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**23.11.88 Bulletin 88/47**(71) Applicant: **NOVO INDUSTRI A/S**  
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**D-8000 München 22(DE)**(54) **Method for batchwise enzymatic retting of flax or other rettable plants.**

(57) In the method the cut flax or other rettable plant is treated with an SPS-ase preparation producible by means of a strain belonging to the genus *Aspergillus*, preferably to *Aspergillus japonicus* or *Aspergillus aculeatus*, in an aqueous medium until the retting is completed or substantially completed, whereafter, if desired, the retted flax or other rettable plant is decolourized by being exposed to a moderate bleaching procedure only. In this manner a number of technical advantages are obtained, especially a tremendous time saving, a higher yield, a higher strength, a lighter colour and a better reproducibility.

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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)
D,A	GB-A-2 115 820 (NOVO INDUSTRI) * Especially page 35; page 47, example Bc3 *	1-16	D 01 C 1/04
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4)
			D 01 C C 12 N
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 12-09-1988	Examiner COUCKUYT D.E.
<b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b> 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			