WETTING AGENT USEFUL FOR ALKALINE MERCERIZING SOLUTIONS

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Example 1

The mixture of fatty acids containing 7 to 9 carbon atoms in their molecule, which is formed in the process of oxidizing paraffin, is converted in the known manner into the diethanolamide of the formula

R CO-N
CH_3CH_2OH

wherein R stands for an aliphatic radical containing six to eight carbon atoms which is a viscous liquid, clearly soluble in a caustic soda solution of 30° Bé. Mercerizing solutions containing 5 to 10 grams thereof per liter are capable of wetting raw cotton nearly instantly.

Example 2

When mixing the corresponding diethanolamide of a mixture of fatty acids containing 5 to 7 carbon atoms with the same amount of the monoethanolamide of the normal-valeric acid of the formula

CH_3-(CH_2)CO-N
CH_3CH_2OH

a likewise excellent wetting agent useful for alkaline mercerizing solutions is obtained.

Example 3

A mixture of 20 parts of the diethanolamide of α-methylcaprylic acid of the formula

CH_3(CH_2)CH-CO-N
CH_3CH_2OH

40 parts of raw xyleneol and 40 parts of raw cresol is a very effective wetting agent useful for alkaline mercerizing solutions. When replacing the aforesaid diethanolamide by the same amount of capronic acid monoethanolamide of the formula

CH_3(CH_2)_n-CO-N
CH_3CH_2OH

a likewise good wetting agent is obtained, 10 grams thereof are easily soluble in 1 liter of a caustic soda solution of 30° Bé.

Example 4

20 parts of a hydroxyalkylamide of the formula

CH_3CH(OH)CH_2OH

and 80 parts of cresol are mixed. 5 grams of this mixture are clearly soluble in 1 liter of a caustic soda solution of 30° Bé. The solution obtained exhibits a good wetting effect.

Example 5

5 grams of a mixture of 50 parts of the monoethanolamide of valeric acid (cf. Example 2) and of 50 parts of a highly sulfonated derivative of oleic acid (cf. British specification 293,717) are dissolved in one liter of a caustic soda solution of 30° Bé. The solution obtained exhibits a very good wetting effect.
We claim:
1. As a composition of matter an alkaline mercerizing bath containing a compound of the formula
   \[
   R - \text{CO-N} \xrightarrow{\cdot} R - \text{CO-N}
   \]
   wherein \( R \) stands for the radicle of an aliphatic hydrocarbon containing 4 to 8 carbon atoms and \( X_1 \) and \( X_2 \) for aliphatic hydrocarbon radicles, each containing more than one carbon atom and at least one and at the most two hydroxy groups.
2. As a composition of matter an alkaline mercerizing bath containing a compound of the formula
   \[
   R - \text{CO-N} \xrightarrow{\cdot} R - \text{CO-N}
   \]
   wherein \( R \) stands for an aliphatic hydrocarbon radical containing six to eight carbon atoms.

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