

Summaries of UK Patent Applications

Merozoite Surface Antigen of *Plasmodium Falciparum*. GB 2200 641A. Filed 17 July 1987, published 10 August 1988. Applicant — Sarame Pty Ltd, Victoria, Australia.

A merozoite surface antigen of *Plasmodium falciparum* is disclosed along with its specific monoclonal antibodies. The antigen is a glycoprotein incorporating myristic acid.

Hydrogel Dressing Preparation using Irradiation. GB 2200 643A. Filed 29 December 1987, published 10 August 1988. Applicant — Politechnika Lodzka.

Dressings are prepared by irradiating a moulded mixture of synthetic polymers, e.g. polyacrylamide or polyvinylpyrrolidone and natural gelling polymers, e.g. agar or gelatin with optionally a plasticising agent. The product will contain not less than 75% of water and not more than 5% of the natural polymer.

Resin Emulsion for Treatment of Cellulose Filaments After Spinning. GB 2200 648A. Filed 12 January 1988, published 10 August 1988. Applicant — Sung-In Lee, Incheon, Korea.

Cellulose filaments with reduced shrinkage and lower swelling characteristics are prepared by treating with an emulsion after spinning but before drying. The emulsion comprises cone oil, a surface active agent, urea resin, a resinification catalyzer and water.

Preparation of Pectin. GB 2201 684A. Filed 25 February 1988, published 7 September 1988. Applicant — Takuo Sakai, Osaka, Japan.

The preparation of pectin by treating a range of plant tissues with a range of microorganisms belonging to the genus *Bacillus* is described. It is claimed that good extraction can be obtained without pectin degradation. Various methods for characterising the extracted pectin are used.

Liquid Enzyme Formulation. GB 2201 960A. Filed 12 February 1988, published 14 September 1988. Applicant — Rohm GmbH, Darmstadt, West Germany.

A liquid enzyme formulation is described comprising at least one anhydrous organic solvent and dispersed inorganic particles, e.g. fumed silica. Applications include removal of pectin from apple juice.

Compounding Procedure for Blending Cellulose Esters with Citrate Plasticizers. GB 2202 854A. Filed 6 January 1988, published 5 October 1988. Applicant — Alza Corporation, California, USA.

A process for the manufacture of a thermoplastic composition where the composition comprises cellulose acetate butyrate and/or cellulose acetate and tributyl citrate and/or triethyl citrate is described. The composition is used as a wall material for drug delivery systems.

Novel Starch and Products Produced Therefrom. GB 2203 160A. Filed 29 March 1988, published 12 October 1988. Applicants — American Maize-Products Company, Connecticut, USA.

A starch extracted from a starch bearing plant having a dull waxy genotype is described. Maize is the preferred plant. It is claimed that the starch has properties similar to chemically modified starches. Foodstuffs containing the material are described. High gel strengths comparable to those given by high amylose starches can be obtained without the need for high cooking temperatures.

Composites of Cellulose Based Fibres in Polyethylene Characterized by a Silane Bonding Agent. GB 2203 743A. Filed 3 June 1987, published 26 October 1988. Applicants — Bohuslav Kokta, Quebec, Canada.

Composites are described comprising cellulose fibres dispersed in a matrix of polyethylene and bonded thereto with a silane bonding agent optionally in the presence of an organic peroxide, a polyisocyanate or maleic anhydride, during subsequent extrusion and/or moulding.

Edible Matter and Method of Producing Same. GB 2203 928A. Filed 22 October 1986, published 2 November 1988. Applicants — Asahi Kasei Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha, Osaka, Japan.

This long patent describes structured foods based on a matrix of cellulose, regenerated from an alkali metal hydroxide, having a crystal type cellulose II. Dispersed in this matrix can be proteins and/or edible polysaccharides. The product can be prepared by extruding into a coagulating bath or casting into a sheet.

Flocculating Alumina Based Red Mud. GB 2204 051A. Filed 11 November 1987, published 2 November 1988. Applicant — Suncor Inc, Ontario, Canada.

Modified starch compositions for flocculating mineral waste residue particularly the red mud containing alumina liquors from bauxite residues, comprise a methylated starch which optionally, may be hydrolysed, or a methylated starch which is also sulfonated, and optionally, may be hydrolyzed. Preferably the methylated starch compositions are potato and dasheen starch derivatives prepared at temperatures of about 50°C to above 80°C.

Fibre-reinforced Elastomeric Sheet Material. GB 2204 266A. Filed 1 May 1987, published 9 November 1988. Applicant — TBA Industrial Products Ltd, Manchester, England.

Cellulose in the form of wood pulp which has been hammer milled is used to reinforce elastomeric sheet material.