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(54) Title: METHOD OF PRODUCING EXPANDED TOBACCO STEMS

(57) Abstract: A method of producing expanded tobacco stems for tobacco cut filler comprises the steps of: providing rolled tobacco stems having a rolled thickness of 0.1 to 0.5 mm; conditioning the rolled stems to increase the moisture content; cutting the conditioned tobacco stems; impregnating the cut tobacco stems with liquid carbon dioxide; heating the impregnated stems to bring about expansion; and re-conditioning the stems after heating to increase the moisture content. The rolled tobacco stems may be combined with tobacco lamina prior to the treatment steps.



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