

wt. % sterols, about 0.98-4.68 wt. % lipids, about 0.048-1.44 wt. % preservatives, about 1.16-4.04 wt. % lambda carrageenan, and about 0.45-1.57 wt. % maltodextrin.

An insect diet formulation, comprising (or consisting essentially of or consisting of) the composition according to claim 1 and water.

The above insect diet formulation, wherein said water is room temperature water.

The above insect diet formulation, wherein said formulation contains about 43.2-85 wt. % water, about 1.44-5.7 wt. % protein, about 2-16.99 wt. % carbohydrates, about 1.2-25.12 wt. % cellulose, about 0.31-0.804 wt. % vitamins, about 0.75-1.16 salts, about 0.04-4.08 wt. % sterols, about 0.98-4.68 wt. % lipids, about 0.048-1.44 wt. % preservatives, about 1.16-4.04 wt. % lambda carrageenan, and about 0.45-1.57 wt. % maltodextrin.

The above insect diet formulation, wherein said formulation contains about 49 to about 59% water.

The above insect diet formulation, wherein said formulation contains about 60 to about 69% water.

The above insect diet formulation, wherein said formulation contains about 70 to about 89% water.

A method for rearing insects from eggs, said method comprising (or consisting essentially of or consisting of) providing the insect diet formulation according to claim 5 and culturing said insects with said insect diet formulation.

Other embodiments of the invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art from a consideration of this specification or practice of the invention disclosed herein. It is intended that the specification and examples be considered as exemplary only, with the true scope and spirit of the invention being indicated by the following claims.

We claim:

1. A method for rearing insects or mites from eggs comprising: providing to an insect or mite a solid or semi-solid or semi-liquid colloid diet formulation which comprises lambda carrageenan, starch, cellulose, maltodextrin, and water in

amounts effective to produce a stable solid or semi-solid or semi-liquid colloid diet formulation for insects and mites which feed by chewing, piercing, sucking, and/or using external digestion, wherein said colloid diet formulation further includes proteins, carbohydrates, salts, and vitamins.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said lambda carrageenan is present in a range of approximately 1.16 to approximately 4.04 percent by weight to produce a stable solid or semi-solid or semi-liquid colloid diet formulation.

3. An insect or mite rearing colloid diet formulation comprising an solid or semisolid or semi-liquid colloid formulation containing lambda carrageenan, starch, cellulose, maltodextrin, and water in amounts effective to produce a stable solid or semi-solid or semi-liquid colloid formulation for insects and mites which feed by chewing, piercing, sucking, and/or using external digestion, wherein said diet formulation is mixed with proteins, carbohydrates, salts, and vitamins wherein said colloid formulation does not require heat in its preparation.

4. The composition of claim 3 wherein said lambda carrageenan is present in a range of approximately 1.16 to approximately 4.04 percent by weight to produce a stable solid or semi-solid or semi-liquid colloid formulation.

5. An insect or mite rearing diet formulation for insects and mites which feed by chewing, piercing, sucking, and/or using external digestion, said diet formulation comprising proteins, carbohydrates, salts, vitamins, and water wherein said diet formulation is contained in a stable solid, semi-solid, or semi-liquid colloid comprising lambda carrageenan, starch, cellulose, maltodextrin, and water in amounts effective to produce a stable solid, semi-solid, or semi-liquid colloid, and wherein said stable solid, semi-solid, or semi-liquid colloid does not require heat in its preparation.

6. The diet formulation of claim 5 wherein said lambda carrageenan is present in a range of approximately 1.16 to approximately 4.04 percent by weight.

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