CLAIMS

1. A semipermeable membrane having at least a separating functional layer having amino groups, wherein azo compounds are retained in the separating functional layer, and the separating functional layer has a yellow index of 10 to 40.

2. The semipermeable membrane according to claim 1, wherein the amount of azo compounds retained in the separating functional layer is in the range of 0.05% by weight to 0.5% by weight.

3. The semipermeable membrane according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said semipermeable membrane is a semipermeable membrane provided on its base material with a separating functional layer, and the azo compounds are retained in parts excluding the base material in the semipermeable membrane in an amount in the range of 0.05% by weight to 0.5% by weight.

4. The semipermeable membrane according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein said semipermeable membrane is a composite semipermeable membrane in which the separating functional layer is provided on a porous support membrane formed by casting a resin on the base material, and the azo compounds are retained in parts excluding the base material in the semipermeable membrane in an amount in the range of 0.05% by weight to 0.5% by weight.

5. The semipermeable membrane according to any one of claims 1 to 4, which is a composite semipermeable membrane comprising a porous support membrane on which a separating functional polyamide layer resulting from polycondensation reaction of polyfunctional aromatic amines with polyfunctional acid halides is formed, wherein the ratio of the number of azo groups to the number of benzene rings in the separating functional polyamide layer is in the range of 0.01 to 0.1, and the content of azo compounds in parts excluding the base material in the composite semipermeable membrane is less than 0.05% by weight.

~~6. The semipermeable membrane according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein~~

~~said separating functional layer is made of at least one material selected from polyacrylonitrile, cellulose acetate, sulfonated polysulfone, and carboxylated polysulfone.~~

~~7. A method of producing the semipermeable membrane having at least a separating functional layer, the method comprising the steps of:~~

~~forming a semipermeable membrane having a m-phenylenediamine solute permeability coefficient in the range of 5.0 × 10-7 to 1.0 × 10-7 cm/sec;~~

~~retaining the amines in the separating functional layer of the semipermeable membrane in an amount in the range of 0.5% by weight to 2.0% by weight; and then contacting the semipermeable membrane with a solution containing a compound that reacts with primary aromatic amino groups and forms a diazonium salt or derivatives thereof, a modification process A.~~

~~8. A method of producing a composite semipermeable membrane comprising a porous support membrane on which a separating functional polyamide layer resulting from polycondensation reaction of polyfunctional aromatic amines with polyfunctional acid halides is formed, the method comprising the steps of:~~

~~retaining the amines in the separating functional layer of the semipermeable membrane in an amount in the range up to 2.0% by weight:~~

~~contacting the semipermeable membrane with a solution containing a compound that reacts with primary aromatic amino groups and forms a diazonium salt or derivatives thereof, the modification process A; and then~~

~~contacting the semipermeable membrane with a solution containing a compound that reacts with the diazonium salt and induces a diazo coupling reaction, a modification process B, and contacting the semipermeable membrane with a solution containing a reducing agent, a modification process C.~~