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(54) Title: A METHOD FOR IDENTIFYING MICROORGANISMS, AND AIDS USEFUL THEREOF

(57) Abstract

Identification of a microorganism, in particular a bacterium, present in a sample. Nucleic acid (DNA or RNA) of the microorganism present in the sample is subjected to PCR or a different nucleic acid amplification method, utilizing one or more sets of universal primers based on a gene of the microorganism to be identified which comprises both conserved and variable regions, in particular the 16S rRNA gene, the primers being chosen in conserved areas which enclose a variable region. The product of the amplification is brought into single-stranded form, if necessary, and subjected to electrophoresis by which single-stranted nucleic acids of equal lengths can be separated from each other on the basis of differences in nucleotide sequence. The electrophoresed nucleic acid is detected and its position compared with those of a set of reference nucleic acids of known microorganisms. Set of suitable aids for practicing the method.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Interna' I Application No
PCT/NL 94/00283

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 6 C12Q1/68

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 6 C12Q

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.
Y	WO,A,93 05179 (THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA) 18 March 1993 zie het gehele dokument ---	1-29
Y	CURRENT MICROBIOL., vol. 27,no. 3, September 1993 SPRINGER INTERNATIONAL, NEW YORK, US, pages 147-151, G. VAN CAMP ET AL. 'Amplification and sequencing of variable regions in bacterial 23S ribosomal RNA genes with conserved primer sequences' cited in the application se primer 11a and 23ar see page 148, left column, paragraph 5 - page 150, right column, paragraph 1; table 1 --- -/--	1-29

[X] Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

[X] Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
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Name and mailing address of the ISA	Authorized officer
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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.
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Y	NUCL. ACIDS RES., vol. 20, IRL PRESS, OXFORD, ENGLAND;, page 871 G. SARKAR ET AL. 'Screening for mutations by RNA single-strand conformation polymorphism (rSSCP): comparison with DNA-SSCP' cited in the application zie het gehele dokument ---	1-29
A	WO,A,90 15157 (GENE-TRAK SYSTEMS) 13 December 1990 see page 7, line 9 - line 32 see page 27, paragraph 3; table 1 see claims 1-3,20 ---	1-29
A	WO,A,90 01560 (EVANS, D.J. AND LAMB, F.I.) 22 February 1990 see page 3, line 4 - line 14 see page 3, line 15 - page 4, line 16 see claims 1,16 ---	1-29
A	EP,A,0 479 117 (F. HOFFMANN-LA-ROCHE AG) 8 April 1992 see page 6, line 43 - line 49; claims 1-14; figures 1,4 ---	1-29
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

Internat l Application No
PCT/NL 94/00283

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
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