ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A process for preparing acrylamide is disclosed herein which comprises subjecting acrylonitrile to a hydration reaction in the presence of a copper-based catalyst, said process comprising the step of allowing a compound having an active methylene group and an acidic group in one molecule or a salt of the compound, for example, malonic acid, cyanoacetic acid or its salt to be present in a reaction system. According to the hydration reaction, it is possible to inhibit the secondary formation of impurities which cannot be heretofore removed, without any deterioration of a catalyst activity, and acrylamide can be obtained which is useful as a material for the manufacture of a high-molecular weight flocculant having a sufficiently large molecular weight and a good water solubility.