

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
26 December 2024 (26.12.2024)



(10) International Publication Number
WO 2024/261275 A1

(51) International Patent Classification:
C08B 37/00 (2006.01) *C08L 5/08* (2006.01)
C08B 37/08 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/EP2024/067494

(22) International Filing Date:
21 June 2024 (21.06.2024)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
23181234.8 23 June 2023 (23.06.2023) EP

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(81) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM,
AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ,
CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CV, CZ, DE, DJ, DK, DM,
DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT,
HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IQ, IR, IS, IT, JM, JO, JP, KE, KG,
KH, KN, KP, KR, KW, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LU, LY,
MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MU, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA,
NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO,
RS, RU, RW, SA, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, ST, SV, SY, TH,
TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, WS,
ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, CV,
GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SC, SD, SL, ST,
SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ,
RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ,
DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT,
LU, LV, MC, ME, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE,
SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN,
GQ, GW, KM, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:
— with international search report (Art. 21(3))

(54) Title: METHOD FOR TREATING A CHITIN CONTAINING MATERIAL

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a method for treating a chitin containing material comprising (i) milling the chitin containing material, (ii) contacting the milled chitin containing material from step (i) with a mixture comprising an aqueous solution of an organic acid, and (iii) contacting the chitin containing material with an alkaline solution comprising water:glycerol in a ratio of 0-100:1-50 (v/v) and potassium hydroxide at a concentration of from 0.2M to 5M; thereby treating the chitin containing material. The invention also relates to a chitin preparation, a calcium salt of an organic acid, a protein product, or an astaxanthin produced or producible from chitin containing material according to the inventive method and to the use of the produced or producible chitin preparation in manufacture of a natural or synthetic polymer, in agriculture, in packaging, in construction, or in environmental protection, as an ingredient in the production of a medicament, a food, or a cosmetics, and/or as a solidified enzyme carrier.



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