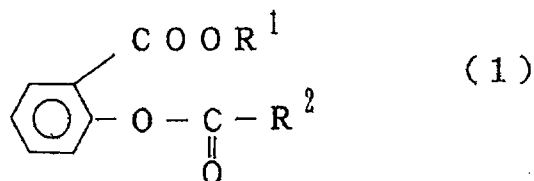


ABSTRACT

The present invention provides a salicylic acid ester derivative having an impurity content lower than a specific level and expressed by
 5 the following formula (1)



(in the formula, R^1 is methyl group or ethyl group, R^2 , which may be substituted optionally, is an alkyl group having a carbon number of from 1 to 30, alkoxy group having a carbon number of from 1 to 30, aryl group
 10 having a carbon number of from 6 to 30, aryloxy group having a carbon number of from 6 to 30, aralkyl group having a carbon number of from 6 to 30 or aralkyloxy group having a carbon number of from 6 to 30). The salicylic acid ester derivative is effective as a terminal blocking agent or a polymerization promoting agent for a polycarbonate, and gives a
 15 polycarbonate having good color tone and suitable for optical material use.