

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for providing information in an information management system that is used to provide a dish search screen, the method comprising:

5 providing, on the dish search screen as one of a plurality of search filters, one search filter for filtering dishes or restaurants based on rating results of the dishes or restaurants rated by a second user who has a sense-of-taste characteristic similar to a sense-of-taste characteristic of a first user;

10 obtaining first data indicating an input value in a measurement test regarding sense of taste of the first user from a first communication terminal through a network, wherein the measurement test regarding the sense of taste is used for measuring taste sensitivity of the first user;

15 obtaining second data indicating an input value in a measurement test regarding sense of taste of the second user from a second communication terminal through the network;

obtaining rating information indicating the second user's rating of a dish or a restaurant from the second communication terminal, wherein the rating information indicating the second user's rating of the dish or the restaurant is managed as the second user's rating result of the dish or the restaurant;

20 generating a first evaluation value of the first user's sense of taste in association with the first user, based on the first data;

generating a second evaluation value of the second user's sense of taste in association with the second user, based on the second data; and

25 filtering the dishes or the restaurants based on the second user's rating result when a first difference between the first evaluation value and the second evaluation value is in a first predetermined range in a case in which the first user uses the search filter to filter the dishes or the restaurants.

2. The method according to claim 1,

30 wherein the at least one type of taste used for the measurement test regarding the sense of taste includes at least one of sweetness, sourness, saltiness, bitterness, or umami; the first evaluation value includes an evaluation value for entire sense of taste

including the at least one type of taste; and

the second evaluation value includes an evaluation value for entire sense of taste including the at least one type of taste.

5 3. The method according to claim 1,

wherein the at least one type of taste used for the measurement test regarding the sense of taste includes at least one of sweetness, sourness, saltiness, bitterness, or umami;

10 the first evaluation value is represented by a first value indicating sensitivity to a first type of taste and a second value indicating sensitivity to a second type of taste, the first type of taste and the second type of taste being included in two types of taste including the at least one type of taste;

the second evaluation value is represented by a third value indicating sensitivity to the first type of taste and a fourth value indicating sensitivity to the second type of taste; and

15 when a second difference between the first value and the third value and a third difference between the second value and the fourth value are both in a second predetermined range, it is decided that the first difference is in the first predetermined range.

20 4. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 3,

wherein the measurement tests regarding the first user's sense of taste and the second user's sense of taste include measurement tests of taste resolutions of the first user and the second user;

25 the measurement tests of the taste resolutions are used to measure what is a smallest difference each of the first user and the second user is capable of recognizing between a plurality of levels with respect to at least one type of taste;

the first data indicates an input value in the measurement test of the taste resolution of the first user;

30 the first evaluation value of the first user's sense of taste is generated based on at least the first data;

the second data indicates an input value in the measurement test of the taste resolution of the second user; and

the second evaluation value of the second user's sense of taste is generated based on at least the second data.

5. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 3,

5 wherein the measurement tests regarding the first user's sense of taste and the second user's sense of taste include measurement tests of taste sensing of the first user and the second user;

the measurement tests of the taste sensing are used to measure, among no taste and a plurality of levels ranging from a light taste to a strong taste of some kind of taste, at
10 which level from no taste each of the first user and the second user is capable of sensing a distinction as to whether there is no taste or any taste;

the first data indicates an input value in the measurement test of the taste sensing of the first user;

the first evaluation value of the first user's sense of taste is generated based on at
15 least the first data;

the second data indicates an input value in the measurement test of the taste sensing of the second user; and

the second evaluation value of the second user's sense of taste is generated based on at least the second data.

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6. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 3,

wherein the measurement tests regarding the first user's sense of taste and the second user's sense of taste include measurement tests of taste recognition of the first user and the second user;

25 the measurement test of the taste recognition is used to measure, among no taste and a plurality of levels ranging from a light taste to a strong taste of at least one type of taste, at which level from no taste each of the first user and the second user is capable of recognizing whether there is no taste or the least the one type of taste;

the first data indicates an input value in the measurement test of the taste
30 recognition of the first user;

the first evaluation value of the first user's sense of taste is generated based on at least the first data;

the second data indicates an input value in the measurement test of taste recognition of the second user; and

the second evaluation value of the second user's sense of taste is generated based on at least the second data.

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7. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 3,

wherein the measurement tests regarding the first user's sense of taste and the second user's sense of taste include measurement tests of taste densities of the first user and the second user;

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the measurement tests of the taste densities are used to measure whether or not each of the first user and the second user is capable of relatively correctly recognizing at least three levels ranging from a light taste to a strong taste with respect to at least one type of taste;

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the first data indicates an input value in the measurement test of the taste density of the first user;

the first evaluation value of the first user's sense of taste is generated based on at least the first data;

the second data indicates an input value in the measurement test of the taste density of the second user; and

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the second evaluation value of the second user's sense of taste is generated based on at least the second data.

8. The method according to claim 4,

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wherein the input value in the measurement test of the taste resolution of the first user and the input value in the measurement test of the taste resolution of the second user are input at the first communication terminal and the second communication terminal, respectively, by using at least i) a first test meal group including a plurality of test meals corresponding to a plurality of levels ranging from a light sweet taste to a strong sweet taste or ii) a second test meal group including a plurality of test meals corresponding to a plurality of levels ranging from a light salty taste to a strong salty taste.

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9. The method according to claim 8,

wherein a first instruction for making each of the first user and the second user input which of a first sweetness test meal and a second sweetness test meal of the plurality of test meals included in the first test meal group is sweeter is output onto a display of each of the first communication terminal and the second communication terminal, the first
5 sweetness test meal and the second sweetness test meal having therebetween a first level gap of two or more levels of the plurality of levels ranging from the light sweet taste to the strong sweet taste; and

the first data and the second data are obtained as responses to the first instruction.

10 10. The method according to claim 9,

wherein a second instruction for making each of the first user and the second user input which of a third sweetness test meal and a fourth sweetness test meal of the plurality of test meals included in the first test meal group is sweeter, separately from the first sweetness test meal and the second sweetness test meal, is output onto the display of each
15 of the first communication terminal and the second communication terminal, the third sweetness test meal and the fourth sweetness test meal having therebetween a second level gap that is narrower than the first level gap among the plurality of levels ranging from the light sweet taste to the strong sweet taste; and

the first data and the second data are obtained as responses to the second
20 instruction.

11. The method according to claim 10,

wherein a third instruction for making each of the first user and the second user input which of a fifth sweetness test meal and a sixth sweetness test meal of the plurality of
25 test meals included in the first test meal group is sweeter, separately from the first sweetness test meal and the second sweetness test meal, is output onto the display of each of the first communication terminal and the second communication terminal, the fifth sweetness test meal and the sixth sweetness test meal having therebetween a third level gap that is wider than the first level gap among the plurality of levels ranging from the light
30 sweet taste to the strong sweet taste; and

the first data and the second data are obtained as responses to the third instruction.

12. The method according to claim 10,
wherein the second instruction is output when it is decided that the response to the first instruction indicates a correct answer.

5 13. The method according to claim 11,
wherein the third instruction is output when it is decided that the response to the first instruction indicates an incorrect answer.

10 14. The method according to claim 5,
wherein the input value in the measurement test of the taste sensing of the first user and the input value in the measurement test of the taste sensing of the second user are input at the first communication terminal and the second communication terminal, respectively, by using at least i) a first test meal group including a plurality of test meals corresponding to a plurality of levels ranging from a light sweet taste to a strong sweet
15 taste, ii) a second test meal group including a plurality of test meals corresponding to a plurality of levels ranging from a light salty taste to a strong salty taste, and iii) a third test meal group including a plurality of tasteless test meals.

20 15. The method according to claim 14,
wherein a fourth instruction for making each of the first user and the second user use the first test meal group, the second test meal group, and the third test meal group to input whether the test meals included in the first test meal group or the second test meal group are tasteless or not tasteless in order with a level of a lightest taste first is output onto a display of each of the first communication terminal and the second communication
25 terminal; and
the first data and the second data are obtained as responses to the fourth instruction.

30 16. The method according to claim 6,
wherein the input value in the measurement test of the taste recognition of the first user and the input value in the measurement test of the taste recognition of the second user are input at the first communication terminal and the second communication terminal,

respectively, by using at least a first test meal group including a plurality of test meals corresponding to a plurality of levels ranging from a light sweet taste to a strong sweet taste and a second test meal group including a plurality of tasteless test meals.

5 17. The method according to claim 15,
 wherein a fifth instruction for making each of the first user and the second user
 use the first test meal group and the second test meal group to input whether the test meals
 included in the first test meal group have no taste or have sweet taste in order with the level
 of a lightest sweet taste first is output onto a display of each of the first communication
10 terminal and the second communication terminal; and
 the first data and the second data are obtained as responses to the fifth instruction.

 18. The method according to claim 7,
 wherein the input value in the measurement test of the taste density of the first
15 user and the input value in the measurement test of the taste density of the second user are
 input at the first communication terminal and the second communication terminal,
 respectively, by using at least a first test meal group including a plurality of test meals
 corresponding to a plurality of levels ranging from a light sweet taste to a strong sweet
 taste.

20 19. The method according to claim 18,
 wherein a sixth instruction for making each of the first user and the second user
 use the first test meal group to input at least three test meals in order of density of taste, the
 at least three test meals being included in the plurality of test meals included in the first test
25 meal group, is output onto a display of each of the first communication terminal and the
 second communication terminal, and
 the first data and the second data are obtained as responses to the sixth instruction.

 20. A method for providing information in an information management system
30 that is used to provide a dish search screen, the method comprising:
 providing, on the dish search screen as one of a plurality of search filters, one
 search filter for filtering dishes or restaurants based on rating results of the dishes or

restaurants rated by a second user who has a sense-of-taste characteristic similar to a sense-of-taste characteristic of a first user;

obtaining, from a first communication terminal of the first user through a network, a command indicating that the search filter is selected;

5 selecting at least one dish filtered by the search filter or at least one restaurant filtered by the search filter, based on the command; and

 outputting information indicating the selected at least one dish or restaurant to the first communication terminal through the network to display the information on a display of the first communication terminal.

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21. The method according to claim 20,

 wherein first data indicating an input value in a measurement test regarding sense of taste of the first user is obtained from the first communication terminal through the network, the measurement test regarding the sense of taste being used for measuring taste
15 sensitivity of the first user;

 second data indicating an input value in a measurement test regarding sense of taste of the second user is obtained from the second communication terminal of the second user through the network;

 rating information indicating the second user's rating of a dish or a restaurant is
20 obtained from the second communication terminal, the rating information indicating the second user's rating of the dish or the restaurant being included in the second user's rating results of the dishes or the restaurants;

 a first evaluation value of the first user's sense of taste is generated in association with the first user, based on the first data;

25 a second evaluation value of the second user's sense of taste is generated in association with the second user, based on the second data; and

 the dishes or the restaurants are filtered based on the second user's rating results when a first difference between the first evaluation value and the second evaluation value is in a first predetermined range in a case in which the first user uses the search filter to
30 filter the dishes or the restaurants.