Claims

[Claim 1]

A high rebaudioside C-content non-genetically modified stevia plant having a rebaudioside C content of 15% by weight or more in a dried leaf thereof, and having the A to T polymorphism at the 60th nucleotide of SEQ ID NO: 1 in the genome.

[Claim 2]

A seed of the plant according to claim 1.

[Claim 3]

A dried leaf of the plant according to claim 1.

[Claim 4]

A tissue culture or a cultured plant cell of the plant according to claim 1.

[Claim 5]

The tissue culture or the cultured plant cell according to claim 4, which is an embryo, a meristem cell, a pollen, a leaf, a root, a root apex, a petal, a protoplast, a leaf section and a callus.

[Claim 6]

A method of producing a high rebaudioside C-content stevia plant having a rebaudioside C content of more than 8% by weight in a dried leaf thereof, the method comprising a step of crossing a stevia plant according to claim 1 with a second stevia plant.

[Claim 7]

The method according to claim 6, wherein the second plant is the stevia plant according to claim 1.

[Claim 8]

An extract of the plant according to claim 1, of the seed according to claim 2 or of the dried leaf according to claim 3.

[Claim 9]

A medicament, a flavor or a food or beverage comprising the extract according to claim 8.

[Claim 10]

A method of producing a rebaudioside C-containing extract, comprising a step of obtaining an extract from the plant according to claim 1, the seed according to claim 2 or the dried leaf according to claim 3.

[Claim 11]

A method of producing rebaudioside C, comprising a step of purifying rebaudioside C from the rebaudioside C-containing extract according to claim 10.

[Claim 12]

A method of producing a medicament, a flavor or a food or beverage, comprising a step of mixing an extract obtained by the method according to claim 10 and/or rebaudioside C obtained by the method according to claim 11 with other component(s).

[Claim 13]

A method of screening for a stevia plant having a rebaudioside C content of more than 8% by weight in a dried leaf thereof, comprising a step of identifying the A to T polymorphism at the 60th nucleotide of SEQ ID NO: 1 in the genome of a test plant.

[Claim 14]

The method according to claim 13, further comprising a step of measuring a rebaudioside C content in a leaf tissue of the test plant.