CLAIMS

[Claim 1]

A liquid mineral concentrate composition for use in the improvement of the flavor of water or drink (except a coffee drink) having no chlorine smell, wherein the liquid mineral concentrate composition comprises an activated carbon extract of a plant-derived raw material, and contains the highest concentration of potassium ions among the metal ions present in the liquid mineral concentrate composition, wherein the plant-derived raw material is selected from the following: fruit shells of coconut palms, palms, almonds, walnuts, or plums; sawdust, charcoal, resins, and lignin; sawdust ash; bamboos; food residues selected from bagasse, chaff, coffee beans, and molasses; and combinations of these raw materials.

[Claim 2]

The liquid mineral concentrate composition according to claim 1, wherein the amount of chloride ions contained in the liquid mineral concentrate composition is 50% or less of the potassium ion concentration.

[Claim 3]

The liquid mineral concentrate composition according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the amount of calcium ions contained in the liquid mineral concentrate composition is 2.0% or less of the potassium ion concentration.

[Claim 4]

The liquid mineral concentrate composition according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the amount of magnesium ions contained in the liquid mineral concentrate composition is 1.0% or less of the potassium ion concentration.

[Claim 5]

The liquid mineral concentrate composition according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the amount of sodium contained in the liquid mineral concentrate composition is 5 to 45% of the potassium ion concentration.

[Claim 6]

A method of producing a water having an improved flavor, the method

comprising a step of adding the liquid mineral concentrate composition according to any one of claims 1 to 5 to a water having no chlorine smell intended to have an improved flavor.

[Claim 7]

The method according to claim 6, wherein the liquid mineral concentrate composition is added in such a manner that the concentration of potassium ions added is 50 ppm to 100 ppm.

[Claim 8]

A method of producing a drink having an improved flavor, the method comprising a step of adding the liquid mineral concentrate composition according to any one of claims 1 to 7 to a drink (except a coffee drink) having no chlorine smell intended to have an improved flavor.

[Claim 9]

The method according to claim 8, wherein, when the drink is an alcoholic drink, the liquid mineral concentrate composition is added in such a manner that the concentration of potassium ions added is 50 ppm to 600 ppm.

[Claim 10]

The method according to claim 8, wherein, when the drink is a nonalcoholic beer, the liquid mineral concentrate composition is added in such a manner that the concentration of potassium ions added is 50 ppm to 300 ppm.

[Claim 11]

The method according to claim 8, wherein, when the drink is a green tea drink or a barley tea drink, the liquid mineral concentrate composition is added in such a manner that the concentration of potassium ions added is 50 ppm to 100 ppm.

[Claim 12]

The method according to claim8, wherein, when the drink is a milk-containing black tea drink, the liquid mineral concentrate composition is added in such a manner that the concentration of potassium ions added is 50 ppm to 300 ppm.

[Claim 13]

The method according to claim 8, wherein, when the drink is an orange juice drink, the liquid mineral concentrate composition is added in such a manner that the potassium ion concentration is 50 ppm to 300 ppm.

[Claim 14]

The method according to claim 8, wherein, when the drink is a cola drink or a lemon carbonated drink, the liquid mineral concentrate composition is added in such a manner that the potassium ion concentration is 50 ppm to 100 ppm.