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- 1 -

"ODOR-REMOVING AND DEODORIZING METHOD AND COMPOSITION"

This invention relates to an odor-removing and deodorizing method and composition and more particularly, to a method and composition of the just-mentioned type comprising hydrolysates of keratin materials.

5 Offensive odors emitted from refuse boxes, water closets and the like involved in places of human activity such as, for example, ordinary homes, business facilities and public service and particularly those of mercaptan, hydrogen sulfide and
10 the like which have been considered difficult in removing their odors are highly desired to be advantageously removed or masked and deodorized. Also during the course of permanent waving, there is generated a bad smell such as of mercaptan ascribed
15 to the decomposition of thioglycol contained in chemicals and keratin in the hair on the way of the treatment, often causing one to feel objectionably.

A number of methods of removing the offensive odor or smell have heretofore been proposed and may broadly be classified into four
20 catagories including an odor-removing neutralization method, an odor-removing adsorption method, an odor-removing masking method and an

odor-removing biochemical method. However, these methods have all the following disadvantages and are not necessarily satisfactory.

(1) Neutralization Method:

5 This is a method of neutralizing acidic or basic materials giving off bad odor by application with basic or acidic odor-removing bases. This method is effective for local removal of odor but has the disadvantage, when the odor over a wide sphere is removed, that a large quantity
10 of odor-removing bases is required and the efficacy of bases does not develop unless excess neutralization is effected, thus this method being not practically useful in most cases. Moreover, the vital drawback of the method is that neutral offensive odors, e.g. a putrid smell as-
15 cribed to mercaptan, cannot be removed.

(2) Adsorption Method:

 This is a method of adsorbing offensive odors on porous materials such as active carbon but has the disadvantages that the diffusion of offensive odors into
20 adsorbents is rate-limiting and the adsorbent does not have effect on removal of odor over a wide area, that it takes long time before an adsorption equilibrium is reached and it is not necessarily easy for the equilibrium

system to lower the concentration below a threshold value of offensive odor, and that adsorbents do not show activity with respect to all the types of offensive odors.

(3) Masking Method:

5 This is a method of merely masking offensive odors with perfumes and thus the origin of offensive odor is not removed substantially, so that this method is not a substantial odor-removing method.

(4) Biochemical Method:

10 This is a method of preventing emission of bad smells by lowering the activity of microorganisms with use of bacteriostatics or bactericides, but the method is preventive and does not give any effect on once emitted offensive odors.

15 As having described above, the currently employed odor-removing methods are not satisfactory for all origins of offensive odors and particularly for mercaptan and hydrogen sulfide. In this connection, there have recently been reported deodorizing bases which are effective for mercaptan and hydrogen sulfide but almost all of
20 these bases are highly stimulative against mucous membranes such as of eyes, nose, throat and the like and cannot be applied actually.

According to the present invention there is provided a method of deodorizing a desired site which comprises applying thereto a composition comprising a hydrolysate of keratin material.

5 The hydrolysates of keratin material (hereinafter referred to as "keratin hydrolysate(s)) used in the present invention are obtained by hydrolyzing keratin materials.

10 The starting keratin materials are, for example, animal hairs, human hairs, feathers, nails, horns, hooves, scales and the like, among which wool, human hair and feathers are most preferable. These keratin materials may be subjected to the oxidation or reduction reaction as they are, or may be cut or reduced into pieces or may be sub-
15 jected to pretreatments such as washing and defatting as desired.

The hydrolysis of keratin material may be effected as follows.

(1) Hydrolysis with acid

20 Examples of acids include inorganic acids such as hydrochloric acid, sulfuric acid, phosphoric acid, nitric acid, hydrobromic acid and the like,

and organic acids such as acetic acid, formic acid, oxalic acid and the like

The hydrolysates obtained by the acid hydrolysis do not undergo any changes other than hydrolysis at polypeptide chains of keratin, so
5 that better results are obtained than in the case of hydrolysis with alkali.

(2) Hydrolysis with alkali

Examples of alkalis include inorganic alkalis such as sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide,
10 lithium hydroxide, barium hydroxide, sodium carbonate, sodium silicate, borax and the like.

(3) Hydrolysis with enzyme

Examples of enzymes include acidic proteinases such as pepsin, protease A, protease B and the like, and neutral proteinases such as papain, promeline, thermolysin, trypsin, pronase, chymotrypsin and the like.

The hydrolysates obtained by these hydrolysis reactions should preferably have an average molecular weight of from 200 to 5,000. The disulfide bonds in the keratin hydrolysates should favorably be left in amounts as great as possible. To this end, it is recommended to use a keratin material of high purity and to effect the hydrolysis under mild conditions.

The odor-removing and deodorizing method and composition according to the present invention can be used in any known forms by treating the keratin hydrolysate to be an odor-removing base by usual manners, including liquids obtained by dissolving the hydrolysate in solvents or emulsifying it using surface active agents; aerosols obtained by filling the liquids in a spray container along with an injector; gel-like solids admixed with natural or synthetic gel bases such as agar-agar, carrageenan, polyethylene glycol and the like; solids in which the hydrolysate is absorbed in paper or porous materials or is incorporated in synthetic resins such as polyethyl-

ene; and powders in which the hydrolysate is admixed with powdery, inorganic materials such as silica, perlite and the like.

5 If necessary, solvents, surface active agents, acidic materials such as hydrochloric acid, phosphoric acid, citric acid, malic acid, tartaric acid and the like, alkaline materials such as sodium hydroxide, triethanol-amine, basic amino acids and the like, bactericides, perfumes, colorants and the like may be further added to
10 the composition of the invention.

In the production of the odor-removing and deodorizing agents, there are used as a solvent alcohols or glycols such as ethanol, isopropanol, propylene glycol, polyethylene glycol, diethylene glycol, triethylene glycol
15 and the like, or deionized water. Examples of the surface active agents include anionic active agents such as higher alcohol sulfates, alkylarylsulfonates, soaps of fatty acids or resin acids, polyoxyethylenealkyl or alkyl-phenyl ether sulfates, alkylsulfosuccinates, alkylsulfonates, α -olefinsulfonates and the like, nonionic active
20 agents such as polyoxyethylenealkyl phenyl ethers, polyoxyethylene alkyl ethers, polyoxyethylene sorbitan fatty acid esters, polyoxyethylene stearate, glycerol fatty acid esters, ethylene oxide adducts of castor oil or

lanolin and the like, and anionic and amphoteric active agents such as quaternary ammonium salts, higher alcohol betaine and the like. Examples of the bactericides (antiseptics) include parahydroxyalkyl benzoates (parabens), sorbic acid or its potassium salt, dehydroacetic acid or its sodium salt, sodium propionate, and anionic and amphoteric active agents.

The amount of the odor-removing and deodorizing composition of the invention varies depending on the intensity and type of offensive odor and is determined so that the concentration of the keratin hydrolysate is generally in the range of over 0.01 wt% (hereinafter referred to simply as %), inclusive, preferably over 0.1%, of the system to be treated. Accordingly, the amount of the keratin hydrolysate in the odor-removing and deodorizing composition is in the range of 0.1 - 10%, preferably 0.5 - 5%.

The odor-removing and deodorizing composition of the invention can be used over a wide range of pH by adjusting with acidic or alkaline materials to a pH of 0.5 - 10, preferably 1 - 8. Accordingly, when the composition is adjusted in pH to an acidic range of, for example, 1 - 3, it is possible to remove not only offensive odors of mercaptan and hydrogen sulfide but also

21

the odor of ammonia.

Following is a description by way of example only of methods of carrying the invention into effect.

5 Reference: Preparation of Hydrolysates of
 Keratin Materials

 (a) 10 g of wool fibers were immersed in
 300 g of a 75% phosphoric acid aqueous solution and
10 hydrolyzed at a temperature of 120 - 130° C for 5
 hours. The reaction solution was cooled and filtered
 to remove insoluble matters therefrom, after which
 4 - 5 times by volume of water was added and in-
 soluble matters were further removed by centrifugation.
15 Then, calcium carbonate or barium hydroxide was
 added to adjust the pH to 6.7, followed by collecting
 the resulting precipitate by filtration and drying
 to obtain 8.0 g of a hydrolysate with a molecular
 weight of 1,500.

20 (b) 100 g of feathers were heated in an
 auto-clave by means of a superheated steam of 6 kg/
 cm² and 240° C for 6 minutes and released abruptly
 into the air to obtain a porous puffed product.
 This puffed product was reduced into pieces and

22

- 1 1 -

admixed with 3 litres of 0.3N caustic soda,
followed by hydrolysis at 60° C for 18 hours,
neutralizing with 1N hydrochloric acid and filter-
ing the reaction solution. The resulting filtrate
5 was subjected to the ultrafiltration using a mem-
brane with a fractional molecular weight of 500 to
remove sodium chloride therefrom, with the aqueous
solution of the keratin hydrolysate being concen-
trated, followed by freeze drying to obtain 7.2 g
10 of the keratin hydrolysate. The molecular weight
of the hydrolysate determined by the gel filtra-
tion technique was 1,800.

Example 1

An odor-removing and deodorizing com-
15 position of the following composition was prepared
and its odor-removing effect was examined.

The odor-removing effect was determined as
follows. That is, 0.05 ml of a methyl mercaptan
standard solution* was placed in a 100 m Erlenmeyer
20 flask as an offensive odor source, into which was
immediately dropped 0.5 ml of the composition, fol-
lowed by tightly sealing and keeping at 20° C for
5 minutes. Then, the concentration of the methyl

23

- 12 -

mercaptan was measured by the Kitagawa detector tube and after standing for 5 minutes, the odor in the flask was evaluated by 5 panel members.

Composition:

	Composition A (Product of Invention)	Composition B (Comparative Product)
5 Hydrolysate of Keratin (obtained in Reference (a))	1.5 (%)	-(%)
Glyoxal	-	1.0
Water	balance	balance

10 Results:

Table 1

	Concentration of methyl mercaptan. (after 5 minutes)	Sensory Evaluation (after 10 minutes)
15 Composition A	5 ppm	odor of benzene
Composition B	90 ppm	odors of methyl mercaptan and benzene

* Methyl mercaptan standard solution:

20 Methyl mercaptan standard solution for testing
bad smell substances (Wako Junyaku Ind. Co., Ltd: con-
tent 1 µg/1 µl (benzene solution))

Example 2

25 An odor-removing and deodorizing composition
of the formulation indicated in Table 2 was prepared and

25

sprayed for 5 seconds in a one liter beaker in which had been placed 1 ml of mercaptoethanol and 96 ml of purified water to examine its odor-removing effect. The effect was judged by organoleptically evaluating odors in the beaker by 5 panel members 3 minutes after the spraying.

Table 2

	Composition C (Product of Invention)	Composition D (Comparative Product)
10 Keratin hydrolysate (obtained in Reference (b))	1.5 (%)	- (%)
Ethyl alcohol	3.0	3.0
Water	55.5	56.0
15 Glyoxal	-	1.0
Injector for aerosol (Flon 12)	40.0	40.0
Odor-removing effect	No odor of mercaptoethanol.	Intense odor of mercaptoethanol.

20 Example 3

An odor-removing and deodorizing composition of the formulation indicated in Table 3 for use in permanent wave treatment was prepared and its effect was examined. The results are shown in Table 4.

26

Composition:

Table 3

	Composition E (Product of Invention)	Composition F (Comparative Product)	Composition G (Comparative Product)
5			
	Keratin hydroly- sate (obtained in Reference (a))	1.0 (%)	- (%)
10	Alkali hydroly- sate of collagen (molecular weight of about 2,000)	-	1.0
15	Malic acid	pH adjusted to 2	pH adjusted to 2
	Water	balance	balance

Test method:

4 tresses of human hairs each having a weight of 10 g and a length of 20 cm were each immersed in 100 ml of first agent for permanent wave (waving lotion) for 15 minutes to conduct the perm treatment. Thereafter, the four tresses were removed, lightly squeezed and applied with 5 ml of the odor-removing and deodorizing composition, followed by organoleptically evaluating the effect by 10 panel members.

For control, the treated tress was washed with running water for 10 seconds without use of any odor-removing and deodorizing composition and its effect was

(29)

also judged.

(First Agent of Permanent Wave (Waving lotion))

	<u>Ingredients</u>	<u>Wt%</u>
	Ammonium thioglycollate	7.0
5	EDTA-2Na salt	0.5
	28% aqueous ammonia	pH adjusted to 9.0
	Monolauric acid polyoxyethyl-ene sorbitan (20 E.O.)	1.0
	Perfume	small amount
10	Water	balance

Results:

	Odor-removing deodorizing composition	Evaluation Results
15	Composition E	○ No odors of thioglycollic acid and ammonia.
	Composition F	△ Little odor of ammonia is left with an intense odor of thioglycollic acid.
	Composition G	△ do.
20	Control	× Intense odors of thioglycollic acid and ammonia.

Example 4

An odor-removing and deodorizing composition of the formulation indicated in Table 5 for use in

permanent wave treatment was prepared and three females with a hair length of about 20 cm as subjects were each actually permanent waved. The odor-removing and deodorizing effect on the emitted offensive odors was evaluated.

The results are shown in Table 6.

Composition:

	Composition H (Product of Invention)	Composition I (Comparative Product)
Keratin hydrolysate (obtained in reference (b))	2.0 (%)	- (%)
Citric acid	pH adjusted to 3.0	pH adjusted to 3.0
Polyoxyethylene sorbitan monooleate (20 E.O.)	0.1	0.1
Perfume	0.05	0.05
Methylparaben	0.1	0.1
Disodium EDTA	0.3	0.3
Water	balance	balance

Test Method:

The hair wound about a rod was applied with 80 ml of a commercially available the first agent for permanent wave (waving lotion) containing as its chief component ammonium thioglycollate and allowed to stand

29

for 15 minutes.

Then,

(1) Subject A was washed with running water for 1 minute,

5 (2) Subject B was applied with 30 g of the present composition indicated in Table 5, and

(3) Subject C was applied with 30 g of the comparative product indicated in Table 5.

10 The odors of the respective hairs were evaluated by 5 panel members.

Thereafter, 100 ml of a second agent for the permanent wave (neutralizer) was applied to each of the hairs, which was allowed to stand for 15 minutes, and washed with water for 2 minutes, followed by evaluation
15 by the expert panel.

Results:

Table 6

20		After Treatment with First Agent (Waving lotion)	After Permanent Wave Treatment
	Subject A	X (Offensive odors of thioglycollic acid and ammonia)	X (Offensive odors of thioglycollic acid and ammonia)
	Subject B	○	○
25	Subject C	X (Offensive odor of thioglycollic acid)	X (Offensive odor of thioglycollic acid)

(30)



- 19 -

CLAIMS:

1. A method of deodorizing a desired site which comprises applying thereto a composition comprising a hydrolysate of keratin material.
- 5 2. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the hydrolysate is formed by hydrolysis of keratin material with acid, alkali or enzymes.
3. A method as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the
10 hydrolysate has an average molecular weight of 200 to 5000.
4. A method as claimed in any preceding claim ^{wherein the composition} ~~including~~^{as} one
or more of a liquid solvent for said hydrolysate, a
15 surface active agent or a gel like solid.
5. A method as claimed in claim 1 to 3 wherein the hydrolysate is absorbed in paper, or porous material or is incorporated in a synthetic resin; or is admixed with an inert inorganic
20 material.
6. A method as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the keratin hydrolysate is present in an amount of 0.1 to 10% by weight of the composition.



31

- 20 -

7. A method as claimed in any preceding claim having a pH within the range of 0.5 to 10.

5 8. A method as claimed in claim 1 and substantially as described in any one of the specific examples hereinbefore set forth.

9. A method as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the desired site is tresses of hair, and the odour to be deodorized
10 is that of a permanent waving composition.

10. A deodorizing composition comprising a hydrolysate of keratin material when used in a method according to any one of claims 1 to 8.
