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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US98/20353 (22) International Filing Date: 29 September 1998 (29.09.98) (30) Priority Data: 08/951,607 16 October 1997 (16.10.97) US (71) Applicant: CELANESE INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION [US/US]; 1601 West LBJ Freeway, Dallas, TX 75234 (US). (72) Inventors: SUPPLEE, Carolyn; 4901 Saratoga #628, Corpus Christi, TX 78413 (US). LAUREL, Rodolfo, W.; 4914 Lavaca Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78411 (US). SEAMAN, George, C.; 3145 Vicksburg, Corpus Christi, TX 78410 (US). (74) Agents: SPIERING, M., Susan et al.; Celanese Ltd., 1901 Clarkwood Road, Corpus Christi, TX 78409 (US).		(81) Designated States: BR, CA, CN, JP, KR, SG, European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). Published <i>With international search report.</i>
(54) Title: PROCESS IMPROVEMENT TO PRODUCE LOW COLOR TRIMETHYLOLPROPANE (57) Abstract Disclosed is a process for acquiring crude trimethylolpropane (TMP) of low reacted color. TMP is generally prepared by the condensation of n-butyraldehyde and formaldehyde in an alkali solution. The mixture is then concentrated and placed through an extractor. It has been found that a high concentration of low color TMP is present in the extractor and may be obtained by taking a slip stream of hot organic/water/TMP from the extractor and allowing the mixture to cool and phase separate. Upon separation of the phases, TMP generally having an acid wash color of about or less than 5 GU is recovered from the water phase. Disclosed is use of a single and multistage extractor.		