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(54) Titre : OLIGO-ELEMENTS
(54) Title: TRACE ELEMENTS

(57) **Abrégé/Abstract:**

The invention discloses a method of preparing a trace element solution, which includes the steps of providing at least one EDTA-complex; of providing a sodium selenite solution; and of combining the EDTA-complex(es) and the sodium selenite solution. The invention further discloses at least one EDTA complex prepared by using disodium EDTA or EDTA acid; selenium; and any other suitable material.



ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention discloses a method of preparing a trace element solution, which includes the steps of providing at least one EDTA-complex; of providing a sodium selenite solution; and of combining the EDTA-complex(es) and the sodium selenite solution. The invention further discloses at least one EDTA complex prepared by using disodium EDTA or EDTA acid; selenium; and any other suitable material.

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Trace elements.

FIELD OF INVENTION

The present invention relates to trace elements.

BACKGROUND TO INVENTION

5 It has been found that there is a deficiency of certain trace elements in pastures for livestock in particular areas in South Africa and also in other countries. Various suggestions have been made to provide the required trace elements to such animals. Different chemical compounds and complexes have been investigated for applying the trace elements by way of
10 licks, drenches or injections.

In general the problem with injectable solutions is that there are too low concentrations of the minerals in the solutions. This means that relatively large quantities have to be injected, which in turn cause tissue damage and also abscesses at the site of injection. Furthermore, it is generally the case
15 that different trace elements seldomly are individually sufficient. This means that two or more trace element solutions have to be provided by way of separate injections.

US 4,335,116 (Howard) discloses mineral-containing therapeutic compositions containing EDTA complexes of trace elements. Notably, US
20 4,335,116 utilises tetra-sodium EDTA, a selenium glycine complex, and metal chlorides for the preparation of the EDTA complexes. Unfortunately, the chloride ions cause contamination and each complex solution is to be made individually. Furthermore, overnight time is required for complexing and heating up afterward to speed up the process
25 requires extra apparatus. If mixtures are required, the individual solutions are to be blended. If various concentrations as well as compositions are to

be made, it can only be done in a cumbersome way, requiring extra apparatus. A further problem may arise when mixtures of high concentration are needed. In certain cases it would be impossible to deliver them, because mixing is always accompanied by dilution.

- 5 It is an object of the invention to suggest methods and means for overcoming these problems.

In the specification and claims the expression EDTA refers to ethylene diaminotetraacetic acid ($C_{10}H_{16}O_8N_2$ or $(HO_2CH_2C)_2NCH_2CH_2N-(CH_2CO_2H)_2$).

10 SUMMARY OF INVENTION

According to the invention, a method of preparing a trace element solution is characterized thereby that it includes the steps

- (a) of providing at least one EDTA-complex;
- (b) of providing a sodium selenite solution; and
- 15 (c) of combining the EDTA-complex(es) and the sodium selenite solution.

If more than one EDTA-complex is used, these EDTA-complexes may be prepared in a single continuous process.

The EDTA-complex(es) may be prepared by using disodium EDTA or
20 EDTA acid.

The EDTA-complex(es) may be prepared by using metal oxides, metal hydroxides or metal carbonates.

The EDTA-complex(es) may include at least one of the metal compounds selected from the group consisting of copper, manganese, zinc, molybdenum and chromium.

A trace element solution as prepared by a method as set out herein.

5 Also, according to the invention, a trace element solution is characterized thereby that it includes

- (a) at least one EDTA complex prepared by using disodium EDTA or EDTA acid;
- (b) selenium; and
- 10 (c) any other suitable mineral.

The solution may be an injectable solution.

The solution may be a drenchable solution.

Further according to the invention a stock lick is characterized thereby that it includes

- 15 (a) at least one EDTA complex prepared by using disodium EDTA or EDTA acid;
- (b) selenium; and
- (c) any other suitable mineral.

Also, according to the invention, a method of providing trace elements to
20 animals, such as livestock is characterized thereby that it includes the steps of preparing a trace element solution set out herein and of providing the solution in a suitable quantity to an animal.

DESCRIPTION OF EXAMPLES

The invention will now be described by way of example of injectable solutions in accordance with the invention.

EXAMPLE 1

5 **DI-SODIUM ZINC ETHYLENE DIAMINO TETRA ACETATE** **(C₁₀H₁₂O₈N₂ZnNa₂) IN WATER SOLUTION.**

EDTA is suspended in a quantity of distilled water at 50°C and is stirred continuously. In small proportions firstly sodium hydroxide (NaOH) and then zinc oxide (ZnO) are added in sequence. The pH of the clear solution
10 obtained is measured and brought to 7, if necessary, by either the addition of NaOH (if acid) or EDTA (if alkaline). More distilled water is added to bring the zinc concentration to a predetermined level, and the solution is subsequently filtered.

If 25,16g zinc oxide, 90,37g EDTA and 24,74g NaOH are used and the
15 total volume is 1 litre, the zinc concentration in the solution will be 20mg/ml.

EXAMPLE 2

DI-SODIUM MANGANESE ETHYLENE DIAMINO TETRA **ACETATE (C₁₀H₁₂O₈N₂MnNa₂) IN WATER SOLUTION**

20 The same method as under example 1 is used with the following variation:

Manganese carbonate (MnCO₃.xH₂O) is used in place of zinc oxide.

If 45,45g manganese carbonate, 106,39g EDTA and 29,12g NaOH are used, and the total volume is 1 litre, the manganese concentration will be 20mg/ml.

EXAMPLE 3**DI-SODIUM COPPER ETHYLENE DIAMINO TETRA ACETATE ($C_{10}H_{12}O_8N_2CuNa_2$) IN WATER SOLUTION**

The same method as under Example 1 is followed but with the following
5 variation:

Basic copper carbonate ($CuCO_3Cu(OH)_2 \cdot H_2O$) is used in place of the zinc oxide.

If 18,81g basic copper carbonate, 45,99g EDTA and 12,59g NaOH are used, and the total volume is 1 litre, then the copper concentration in the
10 solution will be 10mg/ml.

EXAMPLE 4**MONO-SODIUM CHROMIUM DIAMINO TETRA ACETATE ($C_{10}H_{12}O_8N_2CrNa$) IN WATER SOLUTION**

The same method as under Example 1 is followed, but with the following
15 variation:

Chromium tri-chloride hexahydrate ($CrCl_3 \cdot 6H_2O$) is used in the place of zinc oxide.

If 25,62g chromium tri-chloride hexahydrate, 31,59g EDTA and 15,38g sodium hydroxide are used and the total is 1 litre, the chromium
20 concentration in the solution will be 5mg/ml.

EXAMPLE 5**SODIUM SELENITE ($\text{Na}_2\text{SeO}_3 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$) SOLUTION IN WATER**

If 12,09g sodium selenite is used and the total volume is 1 litre, the selenium concentration in the solution will be 5mg/ml.

5 EXAMPLE 6**A MIXTURE OF THE COMPOUNDS OF EXAMPLES 1 TO 5**

The method is a combination of the above methods under Examples 1,2,3, 4 and 5 and takes place as follows:

1. The zinc preparation as per Example 1 is prepared.
- 10 2. To this added (in the same container) the chemicals as used for Example 2 for the preparation of the manganese compound.
3. Then the chemicals used as under Example 3 for the preparation of the copper compound are added.
4. At this stage the pH is brought to 7 as described under Example 1
15 above.
5. Subsequently the chemicals used as under Example 4 for the preparation of the chromium compound are added.
6. Lastly the chemicals used as under Example 5 are added.
7. Finally the total volume is adapted by the addition of distilled water.
- 20 8. Filtration takes place.

If 25,16g zinc oxide, 45,45g manganese carbonate, 18,81g basic copper carbonate, 25,62g chromium tri-chloride hexahydrate, 12,09g sodium

selenite, 274,34g EDTA and 81,83g NaOH are used, and if the total volume is 1 litre, then the zinc concentration will be 20mg/ml, the manganese concentration 20mg/ml, copper concentration 10mg/ml, the chromium concentration 5mg/ml and the selenium concentration 5mg/ml.

5 EXAMPLE 7

TETRA SODIUM MOLYBDENUM TRI-OXIDE ETHYLENE DIAMINO TETRA ACETATE ($C_{10}H_{12}O_8N_2MoO_3Na_4$) IN WATER SOLUTION

Molybdenum tri-oxide (MoO_3) is suspended at room temperature in a quantity of water and stirred continuously. In portions in sequence firstly sodium hydroxide (NaOH) and then EDTA are added. The pH of the clear solution obtained is measured and it is brought to 7 if required, by adding either NaOH (if acid) or EDTA (if alkaline). More distilled water is added to bring the molybdenum concentration to a pre-determined value. The pH is changed to 6 by the addition of concentrated HCl. Filtration takes place.

If 60,02g MoO_3 , 66,71g NaOH and 121,84g EDTA are used and if the volume is 1 litre, then the molybdenum concentration will be 40mg/ml.

In all of the above examples the order of mixing the chemicals may be changed to some extent without any influence on the products formed.

All of the above products can be obtained as solids by evaporation of the appropriate solutions.

All of the above-mentioned chemicals may be substituted by others, provided the substitute are used in equivalent quantities. The particulars are as follows:

1. The di-sodium salt of EDTA in place of EDTA acid.
2. Basic zinc carbonate ($2\text{ZnCO}_3 \cdot 3\text{Zn(OH)}_2$) or zinc hydroxide (Zn(OH)_2) in place of zinc oxide.
3. Manganese hydroxide (Mn(OH)_2) in place of manganese carbonate.
- 5 4. Cupric hydroxide (Cu(OH)_2) or cupric oxide (CuO) in place of basic copper carbonate.
5. Anhydrous chromium tri-chloride (CrCl_3) in place of chromium tri-chloride hexahydrate.
6. Sodium molybdate (Na_2MoO_4) in place of molybdenum tri-oxide.

**THE EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION IN WHICH AN
EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OR PRIVILEGE IS CLAIMED ARE DEFINED
AS FOLLOWS:**

1. A method of preparing an injectable trace element solution, said method consisting essentially of the steps of:

- (a) preparing a single solution comprising more than one EDTA-complex as a sodium salt in a single continuous process by suspending either disodium EDTA in water or suspending EDTA acid in water with sodium hydroxide, and adding a metal compound selected from the group consisting of metal oxides, metal hydroxides and metal carbonates to the EDTA solution to form the EDTA-complex;
- (b) adding sodium selenite to the solution of EDTA-complexes to form the trace element solution;
- (c) the said trace element solution comprising a metal concentration of at least 60 mg/ml.

2. A method as claimed in claim 1, in which the EDTA-complexes comprise at least one of the metal cation components selected from the group consisting of copper, manganese, zinc, molybdenum and chromium.

3. A method as claimed in claim 1, in which the trace element solution comprises at least four components selected from the group consisting of zinc, manganese, selenium, chromium and copper.

4. A trace element solution as prepared by a method as claimed in claim 1.

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5. A method of providing trace elements to animals, such as livestock, which comprises the steps of preparing a trace element solution as claimed in claim 1, and of providing the solution in a suitable quantity to an animal.
6. An injectable trace element solution comprising Zinc, Manganese, Selenium, and Copper and having a metal concentration of at least 60 mg/ml.
7. An injectable trace element solution comprising at least four components selected from the group consisting of zinc, manganese, selenium, chromium and copper, and comprising a metal concentration of at least 60 mg/ml.
8. An injectable trace element solution comprising
 - (a) at least 20 mg/ml Zinc;
 - (b) at least 20 mg/ml Manganese;
 - (c) at least 5 mg/ml Selenium;
 - (d) at least 5 mg/ml Chromium; and
 - (e) at least 10 mg/ml Copper