METHODS, COMPOSITIONS AND USES RELATING THERETO.

The present invention relates to a method of treating a dyed 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 dyed keratinous material, especially hair. The method is especially useful for reducing, inhibiting or preventing the loss of colour from dyed materials, especially dyed hair.

Procedures for dyeing materials, especially hair and other keratinous materials, have been in existence for many years. However the dyed materials lose colour intensity and vibrancy after dyeing. One cause of this loss of colour is believed to be leaching of dye molecules from the materials when in contact with water or other solvents which can dissolve/solubilise the dyes and cause them to diffuse out of the material. This colour loss can thus occur during processes such as washing of the material (or shampooing in the case of hair) or during other processes where the material comes into contact with water or other solvents that can leach dyes from the material. The problem is greater in the case of small dye molecules as these are more mobile and can thus be leached from the material at a faster rate than larger dye molecules. As a result, repeated washing of materials can lead to colour loss over time. This can also cause a colour shift, for example whereby one or more dye compounds present in a mixture used to colour a material are leached from the material to a greater extent than the others during washing.

For textile materials and fabrics colour loss can occur during washing of the material, either in a hand washing process or in an automatic washing machine.

One effective means by which colour loss can be prevented or inhibited is by treatment with formaldehyde. However formaldehyde is a suspected carcinogen and thus its use in cosmetic compositions is strictly regulated and highly undesirable. There have been numerous attempts to provide alternative means for combatting colour loss from hair. However to date none of these have been completely satisfactory and there therefore exists a need to develop further improved strategies.

Summary of Invention

It is an aim of the present invention to provide means for reducing, inhibiting or preventing colour loss from dyed materials.

In one aspect of the disclosure, there is provided a method of combatting colour loss from a dyed material, the method comprising contacting the material with a composition

comprising an amine salt of a carboxylic acid wherein the carboxylic acid has 4 to 10 carbon atoms.

In another aspect of the disclosure, there is provided a hair care composition according to claim 5 comprising two or more amine salts of a carboxylic acid wherein the carboxylic acid has 4 to 10 carbon atoms.

In yet another aspect of the disclosure, there is provided a method of colouring hair, the method comprising a) contacting the hair with a colouring composition; and b) contacting the hair with a composition comprising an amine salt of a carboxylic acid wherein the carboxylic acid has 4 to 10 carbon atoms.

In a further aspect of the disclosure, there is provided the use of an amine salt of a carboxylic acid wherein the carboxylic acid has 4 to 10 carbon atoms 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 and an amine salt of a carboxylic acid wherein the carboxylic acid has 4 to 10 carbon atoms.

Detailed Description of the Invention

According to a first aspect of the present invention there is provided a method of combating colour loss from a dyed material, the method comprising contacting the material with a composition comprising an amine salt of a carboxylic acid wherein the carboxylic acid has 4 to 10 carbon atoms.