METHODS, COMPOSITIONS AND USES RELATING THERETO

The present invention relates to a method of treating a material, to compositions for use in such methods and to uses relating thereto. In particular the present invention relates to a method of treating a keratinous material, especially hair, to provide a benefit to the material.

The appearance, condition and cleanliness of their hair are of great significance to many people. As a result there is a vast array of hair care products available offering a wide range of benefits and containing a huge number of different components. However popular hair styles change continually with fashion trends and technological developments in hair styling appliances means that there is a continuing need for different and improved hair care compositions. Furthermore as we learn more about the toxicity of certain chemicals and their environmental impact there is an increasing requirement to take these considerations into account when developing cosmetic products.

For example one previously used constituent of cosmetic hair care compositions is formaldehyde. However formaldehyde is a suspected carcinogen and thus its use in cosmetic compositions is now strictly regulated and highly undesirable.

The appearance, condition and cleanliness of textiles and fabric materials is also of considerable importance and the stresses encountered by these materials in the environments in which they are used may have a deleterious effect on them.

It is an aim of the present invention to provide means for enhancing at least one property of a material.

Summary of Invention

In one aspect of the disclosure, there is provided a method of treating a material, the method comprising the steps of:

(1) contacting the material with a composition comprising an electrophilic species selected from aldehydes, succinimidyl esters, and mixtures thereof;

(2) contacting the material with a composition comprising a chelating agent and/or a salt of an amine and/or a carboxylic acid.

In another aspect of the disclosure, there is provided a hair care composition comprising an electrophilic species selected from aldehydes, succinimidyl esters and mixtures thereof; and a chelating agent and/or a salt of an amine and a carboxylic acid.

In yet another aspect of the disclosure, there is provided the use of an electrophilic species selected from aldehydes, succinimidyl esters and mixtures thereof; and a chelating agent and/or a salt of an amine and a carboxylic acid to combat colour loss from dyed hair.

In another aspect of the disclosure, there is provided a packaged hair colouring product comprising one or more compositions wherein the one or more compositions together comprise at least one dye compound and/or one dye precursor compound; an electrophilic species selected from aldehydes, succinimidyl esters and mixtures thereof; and a chelating agent and/or a salt of an amine and a carboxylic acid.

Detailed Description of the Invention

According to a first aspect of the present invention there is provided a method of treating material, the method comprising the steps of:

(1) contacting the material with a composition comprising an electrophilic species selected from aldehydes, succinimidyl esters and mixtures thereof;
(2) contacting the material with a composition comprising a chelating agent and/or a salt of an amine and a carboxylic acid.

Steps (1) and (2) may be carried out in any order. They may be carried out sequentially or simultaneously. In some embodiments step (1) is carried our before step (2). In some embodiments step (2) is carried out before step (1).