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Ishii

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(54) **METHOD FOR PRODUCING DRY EARTHWORM POWDER**

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This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

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(58) **Field of Classification Search**

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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A method for producing dry earthworm powder, by which dry earthworm powder having high-titer enzymes can be produced while removing toxic substances contained in the bodies of earthworms, is provided. The method comprises:

contacting a live earthworm with a chloride(s) of at least one metal selected from the group consisting of potassium, sodium, magnesium and calcium; and

subsequently contacting the live earthworm with powder of a hydroxycarboxylic acid(s) and diluting the resulting mixture with water to adjust pH to 2 to 5, followed by leaving the live earthworm to stand for 3 to 180 minutes, washing the live earthworm with water, grinding the washed live earthworm and freeze-drying the obtained ground product.

12 Claims, No Drawings