

ABSTRACT

LARGE POTASSIUM BICARBONATE CRYSTALS AND PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION THEREOF

A large size, small surface area, granular crystalline potassium bicarbonate product suitable for application as an active ingredient in pharmaceutical oral unit dosage forms useful for the treatment of various degenerative bone and cardiovascular diseases, particularly osteoporosis or hypertension, comprising potassium bicarbonate crystals having a mean particle size of at least 350 microns and a specific B.E.T. surface area less than $0.02 \text{ m}^2/\text{gram}$. A process for preparing such product is further provided, in which a solution of potassium bicarbonate (4,7,18) is fed to a slurry of potassium bicarbonate crystals in a crystallizer (8) and the temperatures and concentrations of the potassium bicarbonate in the feed solution and the crystallizer slurry are so regulated, and the residence time and degree of agitation in the crystallizer are so controlled, that the desired large size, small surface area potassium bicarbonate crystals are produced.

FIGURE 2

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