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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR TREATING BIOMASS TO INCREASE ACCESSIBILITY OF POLYSACCHARIDES CONTAINED THEREIN TO HYDROLYSIS AND SUBSEQUENT FERMENTATION, AND POLYSACCHARIDES WITH INCREASED ACCESSIBILITY

(57) Abstract: In this invention, a process for producing fermentable sugars derivable from biomass that contains polysaccharide, such as cellulose, which has been made increasingly accessible as a substrate for enzymatic degradation or other methods of depolymerization. The process of the present invention increases accessibility of polysaccharides, typically present in biomass and produces polysaccharides with increased accessibility. The polysaccharides with increased accessibility may be subsequently saccharified to yield fermentable sugars. These fermentable sugars are subsequently able to be fermented to produce various target chemicals, such as alcohols, aldehydes, ketones or acids.



WO 2011/053965 A3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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ADD.

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)
C12P

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, WPI Data, EMBASE, BIOSIS

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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X	ZHAO YULIN ET AL: "Enhanced enzymatic hydrolysis of spruce by alkaline pretreatment at low temperature", BIOTECHNOLOGY AND BIOENGINEERING, vol. 99, no. 6, 15 April 2008 (2008-04-15), pages 1320-1328, XP002542738, WILEY & SONS, HOBOKEN, NJ, US ISSN: 0006-3592, DOI: 10.1002/BIT.21712 [retrieved on 2007-11-19] cited in the application	1-5,10, 12-14, 19,20, 25-31, 34-36, 40,41, 43, 45-49, 54,55, 60,61, 65-67, 72,73,80
Y	abstract page 1321, right-hand column, last paragraph page 1322, right-hand column, last paragraph - page 1327, right-hand column, last paragraph ----- -/--	15-18, 37-39, 56-59, 74-79



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



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 "&" document member of the same patent family

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International application No

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Y	WO 00/47628 A2 (HERCULES INC [US]) 17 August 2000 (2000-08-17) page 3, line 15 - page 4, line 17; examples 2-4, 10-13 & US 6 602 994 B1 (CASH MARY JEAN [US] ET AL) 5 August 2003 (2003-08-05) -----	15-18, 37-39, 56-59, 74-79
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