

FORM 2

THE PATENTS ACT, 1970
(39 of 1970)
AND
THE PATENTS RULES, 2003

**COMPLETE
SPECIFICATION**

(See Section 10; rule 13)

TITLE OF THE INVENTION

**“A METHOD TO WASH GREASY WOOL, A METHOD TO SEPARATE LANOLIN
FROM THE SAID GREASY WOOL, WOOL AND LANOLIN OBTAINABLE
BY THESE METHODS”**

APPLICANT

ERUTAN BV
of Mercuriusplein 1, NL-5971, LW Grubbenvorst, The Netherlands; Nationality: The
Netherlands

The following specification particularly describes
the invention and the manner in which
it is to be performed

CLAIMS

1. A method to wash wool containing lanolin and impurities comprising:
 - 5 - providing a volume of an aqueous liquid at a temperature below a melting temperature of the lanolin,
 - soaking the wool in the volume of the liquid,
 - creating air bubbles in the liquid and allowing the air bubbles to pass through the wool to attach the impurities,
 - 10 - removing the wool from the said volume.
2. A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the wool is soaked in the volume of liquid for 1 to 60 minutes, preferably 10-40 minutes, before the air bubbles are allowed to pass through the wool.
- 15 3. A method according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the air bubbles and attached impurities are removed from the volume while the wool is being washed, by skimming off the said bubbles when having reached a surface of the said volume of the liquid.
- 20 4. A method according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that the wool is agitated when the air bubbles pass through the wool.
5. A method according to claim 4, characterized in that the wool is agitated by imposing a flow in the liquid.
- 25 6. A method according to claim 5, characterized in that the flow in the liquid is imposed by the creation of the air bubbles.
7. A method according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that the air
30 bubbles are created in the liquid by ejecting a liquid containing air bubbles in the volume using an ejection nozzle.
8. A method according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that after washing the wool, the lanolin is removed from the wool.
- 35 9. A method according to claim 8, characterized in that the wool is treated with a

protease after the lanolin is removed.

10. A method to separate lanolin from wool containing lanolin and impurities comprising:

- 5 - providing a volume of an aqueous liquid at a temperature below a melting temperature of the lanolin,
- soaking the wool in the volume of the liquid,
- creating air bubbles in the liquid and allowing the air bubbles to pass through the wool to attach the impurities, leaving the lanolin on the wool, and thereafter
- 10 - separating the lanolin from the wool.

11. A method according to claim 10, characterized in that the lanolin is separated from the wool by solvent extraction.

- 15 12. A method according to claim 11, characterized in that the wool is removed from the volume of liquid, and preferably dried, before the lanolin is extracted from the wool.

13. A method according to any of the claims 11 or 12, characterized in that the lanolin is separated from the solvent by evaporation of the solvent, preferably using a distillation
20 process.

14. Wool obtainable by using any of the methods according to claim 1 to 9, or a method according to claims 10 to 13.

- 25 15. Lanolin obtainable by any of the methods according to claims 10 to 13.

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Arindam Paul
REG.NO:IN/PA-174
of Depenning & Depenning
Agent for the Applicants