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(54) Title: NOVEL TOPICAL DELIVERY SYSTEM FOR PLANT DERIVED ANTI-IRRITANTS

(57) Abstract: A thixotropic microemulsion for the treatment of mammalian skin; and methods for the preparation thereof; and skin treatment formulations formed therefrom. The delivery system is an oil-in-water type emulsion that is especially useful as a vehicle for the delivery of hydrophobic and hydroalcoholic plant extracts having anti-irritant and/or anti-oxidant properties. The delivery system is comprised of natural, hydrophobic, chemically-modified type starches and polysaccharaides. Among the oils preferred in this embodiment are: mineral oil, petrolatum jelly and silicone oils, either added singly or in various combinations. Among surfactants employed as emulsifiers are: either a cationic detergent, e.g., benzalkonium chloride, an anionic, e.g., sodium lauryl sulfate, and a non-ionic detergent, e.g., Triton X-100 or combinations of oils and surfactants. The resulting emulsion is a semi-viscous and thixotropic gel, which is stable upon prolonged standing at ambient storage temperature.



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B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) U.S. : 424/401; 514/778 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)		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,496,861 (ROUSE et al) 5 March 1996 (5.3.1996), example 7, entire document.	1-37
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.		
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