

ABSTRACT

Activated regular-shaped clay particles forming
macropores therein, preserving fine structure of the
5 dioctahedral smectite clay minerals, and having particle
diameters controlled to lie within a range in which they
exhibit excellent filtering property. The invention
further provides method of producing activated regular-
shaped clay particles comprising the steps of adjusting
10 the particle size of the dioctahedral smectite clay
minerals to possess a volume-based median diameter (D_{50})
of from 1 to 10 μm as found by a laser diffraction method,
mixing an acid-soluble or acid-decomposing inorganic
compound to the milled product thereof, granulating the
15 mixture into regular particles having a volume-based
median diameter (D_{50}) of from 10 to 60 μm as found by a
laser diffraction method, and treating the regular-shaped
particles with an acid while maintaining the particle
shapes.

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