CLAIMS

1. A resin composition comprising an ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer (A) as a main component, the copolymer (A) being produced using an azonitrile polymerization initiator, wherein

the ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer (A) consists of ethylene, vinyl acetate and vinyl alcohol units having an ethylene unit content from 20 to 60 mol% and a degree of saponification of 85 mol% or more,

an amount (NI) of nitrogen elements derived from the polymerization initiator is from 5 to 60 ppm, and

a ratio (NF/NI) of an amount (NF) of nitrogen elements contained in a dried solid obtained by an operation (X) below to the amount (NI) of nitrogen elements is from 0.65 to 0.99.

Operation (X): a solution of 5 g of the resin composition dissolved in 100 g of 1,1,1,3,3,3-hexafluoro-2-propanol is dropped in 1000 g of methanol under stirring and a precipitation thus produced is separated and then dried to obtain the dried solid.

2. The resin composition according to Claim 1, wherein the ratio (NF/NI) is from 0.75 to 0.95.

3. The resin composition according to Claim 1 or 2, further comprising 100 to 400 ppm of metal ions (B).

4. The resin composition according to any one of Claims 1 through 3, further comprising 50 to 400 ppm of carboxylic acid (C).

5. A shaped article comprising the resin composition according to any one of Claims 1 through 4.

6. The shaped article according to Claim 5, wherein the shaped article is a multilayer structure.

7. A packaging material comprising the shaped article according to Claim 5 or 6.