

Continuous preparation of 5-formylvaleric esters in pure form

Abstract

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5-Formylvaleric esters are prepared in a yield of not less than 90% by distillation of a formylvaleric ester mixture of 5-formylvaleric ester and either 3- or 4-formylvaleric ester or a mixture of 3- and 4-formylvaleric esters, where the ester

10 radicals of the respective formylvaleric esters are identical, wherein the 3- or 4-formylvaleric ester or a mixture thereof is separated from the 5-formylvaleric ester in a distillation column at a pressure in the range from 2 to 100 mbar and a temperature of not above 150°C (measured as the temperature at the bottom of

15 the column) and the esters used are the corresponding methyl or ethyl esters, where the purity of the 5-formylvaleric ester is not less than 98% and, as impurity, 4-formylvaleric ester is present in an amount of not more than 100 ppm.

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