Such a protein material can be produced by a denaturation and molecular weight adjustment treatment described later, and examples thereof include “MIRA-MAP 2.0” (available from Fuji Oil Co., Ltd.). Soybean protein materials such as FUJIPRO R, FUJIPRO 748, FUJIPRO CL, and HINUTE AM (all available from Fuji Oil Co., Ltd.) do not fall under this requirement.

[0017]

Although the origin of the protein material to be prepared is not particularly limited, plant-derived, animal-derived, or microorganism-derived proteins can be used. Examples of the plant protein include proteins derived from beans, such as soybean, pea, mung bean, lupin bean, chickpea, kidney bean, lentil bean, and cowpea; seeds, such as sesame, canola seed, coconut seed, and almond seed; grains, such as corn, buckwheat, wheat, and rice; vegetables; fruits; algae; and microalgae. For example, a protein material derived from soybean is prepared by further concentrating and processing protein from a soybean material, such as defatted soybean or whole soybean, and in general, examples conceptually include soybean protein isolates, soybean protein concentrates, soybean milk powder, or various processed products of those.

Examples of the animal protein include egg proteins containing ovalbumin; milk proteins such as casein, whey, lactalbumin; proteins derived from blood such as plasma, serum albumin, and decolorized hemoglobin; proteins derived from meat; and proteins derived from fish and shellfish. In addition, proteins derived from microorganisms such as yeasts, molds and bacteria can be used. Even in a protein having poor solubility in water, a protein material that can be used in the present invention can be prepared by the treatment described below.

[0018]

○ Denaturation and molecular weight adjustment treatment

The protein material used in the present invention can be produced by applying combination of “degradation/denaturation treatment” for degrading and/or denaturing a protein and “molecular weight distribution adjustment treatment” for adjusting molecular weight