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(71) Applicant: **GETTY SCIENTIFIC DEVELOPMENT
COMPANY**
3901 Briarpark
Houston Texas 77215-0070(US)

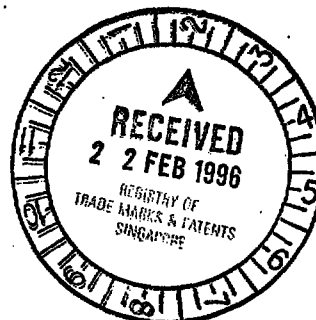
(72) Inventor: **Doherty, Daniel H.**
719 Ithaca Drive
Boulder, CO 80303(US)
Inventor: **Ferber, Donna M.**
4543 Starboard Drive
Boulder, CO 80303(US)
Inventor: **Marrelli, John D.**
3709 Reagan
Houston, TX 77009(US)
Inventor: **Vanderslice, Rebecca W.**
1011 Tantra Park Circle
Boulder, CO 80303(US)

(74) Representative: **Patentanwälte Grünecker,**
Kinkeldey, Stockmair & Partner
Maximilianstrasse 58
W-8000 München 22(DE)

(57) Family of xanthan-based polysaccharide polymers including non-acetylated and/or non-pyruvylated gum.

(57) Variant xanthan gums, including non-acetylated, non-pyruvylated, non-acetylated and non-pyruvylated, and fully-acetylated xanthan gums. In addition, *in vitro* and *in vivo* methods for the synthesis of these gums are disclosed. Mutant *Xanthomonas campestris* strains useful in these synthesis are also specified.

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