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(54) Title: METHOD OF EXTRACTING MICROCRYSTALLINE CELLULOSE FIBERS FROM
COIR FIBERS

(57) Abstract:

The present invention relates to a method of producing microcrystalline cellulose, and in particular a method of extracting microcrystalline cellulose from coir fibers. Coir fiber is an agricultural feedstock that has been neglected and can now be used to produce microcrystalline cellulose. The method of extracting microcrystalline cellulose fiber from coir fibers is characterized in that it comprises following steps: Preparing the sample, extracting cellulose from the dried biomass/coir, and Converting cellulose to microcrystalline cellulose. The conversion to microcrystalline cellulose involves treat cellulose with 2.5 N hydrochloric acid at 85°C for 15 min followed by washing with ethanol (10% v/v) then drying in an oven set at 105°C to constant weight. The microcrystalline cellulose is industrially applicable in the binder, pharmaceutical, and paper making industries.