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(54) Title: MILK-BASED SOLID SWEETENING COMPOSITION

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a solid sweetening composition comprising one or more intensive sweeteners and powdered milk wherein the powdered milk is present in a percentage by weight equal to or above than 30% with respect to the final composition and wherein the powdered milk has a powder particle size equal to and less than 0.7mm. These intensive sweeteners may be selected from the group consisting of sucralose, aspartame, acesulfame K, sodium saccharinate, cyclamate, taumatococcus, stevia, neohesperidine, alitame and the salt of acesulfame K and aspartame. The sweetening composition is preferably a table sweetener in the form of powder or tablets.



WO 2006/097947 A3

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/IT2005/000139

<b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b>				
INV. A23C9/00 A23L1/236				
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC				
<b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b>				
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) A23C A23L				
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) EPO-Internal, PAJ, FSTA, WPI Data, EMBASE				
<b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>				
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.		
X	EP 1 210 880 A (SAN-EI GEN F.F.I., INC) 5 June 2002 (2002-06-05)	1		
Y	paragraphs [0403] - [0406]; claim 1	2		
X	WO 99/30578 A (THE NUTRASWEET COMPANY) 24 June 1999 (1999-06-24)	1		
Y	page 2, line 10; claims 5,8	2		
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. <span style="margin-left: 100px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in annex.</span>				
° Special categories of cited documents : <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none; vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</li> <li>*E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</li> <li>*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)</li> <li>*O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</li> <li>*P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</li> </ul> </td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none; vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*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</li> <li>*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</li> <li>*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.</li> <li>* &amp; * document member of the same patent family</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </table>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</li> <li>*E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</li> <li>*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)</li> <li>*O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</li> <li>*P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*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</li> <li>*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</li> <li>*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.</li> <li>* &amp; * document member of the same patent family</li> </ul>
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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/IT2005/000139

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 2000, no. 08, 6 October 2000 (2000-10-06) -& JP 2000 135055 A (SANEI GEN FFI INC), 16 May 2000 (2000-05-16)	1
Y	[ From electronic translation of JP: par.[0008] The product with which this invention processes it into the target (...) for example (...) powdered milk (...) as the main materials can be mentioned.] abstract	2
X	DE 200 17 502 U1 (J. HART BEHEER B.V., KOOG AAN DE ZAAN) 1 March 2001 (2001-03-01) claims 1,5	1
X	GB 2 095 531 A (PSILLOS ARIADNI) 6 October 1982 (1982-10-06)	1
Y	the whole document	2
Y	DATABASE FSTA [Online] INTERNATIONAL FOOD INFORMATION SERVICE (IFIS), FRANKFURT-MAIN, DE; 2004, KEOGH K ET AL: "Effect of the particle size of spray-dried milk powder on some properties of chocolate." XP002353772 Database accession no. 2004-00-k0404 abstract	2
Y	US 3 072 486 A (OAKES EARLE THOMAS ET AL) 8 January 1963 (1963-01-08) claim 3; example 1	2

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/IT2005/000139

## Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 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 III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

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

see additional sheet

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.:

see annex

### 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**

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1,2

solid sweetening composition according to claim 1, characterised in that the powdered milk has a particle size of between 0.2 and 0.6 mm.

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2. claim: 3

solid sweetening composition according to claim 2, characterised in that said composition comprises one or more of the intensive sweeteners in a percentage by weight within the range 0.5 to 35% with respect to the total weight of the final composition

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3. claim: 4 (partially) or 5 or 6

sweetening composition according to claim 1 or 2 or 3, characterised in that one of the intense sweeteners is sucralose

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4. claim: 4 (partially) or 5

sweetening composition according to claim 1 or 2 or 3, characterised in that one of the intense sweeteners is aspartame.

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5. claim: 4 (partially) or 5

sweetening composition according to claim 1 or 2 or 3, characterised in that one of the intense sweeteners is acesulfame K.

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6. claim: 4 (partially)

sweetening composition according to claim 1 or 2 or 3, characterised in that one of the intense sweeteners is sodium saccharinate.

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7. claim: 4 (partially)

sweetening composition according to claim 1 or 2 or 3, characterised in that one of the intense sweeteners is cyclamate

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8. claim: 4 (partially)

## FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

sweetening composition according to claim 1 or 2 or 3,  
characterised in that one of the intense sweeteners is  
taumatin

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## 9. claim: 4 (partially)

sweetening composition according to claim 1 or 2 or 3,  
characterised in that one of the intense sweeteners is  
stevia.

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## 10. claim: 4 (partially)

sweetening composition according to claim 1 or 2 or 3,  
characterised in that one of the intense sweeteners is  
neohesperidine.

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## 11. claim: 4 (partially)

sweetening composition according to claim 1 or 2 or 3,  
characterised in that one of the intense sweeteners is  
alitame

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## 12. claim: 4 (partially)

sweetening composition according to claim 1 or 2 or 3,  
characterised in that one of the intense sweeteners is salt  
of acesulfame K and aspartame.

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## 13. claim: 7 or 8

sweetening composition according to any of claims 1 to 6,  
characterised in that the sweetening composition comprises  
additives as defined in claim 7 or 8.

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## 14. claim: 9 or 10

sweetening composition according to any of claims 1 to 8,  
characterised in that the composition is a table sweetener  
in powder form as defined in claims 9 or 10.

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## 15. claims: 11-14

a table sweetening tablet comprising a composition according  
to any of claims 1 to 8 and suitable excipients,  
characterised as defined in claims 11 to 14.

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