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Mandralis et al.

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[54] **AROMA RECOVERY PROCESS**

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[*] Notice: This patent issued on a continued prosecution application filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d), and is subject to the twenty year patent term provisions of 35 U.S.C. 154(a)(2).

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[21] Appl. No.: **09/057,741**

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

[51] **Int. Cl.**⁷ **A23F 3/00**; A23F 5/00;
A23P 1/00

A process for the recovery of aroma components from coffee. A slurry of coffee grounds in an aqueous liquid is subjected to stripping for stripping aroma components from the slurry. The stripping is carried out using gas in a substantially counter-current manner to provide an aromatized gas containing aroma components. The aroma components are then collected from the aromatized gas. The aroma components may be added to concentrated coffee extract prior to drying of the extract. The coffee powder produced has much increased and improved aroma and flavor and contains higher levels of furans and diketones.

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **426/387**; 426/386; 426/495;
426/432; 426/594

[58] **Field of Search** 426/387, 386,
426/495, 432, 594

[56] **References Cited**

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21 Claims, 1 Drawing Sheet

