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GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: PROCESS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF SCLEROGLUCAN

(57) Abstract: A process is described for the production of scleroglucan by culturing the fungus *Sclerotium rolfsii* ATCC 15205 using a suitable culture medium under microaerobic conditions, wherein the culturing is carried out continuously.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Intern application No

PCT/EP 02/08768

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 C12P19/04 C12N1/02 C12N1/04 C12N3/00
 //(C12P19/04, C12R1:645)

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C12P C12N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	SCHILLING B M ET AL: "REPRESSION OF OXALIC ACID BIOSYNTHESIS IN THE UNSTERILE SCLEROTIUM PRODUCTION PROCESS WITH SCLEROTIUM ROLFSSII ATCC 15205" BIOPROCESS ENGINEERING, SPRINGER VERLAG, DE, vol. 22, no. 1, January 2000 (2000-01), pages 51-55, XP001026952 ISSN: 0178-515X page 51 -page 53 --- -/--	1-17



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

14 January 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

12. 05. 03

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	SCHILLING B M: "SCLEROTIUM ROLFSSII ATCC 15205 IN CONTINUOUS CULTURE: ECONOMICAL ASPECTS OF SCLEROGLUCAN PRODUCTION" BIOPROCESS ENGINEERING, SPRINGER VERLAG, DE, vol. 22, no. 1, January 2000 (2000-01), pages 57-61, XP001026953 ISSN: 0178-515X page 57 -page 58 ----	1-17
X	YOSHIDA A ET AL: "A STUDY ON SURFACE DURABILITY OF INDUCTION-HARDENED SINTERED POWDER METAL ROLLERS (INFLUENCES OF POWDERS TYPE, SIGN OF SPECIFIC SLIDING AND RELATIVE RADIUS OF CURVATURE)" JSME INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL. SERIES 3, VIBRATION, CONTROL ENGINEERING, ENGINEERING FOR INDUSTRY, SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS, TOKYO, JP, vol. 34, no. 3, September 1991 (1991-09), pages 419-426, XP001026911 ISSN: 0914-8825 page 419 -page 423 ----	1-17
X	EP 0 347 236 A (THE STANDARD OIL COMPANY) 20 December 1989 (1989-12-20) the whole document ----	1-17
X	DATABASE BIOSIS 'Online! BIOSCIENCES INFORMATION SERVICE, PHILADELPHIA, PA, US2000 RAU U ET AL: "Production, downstream processing and characteristics of fungal beta-glucans (Schizophyllan, Scleroglucan)." Database accession no. PREV200100093721 XP002227192 abstract & MEDEDELINGEN FACULTEIT LANDBOUWKUNDIGE EN TOEGEPASTE BIOLOGISCHE, vol. 65, no. 3A, 2000, pages 181-186, 2000 ----	1-17
X	DE 36 27 743 A (BAYER AG) 18 February 1988 (1988-02-18) the whole document ----	12-17
A	EP 0 891 768 A (CIBA SPECIALTY CHEMICALS HOLDING INC.) 20 January 1999 (1999-01-20) cited in the application the whole document -----	1-17

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

In application No.
EP 02/08768

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:

3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.

2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

1-17

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

1. Claims: 1-17

Process for the production of scleroglucan by culturing the fungus *Sclerotium rolfsii* ATCC 15205 using specific culturing conditions.

2. Claims: 18,19

Process for the separation of an unspecified fungus mycelium from a culture suspension.

3. Claim : 20

Process for the production of an inoculum of *Sclerotium rolfsii*.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

Inter

Application No

PCT/EP 02/08768

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0347236 A	20-12-1989	AU 608713 B AU 3603089 A JP 2142487 A NO 892493 A NZ 229497 A US 4954440 A	11-04-1991 21-12-1989 31-05-1990 18-12-1989 25-06-1991 04-09-1990
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