Claims

1. A method for inhibiting discoloration of a material that comprises pyrithione or a salt thereof, the method comprising adding an effective amount of a discoloration inhibitor comprising dehydroacetic acid or a salt thereof to said material.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said material is selected from the group consisting of paints, coatings, adhesives, and textiles; and wherein the said material is exposed to outside weathering conditions.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein said material is a personal care formulation.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein said personal care formulation is a shampoo.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein said material is a plastic material exposed to outside weathering conditions.

6. The method of any of claims 1 to 5, wherein the discoloration inhibitor is the zinc salt of dehydroacetic acid.

7. The method of claims 5 and 6, wherein said plastic material is extruded and the zinc salt of dehydroacetic acid is co-extruded with the plastic material.

8. The method of any of claims 5 to 7, wherein no organic phosphite is added to the plastic material.

9. The method of any of claims 5 to 7, wherein no substituted phenyl phosphite is added to the plastic material.

10. The method of any of claims 5 to 7, wherein no ortho-substituted phenyl phosphite is added to the plastic material.

11. The method of any of claims 5 to 7, wherein no ortho-tertiary alkyl-substituted phosphite is added to the plastic material.

12. The method of any of claims 5 to 7, wherein no cyclic organic phosphoric acid ester is added to the plastic material.

13. The method of any of claims 1 to 12, wherein the discoloration inhibitor consists essentially of dehydroacetic acid or a salt thereof.

14. The method of any of claims 1 to 13, wherein said discoloration inhibitor is added in an amount sufficient to provide a concentration of 500 ppm to 50,000 ppm by weight of dehydroacetic acid or salt thereof.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein said discoloration inhibitor is added in an amount sufficient to provide a concentration of 10,000 ppm to 50,000 ppm by weight of dehydroacetic acid or salt thereof.

CLAIMS

The invention claimed is:

1. A method for inhibiting discoloration of a material that comprises pyrithione or a salt thereof, the method comprising adding an effective amount of a discoloration inhibitor comprising dehydroacetic acid or a salt thereof to said material, wherein said material is a plastic material made from a vinyl polymers; wherein said vinyl polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polypropylene, polyvinyl acetate, and polyvinyl chloride; and wherein said material is exposed to outside weathering conditions.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the discoloration inhibitor is the zinc salt of dehydroacetic acid.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein said plastic material is extruded and the zinc salt of dehydroacetic acid is co-extruded with the plastic material.

4. The method of any of claim 1 wherein no organic phosphite is added to the plastic material.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein no substituted phenyl phosphite is added to the plastic material.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein no ortho-substituted phenyl phosphite is added to the plastic material.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein no ortho-tertiary alkyl-substituted phosphite is added to the plastic material.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein no cyclic organic phosphoric acid ester is added to the plastic material.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein the discoloration inhibitor consists essentially of dehydroacetic acid or a salt thereof.

10. The method of claim 1 wherein said discoloration inhibitor is added in an amount sufficient to provide a concentration of 500 ppm to 50,000 ppm by weight of dehydroacetic acid or salt thereof.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein said discoloration inhibitor is added in an amount sufficient to provide a concentration of 10,000 ppm to 50,000 ppm by weight of dehydroacetic acid or salt thereof.

12. The method of claim 1 wherein said polymer is polyvinyl chloride.