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(54) Title: USE OF NONANOIC ACID AS AN ANTIMICROBIAL AGENT, IN PARTICULAR AN ANTIFUNGAL AGENT

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to the use of nonanoic acid as an antimicrobial, in particular antifungal, agent or additive, in particular in or for foods, such as dairy products or fruit juices. A particular aspect of the invention comprises the use of nonanoic acid in a cheese coating. The invention also relates to a cheese coating in which nonanoic acid has been incorporated as antifungal agent; a cheese that has been provided with such a coating; and a nonanoic acid-containing composition for applying such a coating. The nonanoic acid is used in particular on or close to the surface of the food, or uniformly distributed through the food, in an amount of 10 - 10,000 ppm, in particular 100 - 1,000 ppm. The nonanoic acid can furthermore be used as an antimicrobial agent for treating substrates or surfaces, in particular substrates or surfaces that come into contact with foods; for protecting foods, cut flowers and bulbs during transport and/or during storage; in disinfectants and cleaning agents; to protect or treat wood; in cosmetics or skin care products; and in pharmaceutical compositions to prevent and treat fungal infections and yeast infections, such as *Candida*.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internatir	Application No
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 A01N37/02 A23C9/13 A23C19/10 A23C19/16 A23L3/3508				
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 7 A01N A23C A23L				
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, BIOSIS, CHEM ABS Data				
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT				
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.		
X	US 2 154 449 A (C. HOFFMAN ET AL.) 18 April 1939 (1939-04-18) cited in the application page 1, column 1, line 8 - line 15 page 1, column 2, line 25 - line 37 ---	1-29		
X	EP 0 244 144 A (KABARA JON JOSEPH) 4 November 1987 (1987-11-04) cited in the application page 1, line 3 - line 14 page 2, line 34 - line 49 examples --- -/--	1-29		
☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. ☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.				
° Special categories of cited documents :				
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top; border: none;"> *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date *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) *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 </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top; border: none;"> *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 *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 *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. *&* document member of the same patent family </td> </tr> </table>			*A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date *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) *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	*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 *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 *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. *&* document member of the same patent family
A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date *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) *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	*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 *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 *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. *&* document member of the same patent family			
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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 Decorte, D		

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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