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[54] **MODIFIED POLYSACCHARIDES HAVING IMPROVED ABSORBENT PROPERTIES AND PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION THEREOF**

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[58] **Field of Search** 604/358; 427/213.33; 527/300; 536/20, 56, 59, 62, 63, 84, 87, 88, 97, 102, 104, 106, 111, 114, 124

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

Disclosed is a method for producing a surface-crosslinked, modified polysaccharide having improved absorption properties. The method involves forming a mixture of water and a crosslinking agent, adding a generally water-soluble, modified polysaccharide to said mixture wherein the surface of the polysaccharide becomes crosslinked, and drying the modified polysaccharide. Also described is a surface-crosslinked, modified polysaccharide having improved absorption properties.

34 Claims, 2 Drawing Sheets