

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
6 April 2006 (06.04.2006)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2006/036552 A3

(51) International Patent Classification:
A01N 63/00 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2005/032695

(22) International Filing Date:
14 September 2005 (14.09.2005)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/613,325 27 September 2004 (27.09.2004) US
60/614,768 30 September 2004 (30.09.2004) US
10/968,407 19 October 2004 (19.10.2004) US

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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report
- 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:
29 June 2006

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: LOW WATER ACTIVITY NUTRITIONAL PRODUCT HAVING BENEFICIAL MICROBIAL AND HIGH OIL CONTENT

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a composition for the oral administration of beneficial microorganisms in a discrete dosage form, comprising about 10% to about 50% by weight of a starch component, about 25% to about 50% by weight of a sugar component, about 0-20% of a humectant component, and about 5% to about 25% by weight of water. The composition has a soft and chewy texture and water activity of about 0.60 to about 0.75.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US05/32695

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC: A01N 63/00(2006.01)

USPC: 424/93.45

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)

U.S. : 424/93.45

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 practicable, search terms used)
Please See Continuation Sheet

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 6,387,381 B2 (CHRISTENSEN) 14 May 2002 (14.05.2002), abstract, summary of the invention, examples 1-6, and claims.	1-19
Y	US 6,723,358 B1 (VAN LENDERICH) 20 April 2004 (20.04.2004), abstract, summary of the invention, examples 1-3, and claims.	1-19
Y	US 5,607,697 A (ALKIRE et al) 04 March 1997 (04.03.1997), abstract, summary of the invention, columns 10-11, in particular.	1, 5, and 10
Y	DAVIS et al. The effects of feeding the direct-fed microbial, PrimaLac, on growth parameters and egg production in single comb White Leghorn hens, Poultry Science, 2002, Vol. 81, pages 755-759, especially abstract and introduction.	1-19
Y	US 5,637,313 A (CHAU et al) 10 June 1997 (10.06.1997), abstract, summary of the invention, column 4, last paragraph, and claims.	1-19



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	"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
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
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"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)	"&" document member of the same patent family
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search

17 April 2006 (17.04.2006)

Date of mailing of the international search report

17 MAY 2006

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US05/32695

Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:

EAST:

USPAT, USOCR, US PG-PUB, JPO, EPO, DERWENT

STN (STIC SEARCH):

REGISTRY, HCAPLUS, MEDLINE, EMBASE

SEARCH STRATEGY:

starch, sorbitol or humectant, ivermectin, pyrantel, fat or oil

probiotic or microb? or microorgan?

soft or chewy; nutraceutical? or nutrit? or composit?