

ABSTRACT

There is provided a method for the treatment of wood particles for use in the production of alcoholic beverages, comprising the steps of: (a) washing the wood particles with water under agitation at a temperature of at least 60 °C; wherein the wood particles may optionally already be toasted; (b) removing the water from the wood particles; (c) thermally drying the wood particles; (d) toasting the wood particles to obtain wood particles according to the invention; (e) optionally, incubating the wood particles according to the invention with an aroma-bearing liquid, the subsequent removal of any overlying aroma-bearing liquid, and, optionally, the subsequent drying the wood particles according to the invention to obtain aromatised wood particles according to the invention.