

AGENT FOR DECREASING FLUIDITY OF SOLID-LIQUID MIXTURE, AND
METHOD FOR PRODUCING LOW-FLUIDITY MIXTURE

ABSTRACT

Provided are an agent for decreasing the fluidity of a solid-liquid mixture and a method, whereby it becomes possible to decrease the fluidity of a solid-liquid mixture within a short time and by a simple operation while preventing the increase in the volume of the solid-liquid mixture, regardless of the chemical composition of the solid-liquid mixture. The agent for decreasing the fluidity of a solid-liquid mixture according to the present invention is a granular material having a structure formed by entangled fibers. In one embodiment of the agent for decreasing the fluidity, the granular material has an average particle diameter of 300 μm or less and a specific surface area of 0.25 to 100 m^2/g inclusive as measured by a BET method. In another embodiment of the agent for decreasing the fluidity, the granular material has a porosity of 50% or more as calculated in accordance with the formula: $(1 - (\text{bulk density})/(\text{true density})) \times 100$ and a specific surface area of 0.25 to 100 m^2/g inclusive as measured by a BET method. It is preferred that each of the fibers contains a hydrophilic polymer. The hydrophilic polymer is preferably cellulose. The solid-liquid mixture is preferably mud.

[FIG.1]