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(54) **A process for converting storage reserves of dicot seeds into compositions comprising one or more gene products**

(57) The present invention is related to a process based on a source-sink principle, for producing products of interest from crushed or uncrushed germinating dicot seeds comprising an expression system, which is induced or can be induced during germination. The product is either a seed derived composition comprising one or

more gene products. Alternatively, it is a product of interest obtained by placing the composition in contact with a substrate, containing a substance capable of being transformed by the seed derived composition as such, dried or in down-stream processed form.

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PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

which under Rule 63 of the European Patent Convention EP 07 10 6801 shall be considered, for the purposes of subsequent proceedings, as the European search report

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X,D	WO 97/32986 A (WEISSHEIMER FRIEDR MALZFAB [DE]; SARX HANS GEORG [DE]; DIEFENTHAL THOM) 12 September 1997 (1997-09-12) * page 1 - page 13; claims; example 6 * -----	1-21	INV. C12N15/82 A01H5/10
X,D	WO 94/11519 A (ZENECA LTD [GB]; FENTEM PHILIP ANTHONY [GB]) 26 May 1994 (1994-05-26) * the whole document * -----	1-16	
X,D	US 5 994 628 A (RODRIGUEZ RAYMOND L [US]) 30 November 1999 (1999-11-30) * column 21 - column 22 * -----	1-21	
TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)			
C12N A01H			
INCOMPLETE SEARCH			
<p>The Search Division considers that the present application, or one or more of its claims, does/do not comply with the EPC to such an extent that a meaningful search into the state of the art cannot be carried out, or can only be carried out partially, for these claims.</p> <p>Claims searched completely :</p> <p>Claims searched incompletely :</p> <p>Claims not searched :</p> <p>Reason for the limitation of the search: see sheet C</p>			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague		14 January 2009	Oderwald, Harald
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		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	
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			

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EPO FORM 1503 03.02 (P04E07)

**INCOMPLETE SEARCH
SHEET C**Application Number
EP 07 10 6801

Claim(s) searched completely:
1-16

Claim(s) searched incompletely:
17-21

Reason for the limitation of the search:

The present claims 17-21 relate to an extremely large number of possible compounds/products. Support and disclosure in the sense of Article 84 and 83 EPC is to be found however for only a very small proportion of these compounds/products claimed, see page 6, 4th paragraph of the description. The non-compliance with the substantive provisions is to such an extent, that a meaningful search of the whole claimed subject-matter of the claim could not be carried out (Rule 63 EPC and Guidelines B-VIII, 3). The extent of the search was consequently limited.

The search of claims 17-21 was restricted to those claimed compounds/products which have been contemplated in the description (see page 6), namely a "crude mixture obtainable from a germinating dicot seed comprising one or more de novo synthesized heterologous proteins".



Application Number

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CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing claims for which payment was due.

- Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):
- No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

- All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.
- Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
1-21
- None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:
- The present supplementary European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims (Rule 164 (1) EPC).

**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B**

Application Number

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The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1-16

Processes based on a source-sink principle for converting storage reserves in transgenic seeds to a composition comprising one or more desired gene products produced through de novo synthesis during the germination.

2. claims: 17-21

Contaminant-free seed derived compositions obtainable from dicotyledonous seeds comprising one or more heterologous proteins synthesized in the cotyledons of a dicotyledonous seed or seedling.

3. claim: 22

An expression system comprising one or more regulatory sequences providing high expression levels in cotyledons of germinating dicotyledonous seeds.

4. claim: 23

Method for selecting regulatory sequences comprising steps (a) to (e) mentioned in claim 23.

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 07 10 6801

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

14-01-2009

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