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TOBACCO PRODUCT

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4 Claims. (Cl. 131—17)

This invention relates to a tobacco product which can be made by the process forming the subject matter of my U. S. Patent 2,207,644, dated July 9, 1940.

Heretofore, in the production of tobacco for use in cigarettes and pipes, it has been the practice generally to mix a percentage of glycerin with the tobacco because of its hygroscopic properties. Glycerin, however, when used in this manner, causes throat irritations due to the fact that when the mixture is burned it is oxidized to acrylic aldehyde which is not only highly irritable to the membranes of the nose and throat but also affects the digestive organs and invariably produces what is known as "smoker's sore throat,"

While the foregoing disadvantages have long been recognized and many efforts have been made to overcome them, nevertheless no efficient substitute for the glycerin has been found prior to my discovery thereof and the use of glycerin has therefore necessarily continued.

An object of the present invention is to provide a tobacco product from which glycerin has been eliminated without, however, reducing the hygroscopic property of the product.

A further object is to substitute for glycerin in a tobacco product a hygroscopic agent which, instead of producing the ill effects herein recited, will act to sooth and, in a sense, lubricate the tissues contacted by the smoke.

A further object is to employ in connection with the tobacco an extract of *Panax schinseng*, commonly known as ginseng.

It has been found that an extract of ginseng, when mixed with tobacco, not only removes irritation and other ill effects due to the burning of glycerin, but also provides the desired hygroscopic action. These desirable properties are due to the fact that the extract contains volatile oil, resin, panacin, panquilon, sugar and other ingredients all of which tend, when burned with tobacco, to produce an oily, non-irritating smoke having a softening, soothing and assuaging effect upon the mucous membranes contacted thereby.

The use of this agent in connection with the tobacco also results in a distinctive flavor.

With the foregoing and other objects in view the invention consists in thoroughly mixing with the tobacco an extract of ginseng. This extract can be produced by macerating 120 grams of selected ginseng root in 2,000 c. c. hydroalcoholic solution (water 1, alcohol 2) left for 48 hours at room temperature. Thereafter the mixture is strained and the resultant fluid sprayed upon the tobacco. Excellent results have been obtained where 65 c. c. of the liquid is sprayed on 3 lbs. of flavored tobacco. Thereafter the product is dried in a vacuum at 104° F.

Tests of the foregoing product have disclosed the following characteristics:

	Per cent
Free nicotine	2.75
Ammonia in tobacco	0.488
Nitrate nitrogen	0.0722
Cyanogenetic glucosides	0.0055
Pyridine homologones in smoke	0.136
Carbon monoxide in smoke	0.126
Nicotine in smoke	0.011
Ammonia in smoke	Trace
Ash	14.60
pH. value, hydrogen electrode, type K	6.52

By substituting ginseng for glycerin with tobacco, it has been found that it blends the sweet panaquilon and gum with the nicotine and pyridine series. It is then hydrolyzed on contact with the saliva when smoking, forming a mucilage strongly demulcent which acts to coat the mucous membranes and results in a mild, sweet smoke without irritation and with a pleasing aroma and taste.

In preparing the tobacco product it is to be understood that the percentage of ginseng extract and the strength thereof can be varied to meet varying conditions.

What is claimed is:

1. A smoking mixture including tobacco and a hygroscopic agent in the form of extract of ginseng applied to portions of the tobacco.

2. A product for use by smokers including a mixture of tobacco and an agent adapted to hydrolyze on contact with saliva of a smoker to form a mucilage strongly demulcent for coating the mucous membranes of the smoker, said agent being in the form of an extract of ginseng.

3. A product of the class described for use as a demulcent and stimulant and possessing hygroscopic and mucilaginous properties, including tobacco treated with extract of ginseng.

4. A smoking mixture including tobacco impregnated with extract of ginseng.

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