

PROCESS FOR PREPARING ESTERS OF LACTIC ACID, AND 2-HYDROXY-
3-BUTENOIC ACID OR ALFA-HYDROXY METHIONINE ANALOGUES FROM
SUGARS

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Abstract

A continuous flow process for the preparation of one or
more esters of lactic acid and 2-hydroxy-3-butenic acid or
 α -hydroxy methionine analogues from a sugar in the presence
10 of a solid Lewis acid catalyst and a solvent comprising an
organic solvent and water. The invention provides a means
for stabilizing a Lewis acid catalyst for use in a continu-
ous reaction process wherein the water is present in an
amount of up to or equal to 10 vol. % of the organic sol-
15 vent.

[Fig. 1]