CLAIMS

[Claim 1]

A method for producing a saccharified mash comprising drawing out a part of a mash to be saccharified into a tank, heating the part, and returning the part and mixing with the remainder part, characterized in that the method comprises heating the drawn-out mash to be saccharified in a copper tube.

[Claim 2]

The method according to claim 1, wherein the heating in the copper tube comprises heating the copper tube by a steam at an absolute pressure of from 0.12 to 0.20 MPa.

[Claim 3]

The method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein a ratio of an inner surface area (m^2) of the copper tube to a volume (m^3) of the mash to be saccharified which is drawn out into the tank (inner surface area / volume) is from 1.5 to 10.0.

[Claim 4]

An apparatus for producing a saccharified mash characterized in that the apparatus comprises a mash tun for housing a mash to be saccharified in a manner capable of holding temperature, and a tank capable of receiving a part of the mash to be saccharified from the mash tun and returning a heat-treated mash to the mash tun, wherein the tank comprises an external circulation pipe comprising a copper tube, wherein heating of the mash is enabled within the copper tube.