CLAIMS

1. A water-absorbent resin obtained by performing reversed phase suspension polymerization of at least one water-soluble ethylenically unsaturated monomer using a radical polymerization initiator in a hydrocarbon dispersion medium, wherein the water-absorbent resin has the following characteristics (1) to (3):

(1) the water-retention capacity of physiological saline thereof is 38 g/g or more,

(2) the water-absorption capacity of physiological saline under a load of 4.14 kPa thereof is 15 ml/g or more, and

(3) the tanδ of a 50-fold swollen gel thereof is 2.10×10^{-2} or more,

wherein the water-soluble ethylenically unsaturated monomer is at least one selected from the group consisting of (meth)acrylic acid and salts thereof, (meth)acrylamide, and N,N-dimethylacrylamide,

wherein the water-absorbent resin is crosslinked with an internal-crosslinking agent and a post-crosslinking agent.

~~2. The water-absorbent resin according to claim 1, wherein the water-soluble ethylenically unsaturated monomer is at least one selected from the group consisting of (meth)acrylic acid and salts thereof, (meth)acrylamide, and N,N-dimethylacrylamide.~~

~~3. The water-absorbent resin according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the water-absorbent resin is crosslinked with an internal-crosslinking agent and a post-crosslinking agent.~~

42. The water-absorbent resin according to claim ~~3~~1, wherein the amount of the internal-crosslinking agent to be used is ~~0.000015 to 0.000200~~0.000030 to 0.000080 mol

per mol of the water-soluble ethylenically unsaturated monomer subjected to the polymerization and the amount of the post-crosslinking agent to be used is ~~0.00025 to 0.00100~~0.00044 to 0.00076 mol per mol of the water-soluble ethylenically unsaturated monomer subjected to the polymerization.

~~5~~3. The water-absorbent resin according to claim ~~3~~1 or 42, wherein the internal-crosslinking agent and the post-crosslinking agent are polyglycidyl compounds.

~~6~~4. An absorbent material comprising the water-absorbent resin according to any one of claims 1 to ~~5~~3 and hydrophilic fibers.

~~7~~5. An absorbent article wherein the absorbent material according to claim ~~6~~4 is held between a liquid-permeable sheet and a liquid-impermeable sheet.

~~8~~6. A method for producing a water-absorbent resin, wherein the water-absorbent resin has the following characteristics (1) to (3):

(1) the water-retention capacity of physiological saline thereof is 38 g/g or more,

(2) the water-absorption capacity of physiological saline under a load of 4.14 kPa thereof is 15 ml/g or more, and

(3) the tanδ of a 50-fold swollen gel thereof is 2.10×10^{-2} or more, and

wherein the method comprises a first step and a second step each defined below:

the first step of performing reversed phase suspension polymerization of a water-soluble ethylenically unsaturated monomer in the presence of a radical polymerization initiator and an internal-crosslinking agent in a hydrocarbon dispersion medium; and

the second step of crosslinking suspension polymerized particles obtained in the first

step with a post-crosslinking agent,

wherein the amount of the internal-crosslinking agent to be used in the first step is 0.000030 to 0.000080 mol per mol of the water-soluble ethylenically unsaturated monomer subjected to the polymerization and the amount of the post-crosslinking agent used in the second step is 0.00044 to 0.00076 mol per mol of the water-soluble ethylenically unsaturated monomer subjected to the polymerization,

wherein the water-soluble ethylenically unsaturated monomer is at least one selected from the group consisting of (meth)acrylic acid and salts thereof, (meth)acrylamide, and N,N-dimethylacrylamide.

~~9. The method for producing a water-absorbent resin according to claim 8, wherein the water-soluble ethylenically unsaturated monomer is at least one selected from the group consisting of (meth)acrylic acid and salts thereof, (meth)acrylamide, and N,N-dimethylacrylamide.~~

~~10~~7. The method for producing a water-absorbent resin according to claim ~~8 or 9~~6, wherein the internal-crosslinking agent and the post-crosslinking agent are polyglycidyl compounds.