

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

CORRECTED VERSION

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
1 July 2010 (01.07.2010)



(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2010/075405 A8**

(51) International Patent Classification:  
**D21C 1/00** (2006.01)

AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ,  
CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO,  
DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT,  
HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP,  
KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD,  
ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI,  
NO, NZ, OM, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD,  
SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT,  
TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/US2009/069232

(22) International Filing Date:  
22 December 2009 (22.12.2009)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
61/140,139 23 December 2008 (23.12.2008) US

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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report (Art. 21(3))

(48) Date of publication of this corrected version:

24 February 2011

(15) Information about Correction:  
see Notice of 24 February 2011



WO 2010/075405 A8

(54) Title: MODIFICATION OF BIOMASS FOR EFFICIENT CONVERSION TO FUELS

(57) Abstract: A process is disclosed for preparing biomass particles for thermolytic or enzymatic conversion whereby the biomass particles having a moisture content of at least 20% are subjected to flash heating. The flash heating may be preceded by one or more adsorption/desorption cycles with water or steam. A swelling aid may be added during the adsorption part of an adsorption/desorption cycle.