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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **OVAGEN INTERNATIONAL LIMITED** [IE/IE]; Carrentrila, County Mayo (IE).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **MORAN, Leonard** [IE/IE]; 4 Childers Heights, County Mayo (IE).

(74) Agents: **HALLY, Anna-Louise** et al.; Cruickshank & Co., Unit 8A, Sandymount Business Centre, Sandymount, 18 Dublin (IE).

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**Declaration under Rule 4.17:**

— as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))

**Published:**

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— before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:  
3 April 2008



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(54) Title: METHOD FOR INCUBATION AND HATCHING OF EGGS

(57) Abstract: The present invention is directed to a method for the incubation and hatching of premature eggs, in particular, surgically-derived premature eggs removed from a bird prior to transfer of the premature egg to the cloaca of a bird.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No  
PCT/EP2007/051736

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
 INV. A01K45/00 A01K41/00

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)  
 A01K

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

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	EP 1 297 745 A (MORAN LEONARD [IE]) 2 April 2003 (2003-04-02) cited in the application claims	1-11
Y	LUNDY H: "A REVIEW OF THE EFFECTS OF TEMPERATURE, HUMIDITY, TURNING AND GASEOUS ENVIRONMENT IN THE INCUBATOR ON THE HATCHABILITY OF THE HEN'S EGG" FERTILITY AND HATCHABILITY OF THE HEN'S EGG, January 1969 (1969-01), pages 143-176, XP000613520 page 148 - page 156	1-11
A	WO 92/06591 A (CANNON ROBERT W [US]) 30 April 1992 (1992-04-30) page 11, line 16 - page 14; figures  -/--	1-11

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.       See patent family annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents :

<p>*A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>*E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>*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)</p> <p>*O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>*P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p>	<p>*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</p> <p>*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</p> <p>*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.</p> <p>*Z* document member of the same patent family</p>
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Date of the actual completion of the international search  <b>21 June 2007</b>	Date of mailing of the international search report  <b>12/02/2008</b>
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Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer  <b>Forjaz, Alexandra</b>
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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No  
PCT/EP2007/051736

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	DE 195 35 073 C1 (GROSMANN ROLAND DR [DE]; MUEHLBAUER ECKHARD DR [DE]; KISLIUK SERGEY DR) 20 February 1997 (1997-02-20) page 2	1-11
A	ROBERTSON I S: "STUDIES ON THE EFFECT OF HUMIDITY ON THE HATCHABILITY OF HEN'S EGGS I. THE DETERMINATION OF OPTIMUM HUMIDITY FOR INCUBATION" JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE, CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS, LONDON, GB, vol. 57, January 1961 (1961-01), pages 185-194, XP000613523 ISSN: 0021-8596 page 185 - page 193	1-11
A	ROBERTSON I S: "STUDIES ON THE EFFECT OF HUMIDITY ON THE HATCHABILITY OF HENS' EGGS II. A COMPARISON OF HATCHABILITY, WEIGHT LOSS AND EMBRYONIC GROWTH IN EGGS INCUBATED AT 40 AND 70% R.H." JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE, CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS, LONDON, GB, vol. 57, January 1961 (1961-01), pages 195-198, XP000613524 ISSN: 0021-8596 page 196	1-11
A	WO 98/00151 A (US AGRICULTURE [US]; LALLEMANDE INC [CA]; EMBREX INC [US]) 8 January 1998 (1998-01-08) abstract	10, 11

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/EP2007/051736

## Box No. 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 No. 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 allsearchable claims.
  
2.  As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
  
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 and Written Opinion

### Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- 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: 1-8,8-11

A method for incubating and hatching surgically-derived premature eggs.  
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2. claims: 12-13

A method for rearing hatched birds.  
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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No  
PCT/EP2007/051736

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 1297745	A	02-04-2003	AT 377942 T	15-11-2007
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			US 2003094138 A1	22-05-2003
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			US 5722342 A	03-03-1998
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