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- (71) **Applicant: FIRMENICH INCORPORATED** [US/US];
250 Plainsboro Road, Plainsboro, New Jersey 08536 (US).
- (72) **Inventors: SERVANT, Guy**; 250 Plainsboro Road, Plainsboro, New Jersey 08536 (US). **FREROT, Eric**; Rue de la Bergère 7, CH-1242 Satigny (CH).
- (74) **Agent: ALTMAN, Daniel E.**; Knobbe, Martens, Olson & Bear, LLP, 2040 Main Street, 14th Floor, Irvine, California 92614 (US).
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(54) **Title:** KOKUMI TASTE ENHANCEMENT AND RELATED SCREENING METHODS

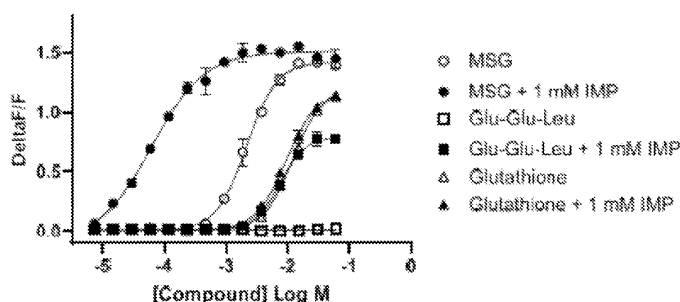


FIG. 1

(57) **Abstract:** The present disclosure generally provides methods for identifying compounds that enhance kokumi taste, and related uses. In some particular aspects, the disclosure provides methods of identifying compounds that enhance kokumi taste by determining whether the compounds modulate the TIR1/TIR3 taste receptor. In some other aspects, the disclosure provides uses of such identified compounds to enhance the kokumi taste of an ingestible composition. In some further aspects, the disclosure provides flavored products, such as food or beverage products, that incorporate such ingestible compositions, and which thereby impart or enhance an umami taste in a flavored article. In some other aspects, the disclosure provides ingestible compositions that contain compounds known to impart or enhance umami taste, such as glutamates, aspartates, and purinic ribonucleotides, such as inosine monophosphate (IMP) and guanosine monophosphate (GMP). In some aspects, the inclusion of kokumi-enhancing compounds in flavored products allows one to reduce or eliminate the concentration of glutamate or aspartate in certain food and beverage products.



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