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(54) Title: ANIMAL CARE SYSTEM AND LITTER WITH REDUCED MALODOR IMPRESSION

(57) Abstract

Animal care systems desirably include animal litter with reduced malodor impression comprising solid moisture-absorbing material and effective amounts of both odor absorbing material, preferably, cyclodextrin, or derivative thereof, and material for reducing the formation of malodor, e.g., antibacterial and/or urease inhibitor, preferably water-soluble metallic salt such as zinc salt. Behavior control products are also provided including animal repellent and attractant products, preferably in spray containers, and freshening and cleaning products, also especially in spray containers, and, preferably, in association with instructions for using the products to carry out a method of animal control in which the animal litter is refreshed as needed, and areas are treated with repellent and attractant products to influence the animals to avoid certain areas and frequent other areas, and products for cleaning areas where accidents occur and discouraging the animal from returning to those areas.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/US 97/23702

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 6 A01K1/015 A61L9/01 C11D3/00 C11D3/50

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)
IPC 6 A01K A61L C11D

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)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 96 04940 A (PROCTER & GAMBLE) 22 February 1996 see page 23, line 34 - page 24, line 3; claims ---	1,3-8
A	DATABASE WPI Section Ch, Week 8933 Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; Class A97, AN 89-237390 XP002065764 & JP 01 171 556 A (SEKISUI CHEM. IND. CO. LTD.) see abstract ---	1-5,8
A	EP 0 242 683 A (LAPORTE INDUSTRIES LTD.) 28 October 1987 see claims --- -/--	1,2,4

[X] Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

[X] Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
26 May 1998	20.07.98

Name and mailing address of the ISA	Authorized officer
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	BLAS, V

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Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1992)

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/US 97/23702

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 93 08 295 U (CARBOTECH AKTIVKOHLEN GMBH) 16 September 1993 see the whole document	1,2,4
A	WO 89 02698 A (PERSONAL PET PRODUCTS PARTNERS) 6 April 1989 see page 10, line 4 - line 7; claims & US 4 881 490 A (DUCHARME ET A.) cited in the application & US 4 844 010 A (DUCHARME ET AL.) cited in the application	1,2,4, 6-8
A	US 4 949 672 A (RATCLIFF STEVEN D ET AL) 21 August 1990 cited in the application see column 4, line 53 - column 5, line 2 see column 5, line 35 - line 50; claims	1-3,5-8
A	EP 0 109 276 A (PROCTER & GAMBLE) 23 May 1984 see page 4, line 21 - page 5, line 14; claims & US 4 494 481 A (RODRIGUEZ ET AL.) cited in the application	1-3
A	EP 0 410 576 A (CLOROX CO.) 30 January 1991 see the whole document	1,2,5-8
L	DATABASE WPI Section Ch, Week 9342 Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; Class D22, AN 93-330502 XP002065872 & JP 05 236 837 A (MITSUBISHI MATERIALS CORP) document cited for the non-unity see abstract	
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US 97/23702

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 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 II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 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 all searchable claims.

2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

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.:

1(partially); 2; 3-8(partially)

Remark on Protest

☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

1. Claims: 1 partially, 2 3-8 partially

A solid liquid-absorbing litter composition for animal care as defined in (I) in independent product claim 1, and an aqueous freshening composition for animal litter as defined under (II) in independent product claim 1, in so far as it is applied to said solid liquid-absorbing litter, and mixtures comprising the solid liquid-absorbing litter composition.

2. Claims: 1 partially , 5-8 partially

Aqueous composition for animal care comprising an aqueous carrier and a perfume, characterised in that the perfume is a repellent perfume.

3. Claims: 1 partially, 5-8 partially

Aqueous composition for animal care comprising an aqueous carrier and a perfume characterised in that the perfume is an animal attractant perfume.

4. Claims: 1 partially, 3-8 partially, 9

Aqueous composition for animal care comprising an aqueous carrier and a perfume characterised in that the perfume is a refreshing perfume.

5. Claim : 10

A solid liquid-absorbing litter composition comprising a solid liquid-absorbing litter material and a perfume that contains less than 25% of animal repellent ingredients, or optionally less than 80% of para-cymene, by weight of the perfume headspace.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No
PCT/US 97/23702

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