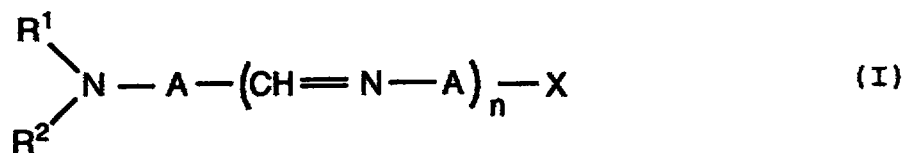


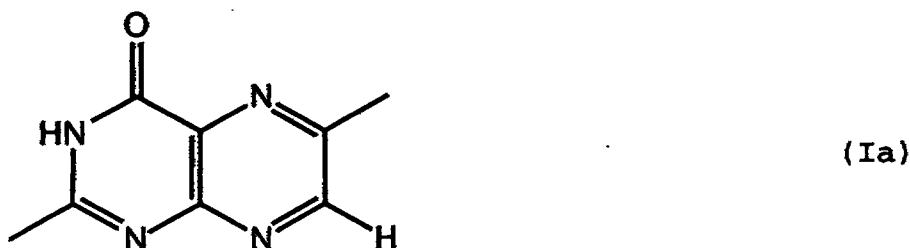
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ABSTRACT

An active oxygen scavenger comprising as an active ingredient a pterin derivative of the formula (I):



wherein R^1 and R^2 are independently a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, or an acyl group of the formula $\text{R}^3\text{-CO-}$, R^3 is an alkyl group of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, X is a formyl group or hydroxymethyl group, A is a group of the formula (Ia):



and n is 0 or an integer of 1 or more, with the proviso that when X is a hydroxymethyl group, n is 0, or when n is an integer of 1 or more, each of R^1 and R^2 is a hydrogen atoms, and X is a formyl group, or a cyclic compound thereof, or a salt thereof is disclosed.