

Title (en)  
A method of processing lipid materials

Title (de)  
Verfahren zur Bearbeitung von Fettstoffen

Title (fr)  
Procédé pour le traitement de matières grasses

Publication  
**EP 1270710 A1 20030102 (EN)**

Application  
**EP 01202375 A 20010619**

Priority  
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Abstract (en)  
The present invention is concerned with a new method of processing lipid materials, such as triglycerides and waxes, which process involves contacting such lipid materials with a reactive granulate in the presence of a gas in near supercritical state. More particularly the present invention relates to a method of processing lipid material comprising the steps of a) dissolving into the lipid material from 5-95 wt.% of a gas selected from the group consisting of carbon dioxide, ethane, propane, or nitrous oxide and mixtures thereof, at a temperature and a pressure at which the gas per se would be near its supercritical state, b) contacting the lipid material containing the dissolved gas with a reactive granulate, c) separating the granulate from the lipid material and d) allowing the gas to evaporate from the lipid material by reducing the pressure. The reactive granulate employed in the present process may suitably be a catalyst, such as bleaching earth or hydrogenation catalyst, or an adsorbent, such as active carbon.

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