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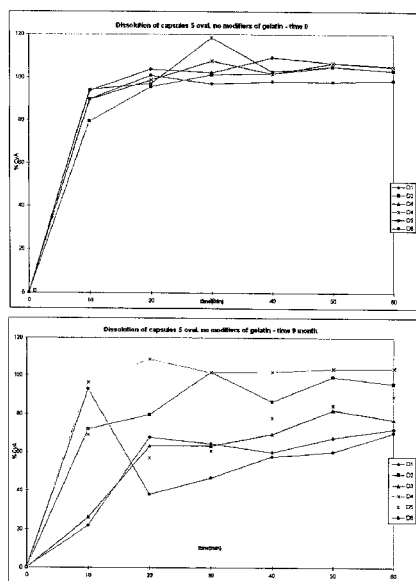
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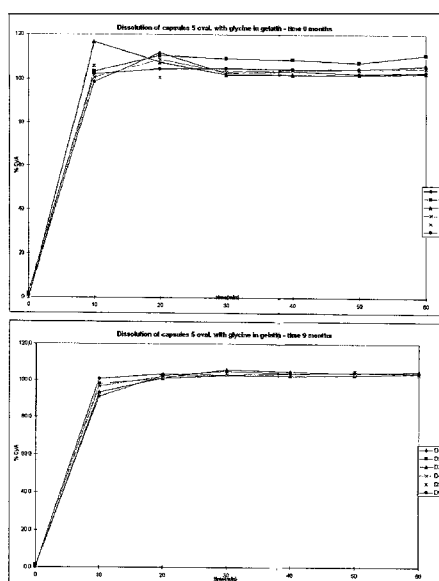
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(54) Title: REDUCTION OF GELATIN CROSS-LINKING

FIGURES 2A AND 2B



FIGURES 2C AND 2D



(57) **Abstract:** The invention relates to compositions and methods for reducing cross-linking in the gelatin shell of gelatin capsules by incorporation of free amino acid into the capsule shell and by inclusion of an ester of carboxylic acid either into the capsule filling, and/or into the capsule shell and/or into the lubrication agent, or in combinations thereof. Described are soft gelatin capsules characterized by improved stability as compared with gelatin capsules that do not contain amino acid in the shell and carboxylic acid ester in the filling, shell or in the lubrication agent, or in combinations thereof.