

Title (en)

Process for the removal of basic materials from plant products.

Title (de)

Verfahren zur Entfernung von basischen Materialien aus Pflanzenprodukten.

Title (fr)

Procédé pour éliminer des matières basiques de produits végétaux.

Publication

EP 0280817 B1 19940309 (EN)

Application

EP 87311430 A 19871224

Priority

US 94710286 A 19861229

Abstract (en)

[origin: EP0280817A2] A process is provided for the selective removal of basic materials from plant products, in particular, for removing nicotine from tobacco without materially affecting the content of the other components of the tobacco. Tobacco is traversed with a solvent in the supercritical state or in the liquid state wherein nicotine and the other components dissolve in the solvent. The solvent is then passed through an acid-containing trap where the solvent is essentially freed of nicotine. The solvent, depleted of nicotine and enriched in the other components, is then recycled to the tobacco to reextract nicotine. In addition, the tobacco may be pretreated with a chemical base which does not substantially react with the tobacco components under ambient conditions but rather is activated under the conditions of the extraction process. Pretreatment of the tobacco with a chemical base neutralizes nicotine salts and permits the extraction process to be carried out under milder conditions.

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