15. *Bifidobacterium bifidum* OLB6378 strain (accession number: NITE BP-31) which has been heat treated.

16. An agent for use as a medicament, wherein the agent comprises a bifidobacterium.

17. Use of an agent in the manufacture of a medicament for preventing or treating periodontal disease, wherein the agent comprises a bifidobacterium.

18. An anticariogenic agent for use as a medicament, wherein the agent comprises a bifidobacterium.

19. Use of an anticariogenic agent in the manufacture of a medicament for preventing or treating periodontal disease, wherein the agent comprises a bifidobacterium.

20. Use of an agent in the manufacture of a medicament for preventing or treating periodontal disease, wherein the agent comprises *Bifidobacterium bifidum* OLB6378 strain (accession number: NITE BP-31)), or *Bifidobacterium longum* No. 7 strain (accession number: FERM BP-11242).

21. Use of an agent in the manufacture of an anticariogenic agent, wherein the agent comprises *Bifidobacterium bifidum* OLB6378 strain (accession number: NITE BP-31), or *Bifidobacterium longum* No. 7 strain (accession number: FERM BP-11242).

[Advantage of the Invention]

[0013]

In the invention, it was found that a bifidobacterium has anticariogenic effect, and thus it has become possible to provide a novel anticariogenic agent or anticariogenic composition containing a bifidobacterium and without side effects.

[0014]

Also, because it was found that a bifidobacterium has an effect of preventing or treating periodontal disease, it has become possible to provide a novel agent for preventing periodontal disease or for treating periodontal disease containing a bifidobacterium and without side effects or a novel composition for preventing periodontal disease or for treating periodontal disease containing a bifidobacterium and without side effects.

[Mode for Carrying Out the Invention]

[0015]

The invention is explained in detail below.

The invention relates to an anticariogenic agent or an anticariogenic composition containing a bifidobacterium.

The invention also relates to an agent for preventing periodontal disease or for treating periodontal disease containing a bifidobacterium or a composition for preventing periodontal disease or for treating periodontal disease containing a bifidobacterium.

[Designation of Document] Claims

[Claim 1]

Use of an agent in the manufacture of a medicament for preventing or treating periodontal disease, wherein the agent comprises *Bifidobacterium bifidum* OLB6378 strain (accession number: NITE BP-31), or *Bifidobacterium longum* No. 7 strain (accession number: FERM BP-11242).

[Claim 2]

The use according to claim 1, wherein the bifidobacterium is to be applied in an amount of 10^8 cells/day or more continuously for four weeks or longer.

[Claim 3]

The use according to claim 1, wherein the bifidobacterium is in the form of heat-treated cell.

[Claim 4]

The use according to claim 1, wherein the agent further comprises a dispersant.

[Claim 5]

The use according to claim 4, wherein the dispersant is dextrin.

[Claim 6]

Use of an agent in the manufacture of an anticariogenic agent, wherein the agent comprises *Bifidobacterium bifidum* OLB6378 strain (accession number: NITE BP-31), or *Bifidobacterium longum* No. 7 strain (accession number: FERM BP-11242).

[Claim 7]

The use according to claim 6, wherein the bifidobacterium is applied in an amount of 10^8 cells/day or more continuously for four weeks or longer.

[Claim 8]

The use according to claim 7, wherein the bifidobacterium is in the form of heat-treated cell.

[Claim 9]

The use according to claim 8, wherein the agent further comprises a dispersant.

[Claim 10]

The use according to claim 9, wherein the dispersant is dextrin.