic solvents used for the compositions according to the invention, polar organic solvents are preferred, said organic solvents are
15 advantageously chosen from glycerol, ethanol, acetonitrile, tetrahydrofuran, dimethyl sulfoxide, N-methylpyrrolidone or cyclohexanone.

For the compositions according to the invention, the quantity of solvent may vary from 0 to
20 99% by weight of said compositions.

For the compositions according to the invention which use a solvent and one or more co-solvents, the relative quantities of these so-called solvents and co-solvents vary in proportions of the
25 solvent/co-solvent ratio ranging from 95/5 to 50/50.

According to a particularly advantageous embodiment, the compositions according to the invention

are capable of releasing gradually and/or in a controlled manner all or some of the active substance usable in particular in the fields of agriculture and/or public health or domestic hygiene which they
5 contain.

Very advantageously, these compositions according to the invention are capable of releasing at least 50%, preferably at least 80%, of the active substance usable in particular in the fields of
10 agriculture and/or public health or domestic hygiene which they contain.

Preparation of the compositions according to the invention

15 The present invention also relates to the methods for preparing the compositions according to the invention.

The methods for preparing and formulating the compositions according to the invention most often make
20 use of customary formulation techniques; however, by way of example and to allow better illustration of the present invention, a method for preparing compositions according to the invention is given below.

Unless otherwise stated, the quantities of
25 the various constituents used during said preparations are expressed as percentage by weight of composition prepared.

Thus, to prepare said compositions, the procedure begins by mixing with the solvent, or with the solvent/co-solvent(s) mixture, the dendrimer(s) capable of forming a gel in a quantity which is most often between 0.01 and 99.5%, preferably between 0.1 and 60%. Next, the active substance(s) is(are) added to the mixture thus prepared in quantities of between 0.5 and 99.99%, preferably between 5 and 70%. The formulation additives and adjuvants optionally used in the compositions according to the invention may be added during any of the steps previously described; persons skilled in the art will know how to determine the most appropriate step and the useful quantities of said additives and adjuvants, said quantities being advantageously between 0 and 50%. After storing for a period which is most often between a few hours and a few weeks, at a temperature in general between room temperature and about 80°C, preferably between 30 and 70°C, the mixture thus prepared makes it possible to obtain the compositions according to the invention.

According to another mode of preparation of a composition according to the invention, the procedure is carried out as follows: mixing or solubilization, preferably in the hot state, of one or more active substances usable in the fields of agriculture and/or public health or domestic hygiene, of one or more dendrimers capable of forming a gel and an inorganic or

organic liquid carrier, and then heating said mixture for 0.25 to 45 days, at a temperature of about 60-65°C, preferably at a temperature of about 35-40°C.

5 Pulverulent compositions useful in the fields of
agriculture and/or public health or domestic hygiene

Another aspect of the present invention relates to pulverulent compositions usable in the fields of agriculture and/or public health or domestic
10 hygiene and which, mixed with an inorganic or organic liquid carrier or solvent, are capable of taking the shape of compositions in gelled form, said compositions in gelled form being of the type including those described above in the present text.

15 The pulverulent compositions according to the invention may be obtained by complete or partial removal of the solvent(s) from the compositions in gelled form according to the invention which are described above and containing, in addition to the
20 solvent(s), one or more pesticide and/or insecticide and/or plant growth regulating active substances, a dendrimer according to the invention capable of forming a gel and, optionally, one or more formulation adjuvants and/or additives.

25 Thus, said pulverulent compositions according to the invention may, for example, contain anticaking agents, colorants, thickeners, surfactants, antifoaming

compounds, detergents such as alkaline-earth metal salts, dispersants, alkalizing agents such as bases, bonding agents, emulsifiers, oxidizing agents such as free radical scavengers or catalytic destroyers of hydroperoxides, anticorrosive agents, attractants and/or food substances for the preparation of insecticide baits in particular.

More generally, the pulverulent compositions according to the invention may comprise any solid or liquid additives corresponding to the formulation techniques which are acceptable for uses in the fields of agriculture and/or public health or domestic hygiene for example.

The active substances used in the pulverulent compositions according to the invention are the active substances used for the formulation of compositions in gelled form according to the invention and previously described in detail in the present text. Thus, among said active substances used in the pulverulent compositions according to the invention, there may be mentioned all those which were previously cited as examples of active substances which the compositions in gelled form according to the invention may contain.

The active substance(s) of the pulverulent compositions according to the invention is (are) present in quantities of between 2 and 99.99%,

preferably between 5 and 95% by weight of said pulverulent compositions.

Likewise, the dendrimers used in the pulverulent compositions according to the invention are
5 the dendrimers used for the compositions in gelled form according to the invention and previously described.

In general, the principal characteristic of said dendrimers is being capable of forming a gel as described above and thus conferring on the pulverulent
10 compositions according to the invention their essential property of allowing the reconstitution of the compositions in gelled form according to the invention.

The dendrimer(s) useful for the pulverulent compositions according to the invention may be present
15 in said pulverulent compositions in quantities of between 0.01 and 99.5%, preferably between 0.5 and 50%, by weight of said pulverulent compositions.

It has therefore been discovered that the compositions in gelled form according to the invention
20 may be freed of all or part of the solvent(s) which they contain, thus allowing the preparation of the pulverulent compositions according to the invention.

As techniques used for the preparation of said pulverulent compositions according to the
25 invention, freeze-drying or spray-drying may be mentioned.

The aim of freeze-drying is to obtain pulverulent compositions according to the invention which are solid, brittle, have a porous appearance, and are essentially characterized by a very high affinity
5 for the solvent(s) which may be used during the reconstitution, from said pulverulent compositions, of the compositions in gelled form according to the invention.

Freeze-drying consists in extracting the
10 solvent(s) contained in the compositions in gelled form according to the invention, through the interaction of vacuum and refrigeration technologies. Indeed, a freeze-drying cycle may comprise several phases, in particular a preliminary phase for freezing the
15 composition to be freeze-dried, followed by a phase for removing the solvent(s).

Spray-drying of the compositions in gelled form according to the invention may be carried out in a customary manner in any known apparatus such as, for
20 example, a spray-drying tower combining spraying of said composition in gelled form and carried out by a nozzle or a turbine, with a hot gas stream.

The conditions for implementation generally depend on the nature of the solvent(s) to be removed
25 and/or the nature of the dendrimer(s) according to the invention used and/or the heat-sensitivity of the active substance(s) used as well as the spray-dryer

used; these conditions are generally such that the temperature of the whole composition according to the invention during drying does not exceed 150°C, preferably does not exceed 110°C.

5 The pulverulent compositions according to the invention are particularly advantageous in that, on mixing with one or more appropriate solvents, they can allow the recomposition of compositions in gelled form according to the invention.

10 Advantageously, the solvent(s) used for mixing with the pulverulent compositions according to the invention may be chosen from water and/or organic solvents.

 When water is used as solvent added to the
15 pulverulent compositions according to the invention, the values of its pH may either correspond to a basic medium or may correspond to an acidic medium, for example depending on the type of dendrimer used.

 The organic solvents optionally added to the
20 pulverulent compositions according to the invention are protic or aprotic organic solvents.

 Among the organic solvents optionally added to the pulverulent compositions according to the invention, polar organic solvents are preferred, said
25 organic solvents being advantageously chosen from glycerol, ethanol, acetonitrile, tetrahydrofuran,

dimethyl sulfoxide, N-methylpyrrolidone or cyclohexanone.

In addition to the possibility of being able to allow the recomposition of compositions in gelled
5 form according to the invention, the pulverulent compositions according to the invention are particularly advantageous in that they can be stored for long periods and in the absence of any precaution, this being without substantial impairment of their
10 characteristics.

According to another advantageous embodiment, the pulverulent compositions according to the invention may be subjected to grinding in order to obtain a particle size distribution or a particle size which are
15 appropriate for the use envisaged, in particular in order to facilitate land spraying or to enhance the biological efficacy.

Moreover, said pulverulent compositions according to the invention may also be incorporated or
20 used in numerous types of formulations. Said formulations may be in particular in liquid form or in solid form: thus, among said formulations, there may be mentioned those of the type including aerosol dispenser; bait (ready-for-use); bait concentrate;
25 stock bait; capsule suspension; cold fogging product; dusting powder; emulsifiable concentrate; oil-in-water emulsion; water-in-oil emulsion; encapsulated granule;

fine granule; suspension concentrate for seed
treatment; gas; gas generating product; grain bait;
granular bait; granule; hot fogging product;
macrogranule; microgranule; oil-dispersible powder; oil
5 miscible suspension concentrate; oil miscible liquid;
paste; plant rodlet; plate bait; powder for dry seed
treatment; scrap bait; treated or coated seeds; smoke
candle; smoke cartridge; smoke generator; smoke pellet;
smoke rodlet; smoke tablet; smoke tin; soluble
10 concentrate; soluble powder; liquid for seed treatment;
suspension concentrate (= flowable concentrate);
tracking powder; ultra low volume liquid; ultra low
volume suspension; vapor releasing product; water
dispersible granules or tablets; water dispersible
15 powder for slurry treatment; water soluble granules or
tablets; water soluble powder for seed treatment;
wetable powder.

According to another embodiment, the
pulverulent compositions according to the invention are
20 capable of being obtained by drying and then cutting,
grinding, disintegrating, mincing of gelled
compositions according to the invention.

According to other advantageous embodiments,
the pulverulent compositions according to the invention
25 may take the form of pastilles, lumps, aggregates of
variable size depending on the use considered, or
crystals which can all be used as they are, in

particular for land spraying, dispersion or other appropriate forms of application.

According to an embodiment which is also particularly advantageous, the pulverulent compositions according to the invention are capable of releasing gradually and/or in a controlled manner all or some of the active substance which can be used in particular in the fields of agriculture and/or public health or domestic hygiene which they contain.

More advantageously still, these pulverulent compositions according to the invention are capable of releasing at least 50%, preferably at least 80%, of the active substance which can be used in particular in the fields of agriculture and/or public health or domestic hygiene which they contain.

Dendrimers

20

25

The gels which are capable of being formed by the dendrimers

are colloids having a substantially continuous phase and which give a viscous product of the jelly type; this may also include a dispersed system comprising, for example, a compound having a high molecular weight or an aggregate of molecules of dendrimers which are the subject of the invention, in intimate association with a liquid.

10

As has already been mentioned above in the present disclosure, the dendrimers are macromolecules consisting of a central part, the core, to which series of branched chains, the dendrons, are linked.

Said dendrimers most often possess an arborescent structure, said structure comprising

- a core, in general consisting of a polyfunctional chemical group capable of being linked to a plurality of branched chains;

- branches, generally composed of linear or branched organic fragments, linked to each other and to the core, and organized in an arborescent manner;

- terminal chemical functional groups, that is to say constituting the peripheral end of the branches;

- inner cavities inherently resulting from
5 branchings of said branches.

The organic core is therefore the central part of the dendrimers.

It generally consists of a chemical group, most often an organic and polyfunctional group capable
10 of being attached to multiple branched chains.

The core of the dendrimers

is also characterized by a multiple valency which corresponds to a number of dendrons to which it is capable of being attached.

15 As defined above, the organic core of the dendrimers most often consists of a polyfunctional organic chemical group capable of being attached to multiple branched chains.

20 Said core may also be characterized by a multiple valency which corresponds to the number of dendrons to which it is capable of being directly attached so as to form a so-called first generation dendrimer.

25 Preferably, the core of the dendrimers possesses a valency of between 2 and 20, preferably of between 3 and 10. Thus,

the so-called first generation dendrimers

may be attached to a number of dendrons which may be up to 20, preferably up to 10.

Most often, the core of the dendrimers

5 is composed of a radical or of a chemical group which is complex to a greater or lesser degree; this may include a hydrocarbon radical in general containing from 1 to 30 atoms and said hydrocarbon radical may be linear, branched or cyclic
10 or even polycyclic and/or saturated or unsaturated and/or substituted or otherwise.

The core of the dendrimers

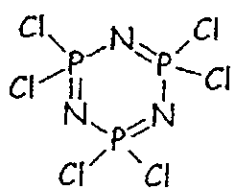
is usually composed of a hydrocarbon radical containing one or more heteroatoms,
15 in particular oxygen, sulfur, nitrogen, phosphorus or halogens, in particular chlorine. Where appropriate and in the preferred manner, the core of the dendrimers contains up to 100%, as
number of atoms, of said heteroatoms.

20 As examples of compounds which are precursors of heteroatom radicals useful as core for the dendrimers,

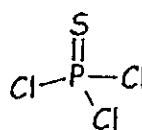
there may be mentioned hexachlorocyclotriphosphazene or trichlorothiophosphane; a representation of the
25 chemical structure of these two compounds is given below by Figures (VI) and (VII).

The expression precursor compounds is understood to mean compounds which may precede the formation or the preparation of radicals useful as core of the dendrimers.

5



(VI)



(VII)

The dendrons of the dendrimers

are branched organic chains

10 linked to the core. Generally, said dendrons are series of said branched chains.

Said branched chains are usually composed of hydrocarbon radicals which are complex to a greater or lesser degree, said hydrocarbon radicals may also

15 comprise a number of heteroatoms such as oxygen, sulfur, nitrogen, phosphorus or halogens, in particular chlorine.

In general, said dendrons are series of said branched chains, in other words, the dendrimers

20

most often possess

dendrons which are composed of branched chains containing chemical motifs which are in part identical or similar to each other.

As the dendrimers

may possess a large number of dendrons,
the number of said identical or similar chemical motifs
is highly variable. Usually, the dendrimers

5 possess dendrons which are
composed of series of branched chains containing
chemical motifs among which 10%, preferably 20%, of the
total number of said chemical motifs are identical or
similar. In other words, the dendrons of the dendrimers

10 may be composed
most often of chemical units of which 9/10, preferably
4/5, are different from each other.

Said chemical motifs which compose the
dendrons of the dendrimers

15 may, most often, be chosen from the groups of
the type including alkyl, aryl, alkoxyalkyl,
alkoxyaryl, alkylhydrazinoyl, arylhydrazinoyl,
carboxyalkyl-hydrazido and in particular carboxymethyl-
hydrazido, cyanoalkyl, allyl, propargyl,
20 halocycloalkyl, haloalkoxyalkyl, alkylthioalkyl,
haloalkylthioalkyl, aminoalkyl, N-alkylaminoalkyl, N,N-
dialkylaminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, arylalkyl,
phenyliminoalkyl, iminoaryl, imidoalkyl, amidoaryl,
phosphoalkyl, phosphoryl, thiophosphoryl,
25 phosphoraminoalkyl, phosphoraminoaryl,
phosphoriminoalkyl, phosphoriminoaryl,
phosphorimidoalkyl, phosphorimidoaryl, hydrazinoalkyl,

hydrazinoaryl, allylidenealkylhydrazynoyl,
 allylidenearylhydrazinoyl, epoxybenzylidene,
 dialkylphosphorimidoyl, diarylphosphorimidoyl,
 thioimidophosphoryl, thio-N-alkylazophosphoryl, thio-N-
 5 arylazophosphoryl optionally substituted with one or
 more groups chosen from the groups of the type
 including hydroxyl, mercapto, nitro, thiocyanate,
 azido, cyano, pentafluorosulfonyl, alkyl, aryl,
 haloalkyl, alkoxy, haloalkoxy, alkylthio,
 10 haloalkylthio, alkoxyalkyl, haloalkoxyalkyl,
 alkylthioalkyl, haloalkylthioalkyl, cyanoalkyl,
 cyanoalkoxy, cyanoalkylthio, alkylsulfinyl,
 haloalkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, haloalkylsulfonyl and
 alkoxysulfonyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl,
 15 alkenyloxy, alkynyloxy, alkenylthio, alkynylthio,
 amino, N-alkylamino, N,N-dialkylamino, acylamino,
 hydroxy, alkoxy, carboxy, carbamoyl, N-alkylcarbamoyl,
 N,N-dialkylcarbamoyl, alkoxycarbonyl, acyl.

The terminal functional groups of the
 20 dendrimers are
 chemical functional groups present at the ends of said
 dendrons; among the very many chemical functional
 groups which may constitute said terminal functional
 groups, there may be mentioned, for example, the
 25 ammonium, amidinium, pyridinium, guanidinium or
 carboxylate functional groups or carboxylic acids. Said
 terminal functional groups usually confer on the

dendrimers, some
of their characteristics, in particular the possibility
of very many individual reactions at the periphery.

The terminal functional groups of the
5 dendrimers are
attached to the ends of the branched chains which the
branches of said dendrimers constitute, either directly
or by means of an organic chemical residue called
connecting member for the present disclosure.

10 Said connecting member of the dendrimers
is most often
composed of a hydrocarbon radical containing from 2 to
50 carbon atoms, preferably from 4 to 20 carbon atoms,
it being possible for said radical to be saturated or
15 unsaturated and/or linear or branched and/or
substituted or otherwise.

Said connecting member may also be composed
of a hydrocarbon radical as defined above and
containing, in addition to carbon atoms, one or more
20 heteroatoms, in particular oxygen, sulfur, nitrogen,
phosphorus, halogens or any other element useful for
conferring on the dendrimers

properties characterizing them, in
particular their chemical reactivity.

25 As connecting members useful for the
dendrimers,
there may be mentioned groups of the type including

- alkyl, aryl, alkoxyalkyl, alkoxyaryl, alkylhydrazinoyl, arylhydrazinoyl, carboxyalkyl-hydrazido and in particular carboxymethyl-hydrazido, cyanoalkyl, allyl, propargyl, halocycloalkyl, haloalkoxyalkyl,
- 5 alkylthioalkyl, haloalkylthioalkyl, aminoalkyl, N-alkylaminoalkyl, N,N-dialkylaminoalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, arylalkyl, phenyliminoalkyl, iminoaryl, imidoalkyl, amidoaryl, phosphoalkyl, phosphoryl, thiophosphoryl, phosphoraminoalkyl, phosphoraminoaryl,
- 10 phosphoriminoalkyl, phosphoriminoaryl, phosphorimidoalkyl, phosphorimidoaryl, hydrazinoalkyl, hydrazinoaryl, allylidenealkylhydrazynoyl, allylidenearylhiazinoyl, epoxybenzylidene, dialkylphosphorimidoyl, diarylphosphorimidoyl,
- 15 thioimidophosphoryl, thio-N-alkylazophosphoryl, thio-N-arylazophosphoryl optionally substituted with one or more groups chosen from the groups of the type including hydroxyl, mercapto, nitro, thiocyanate, azido, cyano, pentafluorosulfonyl, alkyl, aryl,
- 20 haloalkyl, alkoxy, haloalkoxy, alkylthio, haloalkylthio, alkoxyalkyl, haloalkoxyalkyl, alkylthioalkyl, haloalkylthioalkyl, cyanoalkyl, cyanoalkoxy, cyanoalkylthio, alkylsulfinyl, haloalkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, haloalkylsulfonyl and
- 25 alkoxysulfonyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, alkenyloxy, alkynyloxy, alkenylthio, alkynylthio, amino, N-alkylamino, N,N-dialkylamino, acylamino,

phosphonic type and/or of the sulfonic, sulfonate or sulfate type and/or of the amine type.

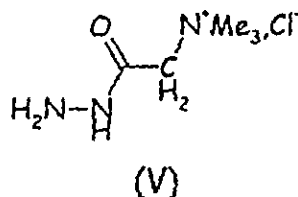
As dendrimers

which are of the ionic type, there may be
5 advantageously mentioned the dendrimers whose terminal functional groups essentially comprise groups chosen from carboxylate and/or sulfonium and/or phosphonium and/or amidinium and/or guanidinium and/or ammonium groups, for example groups of the secondary, tertiary
10 or quaternary ammonium type, most particularly groups of the pyridinium type.

As dendrimers

which are most particularly advantageous, there may be mentioned said dendrimers whose terminal
15 functional groups essentially comprise groups of the N-hydrazinoylcarbonylmethyl-N,N,N-trialkylammonium halide type, among which groups there may be mentioned, by way of example, N-hydrazinoylcarbonylmethyl-N,N,N-tri-(n-propyl)ammonium chloride called Girard PR reagent or N-
20 hydrazinoylcarbonylmethyl-N,N,N-trimethylammonium chloride represented by Figure (V) below and which will be called Girard T reagent for the remainder of the present text; likewise there may be mentioned N-hydrazinoylcarbonylmethyl-N,N,N-pyridinium chloride
25 called Girard P reagent.

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Preferably, the dendrimers

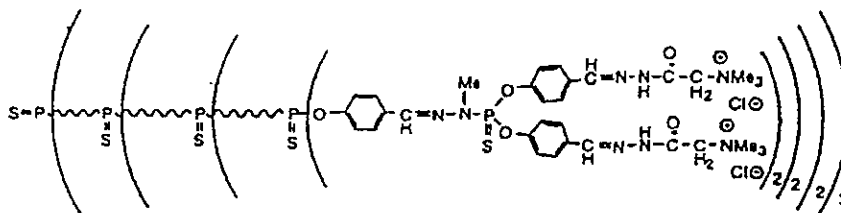
carry bonds between atoms from group fifteen of the periodic table of chemical elements, said group fifteen being as defined above in the present disclosure. More preferably, said dendrimers carry bonds between phosphorus atoms and nitrogen atoms.

These bonds between atoms from group fifteen
10 of the periodic table of chemical elements may be
present in the dendrimers

in quantities ranging from a few units to several thousands, or even several tens of thousands because of the large size which said dendrimers may have, for example the number of said bonds may be between 2 and 80 000, preferably between 20 and 20 000.

By way of purely illustrative example, Figure (VIII) below gives a representation of such a dendrimer.

20



(VIII)

In addition to having as an essential characteristic the capacity to form gels, the
5 dendrimers most often allow the formation of gels which have the characteristic feature of being capable of comprising in their structure two types of volumes of insertion:

- the inner cavities characteristic of the
10 branched structure of the dendrimers themselves;
- the so-called interstitial spaces derived from the three-dimensional structure of said gels which said dendrimers can form.

In other words, the inner cavities are within
15 the actual dendrimers

while the interstitial spaces are outside the arborescent structure of said dendrimers.

Said inner cavities of the dendrimers
generally have sizes of
20 between 0.001 and 30 nm³, preferably between 0.01 and 10 nm³.

The so-called interstitial spaces of the gels which the dendrimers

can form have sizes generally between 0.0005
25 and 50 μm³, preferably between 0.001 and 20 μm³.

Thus, by virtue of the numerous properties which characterize them and the main one of which is

that they are capable of forming gels, the dendrimers
may be
used not only in compositions useful in the fields of
agriculture and/or public health or domestic hygiene,
5 as previously described, but also in a number of other
fields advantageously using products, compositions or
formulations having a gelled form. Thus, as products,
compounds or other active substances which may be
advantageously combined with the dendrimers which are
10 the subject of the invention, there may be mentioned
said products, compounds or other active substances
useful in the fields of cosmetic, building or public
works, in particular in association with coatings,
paints or adhesives, in the textile sector, for example
15 in association with dyes, or associated with inks for
printing, but also in the agro-foodstuffs or
pharmaceutical sectors or in the sectors for trapping
various substances or compounds, in particular
pollutants or catalytic compounds, or in the field of
20 detergents, in particular laundry soaps, and in general
in any field using compounds allowing encapsulation.

According to another particularly
advantageous embodiment of the invention, the
dendrimers may be used to
25 encapsulate active substances, preferably for
encapsulating non-water-soluble or sparingly water-
soluble active substances.

The expression sparingly or non-water-soluble describes substances whose solubility in water or in a substantially aqueous solvent make these substances particularly difficult to use or substances whose
5 useful active properties are substantially reduced because of this difficulty or this impossibility of solubilizing them effectively.

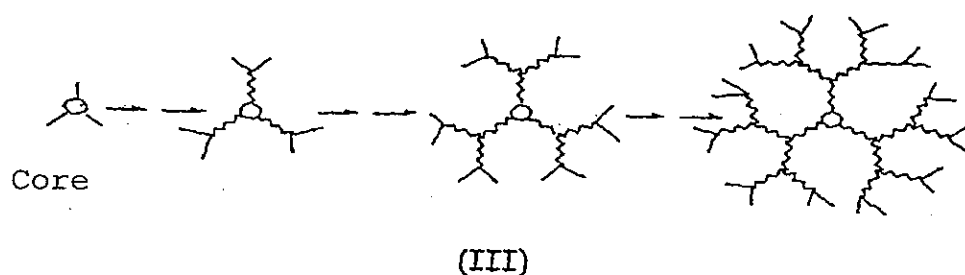
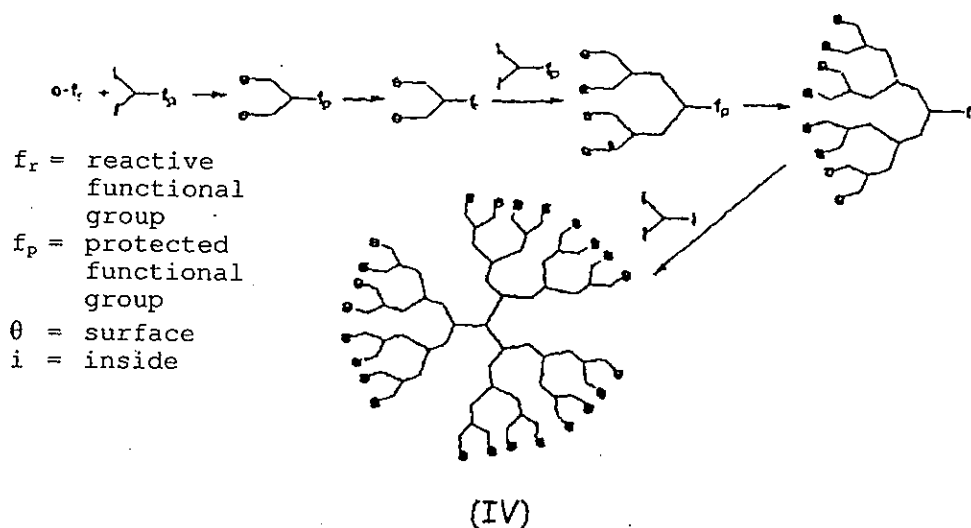
Preparation of dendrimers

10

For the preparation of said dendrimers and as has been already mentioned in the present text, two
15 types of methods may be mainly mentioned, divergent syntheses and convergent syntheses:

- in the divergent methods, the synthesis is carried out from the core toward the periphery by grafting an increasingly large
20 number of small molecules onto the surface of the dendrimer possessing multiple chemical functional groups, a representation of such a route of synthesis is given by scheme (III):
- 25 - in the convergent methods, the synthesis is carried out from the periphery toward the core by combining with each other

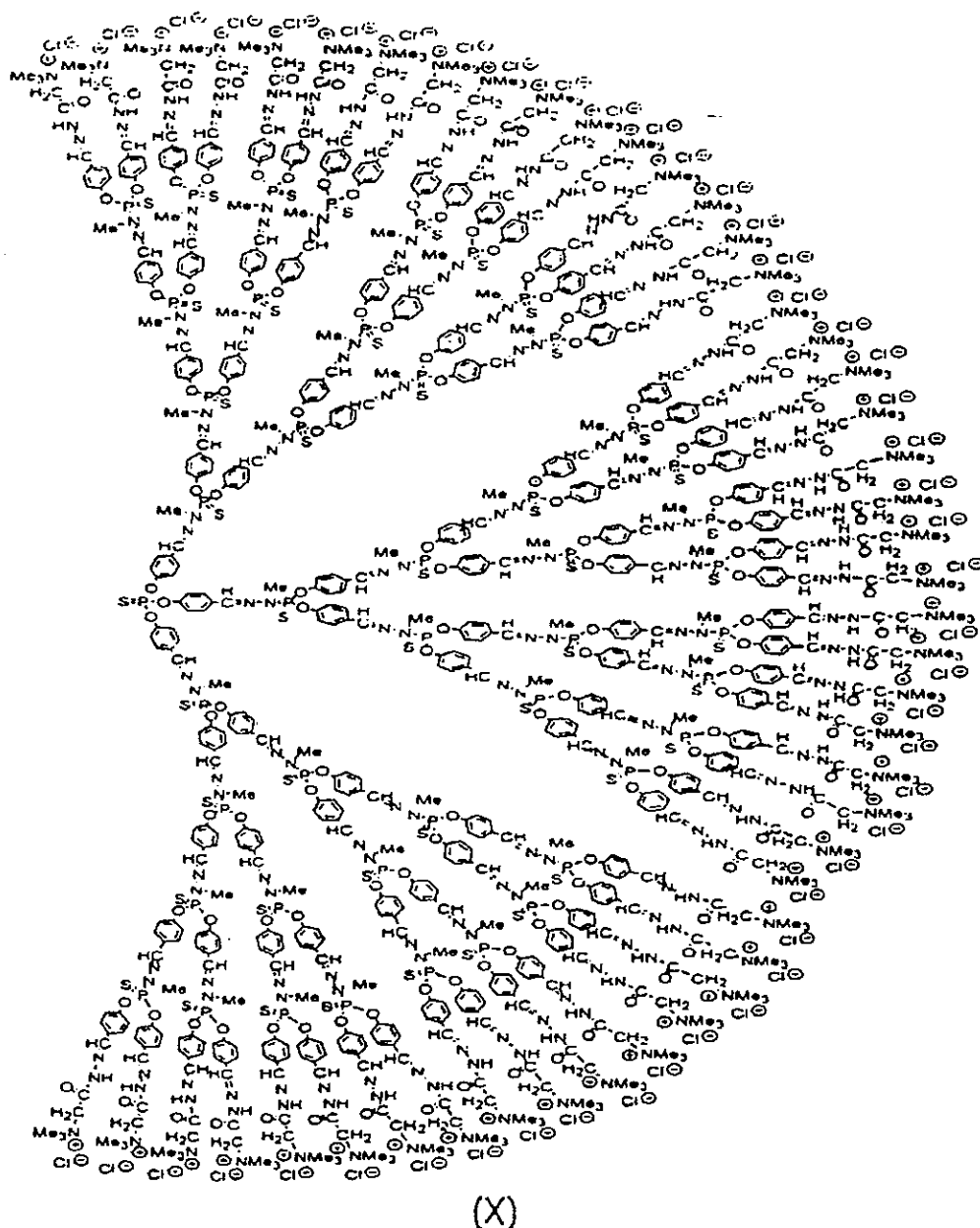
increasingly larger molecules constantly having an available chemical functional group at the level of the core, a representation of such a route of synthesis is given by scheme (IV).



10 Preferably, the preparation of the dendrimers uses the so-called divergent routes of synthesis, that is to say the routes of synthesis for which the growth of said dendrimers occurs from the core toward the periphery of said dendrimers, most often by cascade reactions.

More preferably, the preparation of the dendrimers is characterized by reacting a dendrimer whose terminal functional groups essentially consist of an aldehyde type functional group with a so-called Girard reagent as previously described, preferably a Girard T reagent carrying a trimethylammonium group or a Girard PR reagent carrying a tri-(n-propyl)ammonium group or a so-called Girard P reagent carrying a pyrrolidinium group.

By way of example, a method for preparing the dendrimer represented by Figure (X) below is given in greater detail in the present text.

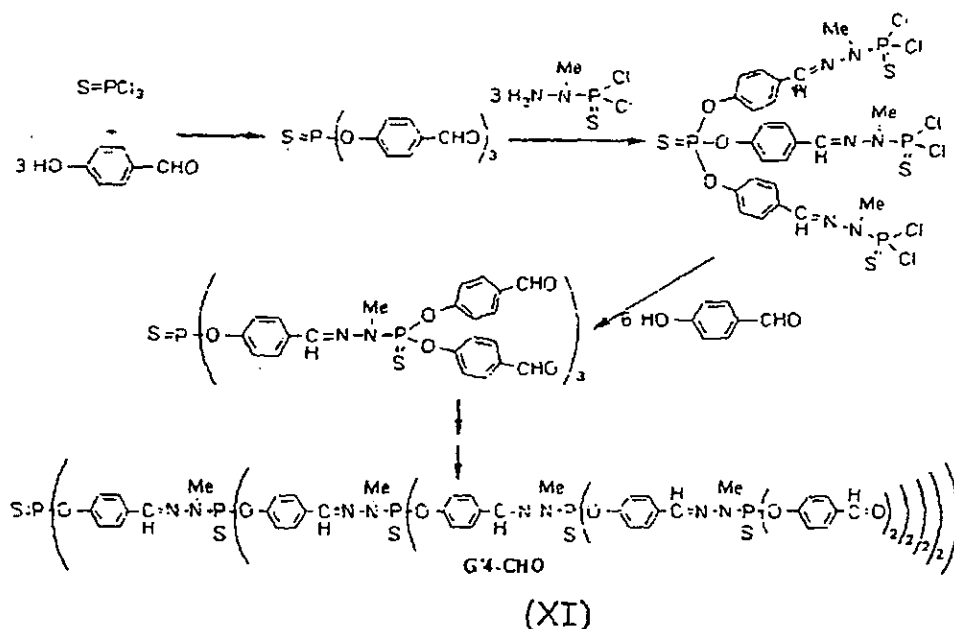


To facilitate understanding of the remainder of the present disclosure, the dendrimer represented by Figure (X) and whose terminal functional groups

5 comprise chemical radicals derived from Girard T reagents is called dendrimer G'4-T.

For the preparation of said dendrimer G'4-T, a dendrimer termed G'4-CHO is normally used whose

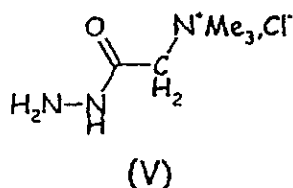
terminal functional groups essentially comprise aldehyde type groups at the periphery, preferably all said terminal functional groups consist of aldehyde-type groups at the periphery; said dendrimer G'4-CHO may be prepared with reference to the information given in the manual Les dendrimères previously cited in the present disclosure. For the preparation of said dendrimer G'4-CHO, the reaction scheme represented by Figure (XI) below may be followed for example.



10

It is then possible to react said dendrimer G'4-CHO in the presence of the so-called Girard T reagent as described above in the present text and a representation of which is given below by Figure (V), and thus to obtain the dendrimer termed G'4-T.

15



Using a method of preparation similar to that described above for the preparation of dendrimer G'4-T, it is possible to prepare a dendrimer termed G'4-P whose terminal functional groups comprise chemical radicals derived from Girard P reagents.

The methods of treatment and/or protection using the compositions according to the invention which are described in the present disclosure also form part of said invention. Among said methods of treatment, those which are preferred are those for treatment or protection which are useful in the fields of agriculture and/or public health or domestic hygiene.

15 Methods of treatment and/or protection useful in the field of agriculture, in particular for the treatment of crops

The methods for the treatment or protection of crops according to the invention have the essential characteristic of comprising the step of using an effective and non-phytotoxic quantity of one or more compositions according to the invention.

The expression effective and non-phytotoxic quantity is understood to mean, within the meaning of the present disclosure, a quantity of composition

according to the invention sufficient to allow the control and/or destruction and/or eradication in particular of diseases and/or fungi and/or weed plants and/or insect or animal pests present or capable of appearing on crops, and to allow satisfactory control of the growth of said crops, and causing no phytotoxicity symptom for said crop.

Such a quantity is capable of varying within fairly wide limits, in particular according to the crops treated, the needs, the nature of the diseases to be treated, of the insects and/or animal pests, the weed plants, to be controlled, destroyed or eradicated, the degree of infestation of these pests, the climatic and/or edaphic conditions, and the active substance(s) contained in the composition(s) according to the invention which are used.

The compositions according to the invention are most often used in quantities of between 1 g/ha and 5 kg/ha.

The methods for the treatment and/or protection of crops according to the invention may in particular use the compositions according to the invention previously diluted or dispersed in an appropriate quantity of water.

Methods of treatment useful in the field of public health or domestic hygiene

As regards the methods of treatment or protection according to the invention which are useful in public health or domestic hygiene, they are mainly characterized by the use of one or more compositions according to the invention which are described above,
5 particularly one or more of said compositions in gelled form.

Said methods of treatment which are useful in public health or domestic hygiene use effective
10 quantities of said compositions which make it possible to control, destroy or eradicate the insects and/or animal pests present or capable of appearing, but also effective quantities of compositions according to the invention containing one or more active substances
15 regulating the growth of said insect and/or animal pests.

Said quantities may vary, in particular according to the degree of infestation of these insect and/or animal pests to be controlled, destroyed or
20 eradicated or according to the climatic conditions or according to the pesticide and/or growth regulating active substance used. Quantities of composition according to the invention, in particular in bait form, of the order of 0.1 to 200 g/m² are generally quite
25 suitable.

Advantageously, the various methods of treatment and/or protection according to the invention

which have been described, both those which use a gelled composition according to the invention and those using a pulverulent composition according to the invention, may use said compositions in numerous forms and in particular in ground, minced, chopped, truncated, crushed, flattened, compressed, pressed, pounded, laminated, pulverized, milled, comminuted, disintegrated, fragmented, dispersed, cut, divided, sectioned, sliced or fractionated form.

10

15

20

25

Examples are given below to allow better illustration of the various aspects of the present invention.

5 Examples 1 and 2 give an illustration of methods for the preparation of compositions according to the invention, while Example 3 makes it possible to illustrate the aspect of the present invention relating to the preparation of the dendrimers which are the
10 subject of said invention.

Example 1 :

For the preparation of a composition according to the invention, the procedure is carried out as follows: 35 g of dendrimer of formula (X) called
15 G'4-T, 50 g of propylene glycol as antigel, 5 g of a wetting agent of the ethoxylated polyalcohol type and 6 g of an antifoaming agent of the silicone oil type are added to 724 g of water. 200 g of Fenamidone, a
20 fungicide active substance whose chemical name is (4-S)-4-methyl-2-methylthio-4-phenyl-1-phenylamino-2-imidazolin-5-one are dispersed in the solution obtained. 25 g of a thickening agent of the silico-aluminate type are then added. After storing the above-prepared mixture for 14 days at 54°C, a composition
25 according to the invention is obtained.

Example 2 :

The method of preparation of Example 1 is repeated by replacing the 200 g of fungicide active substance with 200 g of an insecticide active substance, Fipronil having the chemical name 5-amino-3-
5 cyano-1-(2,6-dichloro-4-trifluoromethyl)phenyl-4-trifluoromethylsulfinylpyrazole, and the 35 g of dendrimer G'4-T by 35 g of dendrimer G'4-P as previously described and whose terminal functional groups essentially comprise the radicals derived from
10 the so-called Girard P reagents carrying pyridinium groups. A composition is obtained in gelled form according to the invention which, when applied in an amount of about 0.1 g of active substance per 100 m² of surface to be protected constitutes an effective bait
15 against cockroaches, in particular of the *Germanica blatella* type.

Example 3 :

This example proposes to give a particular illustration of the aspect of the present invention
20 relating to the preparation of a composition according to the invention.

1.8% by mass of dendrimer G4-P is added, at a temperature of about 45°C, to a known formulation (200 g/l of Fipronil as insecticide active substance,
25 400 g/l of refined corn oil, 50 g/l of propylene glycol as antigelling agent, 13 g/l of an emulsifying agent, 25 g/l of a dispersing agent, 5 g/l of a wetting agent,

8 g/l of another wetting agent, 5 g/l of an antifoaming agent, 344 g/l of water as liquid carrier) of the flowable concentrate type comprising 200 g/l of Fipronil as active substance.

5 The mixture obtained is then placed in an oven at a temperature of about 60-65°C.

 After two days, a composition according to the invention is obtained which is in the form of a cuttable gel.

10 Example 4 :

 For the preparation of the dendrimer G'4-T represented by Figure (X), the procedure may be carried out in the following manner: 100 ml of an aqueous solution containing 5.23 g of so-called Girard T
15 reagent are added to 10 g of dendrimer G'4-CHO dissolved in 190 ml of tetrahydrofuran. The reaction medium thus obtained is kept stirring at room temperature for about 15 hours. After that, said reaction medium is heated at 35°C for about 4 days. The
20 solvents are then removed from said reaction medium and the solid thus obtained is then washed with 300 ml of tetrahydrofuran, with stirring. The dendrimer G'4-T is thus obtained in the form of a powder with a white appearance which is then dried. The overall yield of
25 the present method of preparation is quantitative.

Claims

1. Gelled composition which can be used in the fields of
agriculture and/or public or domestic hygiene,
5 characterized in that it contains
 - one or more active ingredients which can be used in
these fields;
 - one or more gellable dendrimers;
 - a liquid, mineral or organic carrier.
- 10 2. Composition according to Claim 1, characterized in that
it contains one or more pesticidal active ingredients,
in particular of the herbicide and/or fungicide and/or
insecticide and/or acaricide and/or rodenticide and/or
15 nematocide and/or insect repellent and/or pest
repellent type, and/or one or more active ingredients
which regulate(s) the growth of plants and/or insect
growth regulator active ingredients.
- 20 3. Composition according to Claim 1 or 2, characterized in
that it contains one or more additives and/or adjuvants
and/or anti-caking agents and/or colorants and/or
thickeners and/or surfactants and/or antifoams and/or
detergents and/or alkalinizing agents and/or stickers
25 and/or emulsifiers and/or dispersants and/or oxidants
and/or corrosion inhibitors and/or attractants and/or
food substances.
- 30 4. Composition according to one of Claims 1 to 3,
characterized in that the active ingredient(s) is(are)
present in amounts of from 0.5 to 99.99% by weight.

5. Composition according to Claim 4, characterized in that the active ingredient(s) is(are) present in amounts of from 5 to 70% by weight.
- 5 6. Composition according to one of Claims 1 to 3, characterized in that it comprises a dendrimer in an amount of from 0.01 to 99.5% by weight.
7. Composition according to Claim 6, characterized in that
10 it comprises a dendrimer in an amount of from 0.1 to 60% by weight.
8. Composition according to any of Claims 1 to 7, characterized in that it contains a dendrimer which,
15 when mixed with water or solubilized in water in weight ratios of 1.5 and 98.5, respectively, at a temperature of approximately 65°C allows, after 48 hours, to obtain a gelled product which, when placed as a cubic mass on a plane surface, does not run.
- 20 9. Composition according to any of Claims 1 to 7, characterized in that it contains a dendrimer which, when mixed with water or solubilized in water in weight ratios of 1 and 1, respectively, at room temperature
25 allows, after 2 weeks, obtention of a gelled product which, when placed as a cubic mass on a plane surface, does not run.
- 30 10. Composition according to any of Claims 1 to 7, characterized in that it contains a dendrimer which, when mixed with water or solubilized in water in weight ratios of 1.8 and 98.2, respectively, at a temperature

which may be between 40 and 65°C, followed by heating for 4 weeks at a temperature of approximately 60-65°C allows, after 48 hours, obtention of a gelled product which, when placed as a cubic mass on a plane surface, does not run.

5

11. Composition according to any of Claims 1 to 10, characterized in that it contains a neutral dendrimer and/or a dendrimer of ionic type.

10

12. Composition according to Claim 11, characterized in that the neutral dendrimer is a dendrimer whose terminal functions consist essentially of groups of the carboxylic acid type and/or the phosphonic acid type and/or the sulphonic acid type, sulphonate type or sulphate type and/or the amine type.

15

13. Composition according to Claim 11 or 12, characterized in that the ionic dendrimer is a dendrimer whose terminal functions are selected from among carboxylate and/or sulphonium and/or phosphonium and/or amidinium and/or guanidinium and/or ammonium groups.

20

14. Composition according to Claim 13, characterized in that the terminal functions of the ionic dendrimer are selected from among the N-hydrazinocarbonylmethyl-N,N,N-trialkylammonium halide type, in particular of the N-hydrazinocarbonylmethyl-N,N,N-trimethylammonium chloride type or of the N-hydrazinocarbonylmethyl-N,N,N-pyridinium chloride type or else of the N-hydrazinocarbonmethyl-N,N,N-tri(n-propyl)-ammonium

25

30

type.

15. Composition according to any of Claims 1 to 14,
characterized in that it contains a dendrimer whose
5 terminal functions are attached to the ends of the
branched chains or dendrons which make up the branches
of this dendrimer, either directly or by means of a
connecting member, where this connecting member is
composed of a hydrocarbon radical containing 2 to 50
10 atoms and can be saturated or unsaturated and/or
straight-chain or branched and/or substituted or
unsubstituted, or of a hydrocarbon radical which
likewise contains one or more hetero atoms, in
particular oxygen, sulphur, nitrogen, phosphorus and
15 halogens.
16. Composition according to Claim 15, characterized in
that the hydrocarbon radical contains 4 to 20 atoms.
- 20 17. Composition according to any of Claims 1 to 16,
characterized in that it contains a dendrimer with
bonds between atoms of the fifteenth column of the
Periodic Table, the number of these bonds amounting to
between 2 and 80,000.
- 25 18. Composition according to Claim 17, characterized in
that the number of bonds amounts to between 20 and
20,000.
- 30 19. Composition according to Claim 17 or 18, characterized
in that the dendrimer has bonds between phosphorus

atoms and nitrogen atoms.

20. Composition as claimed in any of Claims 1 to 19,
characterized in that it contains a dendrimer whose
5 core consists of a polyfunctional organic chemical
group and/or whose organic core is multivalent and/or
whose core consists of a hydrocarbon radical and/or a
hetero atom radical which is branched or cyclic, or
even polycyclic and/or saturated or unsaturated and/or
10 substituted or unsubstituted and contains 1 to 30
atoms.
21. Composition according to Claim 20, characterized in
that the organic core has a valency of between 2 and
15 20.
22. Composition according to Claim 21, characterized in
that the organic core has a valency of between 3 and
20 10.
23. Composition according to any of Claims 1 to 22,
characterized in that it contains a dendrimer whose
dendrons consist of hydrocarbon radicals and/or
hydrocarbon radicals which contain hetero atoms
25 selected from among oxygen, sulphur, nitrogen,
phosphorus and halides, and/or whose dendrons consist
of branched chains containing identical chemical
motifs.
- 30 24. Composition according to any of Claims 1 to 23,
characterized in that it contains a gellable dendrimer

whose structure has two types of insertion volumes,
namely

- the internal cavities of the dendrimer, whose dimensions are between 0.001 and 30 nm³, and
 - 5 - the interstitial spaces of the three-dimensional structure of the gel whose dimensions are between 0.0005 and 50 μm³.
25. Composition according to Claim 24, characterized in
10 that the diameters of the internal cavities of the dendrimer are between 0.01 and 10 nm³.
26. Composition according to Claim 24 or 25, characterized
15 in that the dimensions of the interstitial spaces are between 0.001 and 20 nm³.
27. Composition according to any of Claims 1 to 26,
20 characterized in that at least half of the active substance(s) is present in the interstitial spaces of the three-dimensional structure of the gel.
28. Composition according to any of Claims 1 to 27,
25 characterized in that the liquid carrier or solvent which it contains is water and/or one or more organic solvents.
29. Composition according to any of Claims 1 to 28,
30 characterized in that it releases all or some of the active substance which can be used in particular in the fields of agriculture and/or public or domestic hygiene, which it contains, in a progressive and/or

controlled manner.

- 5 - 30. Composition according to Claim 29, characterized in
that it releases at least 50% of the active substance
which it contains.
- 10 31. Composition according to Claim 30, characterized in
that it releases at least 80% of the active substance
which it contains.
- 15 32. Process for the preparation of a composition according
to any of Claims 1 to 31, characterized in that it
contains the steps of
a) solubilizing, preferably under hot conditions, a
mixture which contains in particular one or more
active substances which can be used in the fields of
agriculture and/or public or domestic hygiene, one
or more gellable dendrimers and a liquid, mineral or
organic carrier, and
20 b) of heating this mixture for 0.25 to 45 days at a
temperature of approximately 60-65°C, preferably at
a temperature of approximately 35-40°C.
- 25 33. Process for the preparation of a pulverulent
composition, characterized in that it contains the step
of completely or partly removing the solvent(s) from a
composition according to Claim 2.
- 30 34. Pulverulent composition which can be used in the fields
of agriculture and/or public or domestic hygiene and
which can be obtained in accordance with the process of

Claim 33.

35. Pulverulent composition according to Claim 34,
characterized in that, when mixed with a solvent and/or
5 a solvent mixture, it can reassume the shape of a
composition according to any of Claims 1 to 31.
36. Pulverulent composition as claimed in Claim 34 or 35,
characterized in that it contains one or more adjuvants
10 and/or formulation additives, in particular anti-caking
agents, colorants, thickeners, surfactants, antifoams,
detergents, dispersants, alkalizing agents, stickers,
emulsifiers, oxidants or corrosion inhibitors.
- 15 37. Pulverulent composition according to any of Claims 34
to 36, characterized in that it contains active
substances in an amount of between 2 and 99.99% by
weight.
- 20 38. Pulverulent composition according to Claim 37,
characterized in that it contains active substances in
an amount of between 5 and 95% by weight.
39. Pulverulent composition according to any of Claims 34
25 to 36, characterized in that it contains a dendrimer in
an amount of between 0.01 and 99.5% by weight.
40. Pulverulent composition according to Claim 39,
characterized in that it contains a dendrimer in an
30 amount of between 0.5 and 50% by weight.

41. Pulverulent composition according to any of Claims 34 to 40, characterized in that it releases all or some of the active substance which can be used in particular in the fields of agriculture and/or public or domestic hygiene, which it contains, progressively or in a delayed manner.
42. Composition according to Claim 41, characterized in that it releases at least 50% of the active substance which it contains.
43. Composition according to Claim 42, characterized in that it releases at least 80% of the active substance which it contains.
44. Process for the treatment and/or protection of crops, characterized in that a composition according to any of Claims 1 to 31 and 34 to 43 is employed.
45. Process according to Claim 44, characterized in that the composition is employed in amounts of between 0.001 kg/ha and 5 kg/ha.
46. Treatment and/or protection method for public or domestic hygiene, characterized in that the composition according to any of Claims 1 to 31 and 34 to 43 are employed.
47. Method according to Claim 46, characterized in that the composition is employed in amounts of between 0.1 and 200 g/m² surface to be treated and/or to be protected.