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Nelson

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[54] **METAL PROPIONATES FOR USE AS ANIMAL FEED SUPPLEMENTS**

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Related U.S. Application Data

[63] Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 315,557, Sep. 30, 1994, abandoned.

[51] **Int. Cl.**[6] **A23K 1/16**; A61K 31/555

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **426/635**; 426/648; 426/806; 426/807; 424/245; 424/263; 424/266

[58] **Field of Search** 426/635, 648, 426/806, 807; 424/245, 263, 266

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A supplemented animal feed composition comprising (a) an animal feed that is deficient in a trace metal admixed with (b) a diet-supplementing effective amount of a polyvalent metal cation propionate having the formula $M(CH_3CH_2COO^-)_x$, wherein M is a polyvalent metal cation form of said deficient metal that is selected from the group consisting of Zn^{+2}, Cu^{+2}, Fe^{+3}, Fe^{+2}, Mn^{+2}, Co^{+2} and Cr^{+3}, and x is an integer equal to the cationic charge of M. The metal propionates are used as biologically available and economical sources of trace metal for supplementation in animal diets.

6 Claims, No Drawings