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(54) **Wet-degradable fibers.**

(57) A wet-degradable fiber having a covering resin layer is described. The moisture permeability (R) of a resin forming the covering layer is at least 2.5 g/m².24 hours as determined at a relative humidity difference of 0% and 90% with respect to a thickness of 0.1 mm. The strength wet reduction ratio (ΔS) of the fiber is within a range satisfying requirements represented by the following formulae:

$$0\% \leq \Delta S_1 \leq 70\%,$$

$$20\% \leq \Delta S_2 \leq 100\%$$

and

$$\Delta S_2 / \Delta S_1 > 1.10$$

wherein ΔS_1 represents the strength reduction ratio after two hours' immersion in water at 20°C and ΔS_2 represents the strength reduction ratio after fifty hours' immersion in water at 20°C.



European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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EP 84 11 1518

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 4)
X	GB-A-1 125 986 (KURASHIKI RAYON) * Especially page 1, lines 13-47 and example 8, table 6 *	1-5	D 06 M 15/263 D 06 M 15/31 D 06 M 15/248 D 06 M 15/233 D 06 M 15/227 D 06 M 15/347 D 06 M 15/59
A	BE-A- 700 183 (BAT - APPLICATION ET REVETEMENTS PLASTIQUES) * Examples *	1, 2	D 06 M 15/507 D 06 M 15/693 D 06 M 15/63 D 06 M 15/643 D 06 M 15/09
A	DE-B-1 124 464 (RUHRCHEMIE)		
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 4)
			D 06 M
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 28-07-1986	Examiner COUCKUYT D.E.
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	