

CLAIMS

1. A carbonated beverage containing:
 - 900-988 mg/g water;
 - 5 • 3-60 mg/g ethanol;
 - 0.2-8 mg/g dissolved carbon dioxide;
 - 0-4 mg/g protein;
 - ethyl acetate in a concentration of 1-20 mg per gram of ethanol;
 - isoamyl acetate in a concentration of 0.1-5 mg per gram of ethanol;
 - 10 • C₃-C₅ alcohols in a concentration of 1.5-50 mg per gram of ethanol;
 wherein ethyl acetate and isoamyl acetate are present in a weight ratio that is within the range of 2:1 to 30:1.
2. Carbonated beverage according to claim 1, wherein combination of ethanol and water constitutes
 15 at least 95 wt.% of the beverage.
3. Carbonated beverage according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the beverage contains 0-4 mg/g of starch hydrolysis components selected from maltose, maltotriose, maltotetraose and combinations thereof.
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4. Carbonated beverage according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the carbonated beverage preferably contains 0-1 µg/g hop acids selected from α-acids, iso-α acids and combinations thereof
- 25 5. Carbonated beverage according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the beverage contains 0-3 mg/g protein.
6. Carbonated beverage according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the beverage contains acetaldehyde in a concentration of 0.1-5 mg per gram of ethanol.
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7. Carbonated beverage according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the beverage contains dimethyl sulphide in a concentration of 1-20 µg per gram of ethanol.
8. Carbonated beverage according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the beverage contains amyl alcohols in a concentration of 1-50 mg per gram of ethanol, said amyl alcohols
 35 being selected from 3-methylbutan-1-ol, 2-methylbutan-1-ol and combinations thereof.
9. Carbonated beverage according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the beverage contains isobutanol in a concentration of 0.2-5 mg per gram of ethanol.

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10. Carbonated beverage according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the beverage has a pH in the range of 3 to 7.
11. A process of producing a carbonated beverage according to any one of the preceding claims, said process comprising:
- providing a yeast fermented liquid comprising at least 1.5% (v/v) ethanol and volatile flavour components;
 - subjecting the yeast fermented liquid to a decarbonation step in which a gaseous component comprising carbon dioxide, ethanol and volatile flavour components is removed from the yeast fermented liquid;
 - contacting the gaseous component comprising carbon dioxide, ethanol and volatile flavour components with an aqueous liquid to transfer at least a part of the ethanol and the volatile flavour components from the gaseous component to the aqueous liquid, thereby producing scrubber water;
 - optionally diluting the scrubber water; and
 - carbonating the optionally diluted scrubber water.
12. Process according to claim 11, wherein the decarbonation step is carried out at a pressure of 20-400 mbar.
13. Process according to claim 11 or 12, wherein the yeast fermented beverage has a temperature in the range of 10-80°C when it is subjected to the decarbonation step.
14. Process according to any one of claims 11-13, wherein the yeast fermented beverage is beer or cider.
15. Use of scrubber water obtained by decarbonation of a yeast fermented beverage in the preparation of a beverage containing 0-4 mg/g of starch hydrolysis components selected from maltose, maltotriose, maltotetraose and combinations thereof, said preparation comprising combining the scrubber water with one or more components selected from carbon dioxide, sweetener, food acid, fruit juice, fruit juice concentrate, essential oil and combinations thereof, wherein the scrubber water contains:
- 890-990 mg/g water;
 - 5-100 mg/g ethanol;
 - 0-0.1 mg/g non-volatile components selected from monosaccharides, disaccharides, oligosaccharides, polysaccharides, amino acids, dipeptides, oligopeptides, polypeptides and combinations thereof;
 - ethyl acetate in a concentration of 1-20 mg per gram of ethanol;
 - isoamyl acetate in a concentration of 0.1-5 mg per gram of ethanol;
 - C₃-C₅ alcohols in a concentration of 1.5-50 mg per gram of ethanol;

wherein ethyl acetate and isoamyl acetate are present in a weight ratio that is within the range of 2:1 to 30:1.