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(54) **SELECTION AND/OR ENHANCEMENT OF RESIDENT MICROORGANISMS IN THE GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT**

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This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

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Related U.S. Application Data

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(58) **Field of Search** 514/60; 435/252.1, 435/252.4, 252.7

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Improved method of enhancing a population of one or more target micoorganisms in the gastrointestinal tract of an animal, the improvement comprising providing to the animal a selected modified or unmodified resistant starch or mixtures thereof, such that the one or more microorganisms will selectively utilize the starch and/or increase in number and/or activity in the gastrointestinal tract, either uniformly throughout the gastrointestinal tract or at specific site or regions.

11 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets