CLAIMS

1. A process for preparing a sulfurised calcium phenate detergent having a reduced content of unsulfurised alkyl-substituted phenol comprising the steps of:
   (A) providing, made from an unsulfurised alkyl-substituted phenol, a sulfurised calcium phenate detergent that, optionally, may have been further reacted with carbon dioxide;
   (B) adding to the detergent from 1 to 100, preferably from 5 to 40, more preferably from 5 to 30, mass %, based on the mass of the detergent, of an alkanol that has a boiling point of above 100°C and below the boiling point of the unsulfurised alkyl-substituted phenol; and
   (C) distilling the alkanol from the detergent thereby to reduce the content of the unsulfurised alkyl-substituted phenol.

2. The process of claim 1 where the alkanol is miscible with the sulfurised calcium phenate detergent.

3. The process of claim 1 where the alkanol is isodecanol.

4. The process of claim 1 where the alkylphenol is tetrapropenylphenol.

5. The process of claim 1 where steps (B) and (C) are carried out in a sequence of repeated steps.

6. The process of claim 1 where steps (B) and (C) are each carried out singly.

7. The process of claim 1 where phenolic functional groups in the product of step (C) are oxyalkylated.

8. The process of claim 7 where oxyalkylation is carried out by reaction with ethylene carbonate, propylene carbonate or butylene carbonate.