

ABSTRACT

Provided is are a polymer which is a vinyl alcohol polymer having a comparatively low degree of saponification, and which enables preparing an aqueous solution having a sufficiently low viscosity even in a case with high concentration, and the like. A polymer comprising a vinyl ester unit, a vinyl alcohol unit, and a structural unit derived from a monomer (M), wherein the monomer (M) is a monomer represented by the following formula (1), a content of the structural unit derived from the monomer (M) is 2 mol% or more and 70 mol% or less, with respect to total structural units, and a degree of saponification is more than 0 mol% and less than 70 mol%. In the formula (1), R¹ represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl group; X represents a hydroxy group, an amino group, a morpholino group, a polyethylene glycol group, or a group represented by -OR^A, wherein R^A represents an alkyl group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms or an aryl group having 6 to 12 carbon atoms.

