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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR MAKING MONOMENTHYL ESTERS

(57) Abstract: A process for making monomenthyl esters of dicarboxylic acids is disclosed. Menthol reacts with a saturated, cyclic anhydride in the presence of a base catalyst / selected from the group consisting of alkali metal or alkaline earth metal salts, oxides, hydroxides, and mixtures thereof, under conditions effective to produce a mixture of mono- and bis-menthyl esters in which the molar ratio of mono- to bis-menthyl esters is enhanced compared with the ratio of esters produced in a similar uncatalyzed process.



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