

# CPC COOPERATIVE PATENT CLASSIFICATION

## C CHEMISTRY; METALLURGY

(NOTES omitted)

### CHEMISTRY

#### C12 BIOCHEMISTRY; BEER; SPIRITS; WINE; VINEGAR; MICROBIOLOGY; ENZYMOLOGY; MUTATION OR GENETIC ENGINEERING

(NOTES omitted)

#### C12M APPARATUS FOR ENZYMOLOGY OR MICROBIOLOGY; {APPARATUS FOR CULTURING MICROORGANISMS FOR PRODUCING BIOMASS, FOR GROWING CELLS OR FOR OBTAINING FERMENTATION OR METABOLIC PRODUCTS, i.e. BIOREACTORS OR FERMENTERS}

##### NOTES

1. In this subclass the term microorganism includes prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells. Viruses, human, animal or plant cells, protozoa, tissues and unicellular algae are considered microorganisms.
2. When classifying an apparatus according to its use in group [C12M 21/00](#), classification should also be given in at least one of the groups [C12M 23/00-C12M 99/00](#).
3. This subclass covers apparatus or devices for the fermentation or for growing microorganisms or animal tissues of both laboratory and industrial scale, i.e. bioreactors.
4. This subclass covers also apparatus or devices for the pre-treatment or after-treatment of the biomass or microorganisms to be cultured or that have been cultured.
5. This subclass does not cover the methods or processes taking place in the bioreactors that are not based on the use of the parts of the apparatus.
6. This subclass does not cover:
  - apparatus for culturing plant tissue, which are covered by [A01H 4/001](#);
  - apparatus for preservation of living parts of bodies of humans or animals, which are covered by [A01N 1/0242](#);
  - apparatus or devices for testing sterility conditions not linked to a bioreactor or fermenter growing biomass, which are covered by [A61L 2/00](#), [G01N 31/226](#);
  - apparatus for biological treatment of water, waste water, sewage or sludge, which are covered by [C02F 3/00](#), [C02F 11/00](#);
  - apparatus for brewing of beer, which are covered by [C12C](#);
  - apparatus for production of wine or vinegar, which are covered by [C12G](#), [C12J 1/10](#);
  - apparatus or devices for DNA and RNA technology, which are covered by [B01L 7/52](#), [B01J 19/0046](#), [C12N 15/1003](#);
  - fermentation processes, which are covered by [C12P](#);
  - apparatus for bioleaching of ores, which are covered by [C22B 3/18](#);
  - removing cellulose from cellulosic substances, which is covered by [D21C](#);
  - apparatus or devices for sampling, detection, investigation or analysis of microorganisms or biosensors, which are covered by [G01N 33/48](#);
  - apparatus for automatic analysis not linked to a bioreactor or fermenter growing biomass, which are covered by [G01N 35/00](#);
  - testing or evaluating the effect of a chemical or biological compound involving human or animal cells, which are covered by [G01N 33/5005](#);
  - apparatus for immunological test processes, which are covered by [G01N 33/5302](#).

##### WARNING

In this subclass non-limiting references (in the sense of paragraph 39 of the Guide to the IPC) may still be displayed in the scheme.

#### 1/00 Apparatus for enzymology or microbiology

##### NOTE

This group covers:

- apparatus where microorganisms or enzymes are produced or isolated;
- apparatus where the characteristics of microorganisms or enzymes are investigated, e.g. which growth factors are necessary;

- apparatus specially adapted to employ microorganisms or enzymes as "reactants" or biocatalysts;
  - apparatus of both laboratory and industrial scale.
- |       |                                  |
|-------|----------------------------------|
| 1/002 | . {Photo bio reactors }          |
| 1/005 | . {Incubators }                  |
| 1/007 | . {Flexible bags or containers } |

1/02	. with agitation means; with heat exchange means	1/3492	. . {with use of lecture and interpretation devices, grids}
1/04	. with gas introduction means	1/36	. including condition or time responsive control, e.g. automatically controlled fermentors ( <a href="#">controlling or regulating in general C05</a> )
1/045	. . {providing an anaerobic atmosphere}	1/38	. . Temperature-responsive control
1/06	. . with agitator, e.g. impeller	1/40	. Apparatus specially designed for the use of free, immobilised, or carrier-bound enzymes, e.g. apparatus containing a fluidised bed of immobilised enzymes
1/065	. . . {on a horizontal axis}	1/42	. Apparatus for the treatment of microorganisms or enzymes with electrical or wave energy, e.g. magnetism, sonic waves
1/08	. . with draft tube	<b>3/00</b>	<b>Tissue, human, animal or plant cell, or virus culture apparatus</b>
1/09	. . Flotation apparatus	3/003	. {for culture in eggs}
1/10	. rotatably mounted	3/006	. {Cell injection or fusion devices}
1/107	. with means for collecting fermentation gases, e.g. methane ( <a href="#">producing methane by anaerobic treatment of sludge C02F 11/04</a> )	3/02	. with means providing suspensions
1/113	. . with transport of the substrate during the fermentation	3/04	. with means providing thin layers
1/12	. with sterilisation, filtration or dialysis means	3/043	. . {rotatably mounted}
1/121	. . {with sterilisation means}	3/046	. . . {Roller bottles}
1/123	. . {with flat plate filter elements}	3/06	. with filtration, ultrafiltration, inverse osmosis or dialysis means
1/125	. . . {Culture inserts}	3/062	. . {with flat plate filter elements}
1/126	. . {with hollow fibres or tubular filter elements}	3/065	. . {with hollow fibres or tubes}
1/128	. . {with moving or mobile filter elements}	3/067	. . {with moving or mobile filter elements}
1/14	. with means providing thin layers or with multi-level trays	3/08	. Apparatus for tissue disaggregation
1/16	. containing, or adapted to contain, solid media	3/10	. for culture in eggs
1/165	. . {treated with gel punching devices}	<b>21/00</b>	<b>{Bioreactors or fermenters specially adapted for specific uses (digesters for manure <a href="#">A01C 3/023</a>; apparatus for PCR <a href="#">B01L 7/52</a>; destroying or transforming solid waste <a href="#">B09B 3/00</a>; methods for genetic engineering <a href="#">C12N 15/00</a>, <a href="#">C12Q 1/68</a>; nucleic acid amplification reactions <a href="#">C12Q 1/6844</a>)}</b>
1/18	. . Multiple fields or compartments	21/02	. {Photobioreactors (culturing algae <a href="#">A01G 33/00</a> , <a href="#">A01H 4/001</a> , <a href="#">C12N 1/12</a> )}
1/20	. . . Horizontal planar fields	21/04	. {for producing gas, e.g. biogas (digesters for manure with production of biogas <a href="#">A01C 3/028</a> , biological treatment of water, waste water or sewage <a href="#">C02F 3/00</a> , <a href="#">C02F 11/02</a> , preparation of natural gas or syngas <a href="#">C10L 3/06</a> , <a href="#">C10L 3/10</a> )}
1/203	. . . . {Disc dispensing devices therefor}	21/06	. {for <a href="#">in vitro</a> fertilization}
1/206	. . . . {Multiple discs supporting devices}	21/08	. {for producing artificial tissue or for ex-vivo cultivation of tissue (prostheses <a href="#">A61F 2/00</a> , grafts <a href="#">A61L 27/00</a> )}
1/21	. Froth suppressors	21/10	. {adapted for the cultivation of avian eggs or in avian eggs, e.g. for vaccine production}
1/22	. Petri type dish	21/12	. {for producing fuels or solvents ( <a href="#">C12M 21/04</a> takes precedence; liquid carbonaceous fuels <a href="#">C10L 1/00</a> , solid fuels <a href="#">C10L 5/00</a> )}
1/24	. tube or bottle type ( <a href="#">anaerobic jars C12M 1/045</a> )	21/14	. {for producing enzymes}
1/26	. Inoculator or sampler	21/16	. {Solid state fermenters, e.g. for koji production}
1/261	. . {Airborne microorganism samplers}	21/18	. {Apparatus specially designed for the use of free, immobilized or carrier-bound enzymes}
1/262	. . {Handle streaking devices}	<b>23/00</b>	<b>{Constructional details, e.g. recesses, hinges (flow directing inserts in <a href="#">C12M 27/18</a>-<a href="#">C12M 27/24</a>; apparatus for chemical or physical processes in general <a href="#">B01J</a>, chemical or physical laboratory apparatus in general <a href="#">B01L</a>)}</b>
1/263	. . {Replica plating devices}	23/02	. {Form or structure of the vessel (large containers <a href="#">B65D 88/00</a> )}
1/264	. . {Devices involving centrifugal, centripetal or rotational forces}		
1/265	. . {Pipettes; Syringes; Suction devices}		
1/266	. . {Magnetic separators}		
1/267	. . {Biofilm separators}		
1/268	. . {Positioning tools for sampling or inoculating devices}		
1/28	. . being part of container		
1/30	. . . Sampler being a swab		
1/32	. . multiple field or continuous type		
1/33	. Disintegrators		
1/34	. Measuring or testing with condition measuring or sensing means, e.g. colony counters		
1/3407	. . {Measure of electrical or magnetical factor}		
1/3415	. . {Pressure measure, e.g. with manometers, respirometers}		
1/3423	. . {Calorimetry}		
1/343	. . {Mass spectrometry}		
1/3438	. . {with use of isotopes, e.g. radiorespirometers, scintillometers}		
1/3446	. . {Photometry, spectroscopy, laser technology}		
1/3453	. . . {Opacity, turbidity or light transmission measure; Nephelometry}		
1/3461	. . . {Bio- or chemi-luminescence}		
1/3469	. . . {Infra red spectroscopy}		
1/3476	. . . {Fluorescence spectroscopy}		
1/3484	. . {Pen or contact colony counters}		

23/04	. . {Flat or tray type, drawers ( <a href="#">C12M 23/10</a> , <a href="#">C12M 23/12</a> , <a href="#">C12M 23/16</a> take precedence)}	25/20	. . {Fluidized bed (in chemical or physical processes <a href="#">B01J 8/18</a> )}
23/06	. . {Tubular ( <a href="#">C12M 23/08</a> , <a href="#">C12M 23/16</a> take precedence)}	<b>27/00</b>	<b>{Means for mixing, agitating or circulating fluids in the vessel (by introduction of gas <a href="#">C12M 29/06</a>, <a href="#">C12M 29/14</a>, mixing in general or mixers <a href="#">per se B01F</a>; mixing in apparatus for chemical or physical processes <a href="#">B01J</a>)}</b>
23/08	. . {Flask, bottle or test tube}	27/02	. {Stirrer or mobile mixing elements}
23/10	. . {Petri dish (crystallising dishes <a href="#">B01L 3/06</a> )}	27/04	. . {with introduction of gas through the stirrer or mixing element}
23/12	. . {Well or multiwell plates ( <a href="#">C12M 25/04</a> takes precedence)}	27/06	. . {with horizontal or inclined stirrer shaft or axis}
23/14	. . {Bags}	27/08	. . {with different stirrer shapes in one shaft or axis}
23/16	. . {Microfluidic devices; Capillary tubes (integrated microfluidic structures <a href="#">B01L 3/5027</a> ; microreactors <a href="#">B01J 19/0093</a> )}	27/10	. {Rotating vessel}
23/18	. . {Open ponds; Greenhouse type or underground installations}	27/12	. . {Roller bottles; Roller tubes}
23/20	. {Material Coatings (immunocoatings <a href="#">C12M 25/00</a> )}	27/14	. {Rotation or movement of the cells support, e.g. rotated hollow fibers}
23/22	. {Transparent or translucent parts (glassware for laboratory use <a href="#">B01L 3/00</a> )}	27/16	. {Vibrating; Shaking; Tilting}
23/24	. {Gas permeable parts}	27/18	. {Flow directing inserts}
23/26	. {flexible (flexible containers for laboratory use <a href="#">B01L 3/505</a> )}	27/20	. . {Baffles; Ribs; Ribbons; Auger vanes}
23/28	. {disposable or single use}	27/22	. . {Perforated plates, discs or walls}
23/30	. {biodegradable}	27/24	. . {Draft tube ( <a href="#">C12M 29/08</a> takes precedence)}
23/32	. {Frangible parts}	<b>29/00</b>	<b>{Means for introduction, extraction or recirculation of materials, e.g. pumps (pumps <a href="#">per se F04B</a>)}</b>
23/34	. {Internal compartments or partitions}	29/02	. {Percolation}
23/36	. {Means for collection or storage of gas; Gas holders}	29/04	. {Filters; Permeable or porous membranes or plates, e.g. dialysis}
23/38	. {Caps; Covers; Plugs; Pouring means}	29/06	. {Nozzles; Sprayers; Spargers; Diffusers ( <a href="#">per se B01F 3/04106</a> , <a href="#">B01J 19/26</a> )}
23/40	. {Manifolds; Distribution pieces (fluid transfer means <a href="#">B01L 3/563</a> )}	29/08	. . {Air lift}
23/42	. {Integrated assemblies, e.g. cassettes or cartridges}	29/10	. {Perfusion}
23/44	. {Multiple separable units; Modules}	29/12	. {Pulsatile flow}
23/46	. {Means for fastening}	29/14	. {Pressurized fluid}
23/48	. {Holding appliances; Racks; Supports (holding devices for laboratory apparatus <a href="#">B01L 9/00</a> )}	29/16	. {Hollow fibers (hollow fiber modules in general <a href="#">B01D 63/02</a> )}
23/50	. {Means for positioning or orientating the apparatus ( <a href="#">C12M 41/08</a> takes precedence)}	29/18	. {External loop; Means for reintroduction of fermented biomass or liquid percolate (loop type reactors for chemical or physical processes <a href="#">B01J 19/2435</a> )}
23/52	. {Mobile; Means for transporting the apparatus (transportable laboratories <a href="#">B01L 99/00</a> )}	29/20	. {Degassing; Venting; Bubble traps (means for collection or storage of gas <a href="#">C12M 23/36</a> ; gas collection apparatus for laboratory use <a href="#">B01L 5/02</a> )}
23/54	. {hand portable}	29/22	. . {Oxygen discharge}
23/56	. {Floating elements}	29/24	. {Recirculation of gas}
23/58	. {Reaction vessels connected in series or in parallel (combinations of bioreactors with other apparatus, <a href="#">C12M 43/00</a> )}	29/26	. {Conditioning fluids entering or exiting the reaction vessel}
<b>25/00</b>	<b>{Means for supporting, enclosing or fixing the microorganisms, e.g. immunocoatings}</b>	<b>31/00</b>	<b>{Means for providing, directing, scattering or concentrating light (<a href="#">C12M 41/06</a> takes precedence)}</b>
25/01	. {Drops}	31/02	. {located outside the reactor}
25/02	. {Membranes; Filters (filters or filtration in general <a href="#">B01D 24/00-B01D 41/00</a> )}	31/04	. . {Mirrors}
25/04	. . {in combination with well or multiwell plates, i.e. culture inserts}	31/06	. . {Lenses}
25/06	. {Plates; Walls; Drawers; Multilayer plates}	31/08	. {by conducting or reflecting elements located inside the reactor or in its structure}
25/08	. . {electrically charged}	31/10	. {by light emitting elements located inside the reactor, e.g. LED or OLED}
25/10	. {Hollow fibers or tubes (hollow fiber modules in general <a href="#">B01D 63/02</a> )}	31/12	. {Rotating light emitting elements}
25/12	. . {the culture medium flowing outside the fiber or tube}		
25/14	. {Scaffolds; Matrices (in general <a href="#">C12N 5/0068</a> )}		
25/16	. {Particles; Beads; Granular material; Encapsulation (chemical or physical processes conducted in the presence of fluids and solid particles <a href="#">B01J 8/00</a> )}		
25/18	. . {Fixed or packed bed}		

<b>33/00</b>	<b>{Means for introduction, transport, positioning, extraction, harvesting, peeling or sampling of biological material in or from the apparatus</b> (chemical or physical laboratory apparatus in general <a href="#">B01L</a> , devices for taking cell samples <a href="#">A61B 10/0045</a> , withdrawing or distributing predetermined quantities of fluid <a href="#">B01L 99/00</a> )	<b>41/00</b>	<b>{Means for regulation, monitoring, measurement or control, e.g. flow regulation</b> (controlling or regulating chemical, physical or physicochemical processes <a href="#">B01J 19/0006</a> ; heating or cooling apparatus for laboratory use <a href="#">B01L 7/00</a> ; electro optical investigation of individual particles, flow cytometers <a href="#">G01N 15/14</a> ; automatic analysis <a href="#">G01N 35/00</a> ; controlling or regulating in general <a href="#">G06N</a> )
33/02	• {by impregnation, e.g. using swabs or loops (fluid transport using swabs <a href="#">B01L 3/5029</a> )}	41/02	• {of foam (foam prevention during gasification of liquids <a href="#">B01D 19/02</a> )}
33/04	• {by injection or suction, e.g. using pipettes, syringes, needles (pipettes in general <a href="#">B01L 3/02</a> )}	41/04	• . {Means for foam enhancement (making foam by mixing <a href="#">B01F 3/04446</a> )}
33/06	• . {for multiple inoculation or multiple collection of samples}	41/06	• {of illumination}
33/07	• . {Dosage or metering devices therefore}	41/08	• . {Means for changing the orientation}
33/08	• {by vibration}	41/10	• . {Filtering the incident radiation}
33/10	• {by centrifugation (centrifuges in general <a href="#">B04B</a> ); Cyclones (cyclones in general <a href="#">B04C</a> )}	41/12	• {of temperature (controlling the temperature of chemical or physical processes <a href="#">B01J 19/0013</a> , heating or cooling apparatus for laboratory use <a href="#">B01L 7/00</a> )}
33/12	• {by pressure}	41/14	• . {Incubators; Climatic chambers ( <i>per se</i> <a href="#">B01L 1/00</a> )}
33/14	• {with filters, sieves or membranes}	41/16	• . {by recirculation of culture medium at controlled temperature}
33/16	• {Screw conveyor}	41/18	• . {Heat exchange systems, e.g. heat jackets or outer envelopes}
33/18	• {Rollers}	41/20	• . . {the heat transfer medium being a gas}
33/20	• {Ribbons}	41/22	• . . {in contact with the bioreactor walls}
33/22	• {Settling tanks; Sedimentation by gravity (settling tanks <i>per se</i> <a href="#">B01D 21/02</a> )}	41/24	• . . {inside the vessel}
<b>35/00</b>	<b>{Means for application of stress for stimulating the growth of microorganisms or the generation of fermentation or metabolic products; Means for electroporation or cell fusion</b> (machines for extracting juice from animal or plant tissue by electroporation <a href="#">A23N 1/006</a> , processes employing electric or wave energy <a href="#">B01J 19/08</a> ; treatment of microorganisms or enzymes with electrical or wave energy <a href="#">C12N 13/00</a> ; methods for cell fusion <a href="#">C12N 15/02</a> ; introduction of foreign genetic material <a href="#">C12N 15/87</a> )	41/26	• {of pH}
35/02	• {Electrical or electromagnetic means, e.g. for electroporation or for cell fusion}	41/28	• {of redox potential}
35/04	• {Mechanical means, e.g. sonic waves, stretching forces, pressure or shear stimuli}	41/30	• {of concentration}
35/06	• {Magnetic means ( <a href="#">C12M 35/02</a> takes precedence)}	41/32	• . {of substances in solution}
35/08	• {Chemical, biochemical or biological means, e.g. plasma jet, co-culture}	41/34	• . {of gas}
<b>37/00</b>	<b>{Means for sterilizing, maintaining sterile conditions or avoiding chemical or biological contamination</b> ( <a href="#">C12M 23/38</a> takes precedence; filtration in general and filters <i>per se</i> <a href="#">B01D 24/00</a> - <a href="#">B01D 41/00</a> ; autoclaves <a href="#">B01J 3/04</a> ; treatment of microorganisms with electrical or wave energy <a href="#">C12N 13/00</a> )	41/36	• . {of biomass, e.g. colony counters or by turbidity measurements (electrooptical investigation of individual particles <a href="#">G01N 15/14</a> , flow cytometers <a href="#">G01N 15/1404</a> )}
37/02	• {Filters}	41/38	• . {of metabolites or enzymes in the cells}
37/04	• {Seals}	41/40	• {of pressure}
37/06	• {Means for testing the completeness of the sterilization (testing for sterility conditions <a href="#">C12Q 1/22</a> )}	41/42	• {of agitation speed}
<b>39/00</b>	<b>{Means for cleaning the apparatus or avoiding unwanted deposits of microorganisms</b> (apparatus for cleaning laboratory receptacles or instruments <a href="#">B01L 99/00</a> ; cleaning in general <a href="#">B08B</a> )	41/44	• {of volume or liquid level}
		41/46	• {of cellular or enzymatic activity or functionality, e.g. cell viability}
		41/48	• {Automatic or computerized control (automatic analysis <a href="#">G01N 35/00</a> )}
		<b>43/00</b>	<b>{Combinations of bioreactors or fermenters with other apparatus}</b>
		43/02	• {Bioreactors or fermenters combined with devices for liquid fuel extraction; Biorefineries}
		43/04	• {Bioreactors or fermenters combined with combustion devices or plants, e.g. for carbon dioxide removal ( <a href="#">C12M 43/06</a> takes precedence; recovery of carbon dioxide <a href="#">C12F 3/02</a> )}
		43/06	• {Photobioreactors combined with devices or plants for gas production different from a bioreactor of fermenter}
		43/08	• {Bioreactors or fermenters combined with devices or plants for production of electricity}
		<b>45/00</b>	<b>{Means for pre-treatment of biological substances}</b>
		45/02	• {by mechanical forces; Stirring; Trituration; Comminuting (crushing, pulverizing, disintegrating in general <a href="#">B02C</a> )}

## C12M

- 45/03 . {by control of the humidity or content of liquids; Drying}
- 45/04 . {Phase separators; Separation of non fermentable material; Fractionation}
- 45/05 . {by centrifugation ([centrifuges in general B04B](#))}
- 45/06 . {by chemical means or hydrolysis}
- 45/07 . {by electrical or electromagnetic forces}
- 45/09 . {by enzymatic treatment}
- 45/20 . {Heating; Cooling (heating or cooling apparatus for laboratory uses [B01L 7/00](#))}
- 45/22 . {Means for packing or storing viable microorganisms (casings for storing cell samples [A61B 10/0096](#), preservation of living parts of the human or animal body [A01N 1/02](#))}
  
- 47/00** **{Means for after-treatment of the produced biomass or of the fermentation or metabolic products, e.g. storage of biomass (filters in general [B01D 23/00-B01D 41/00](#))}**
- 47/02 . {Separating microorganisms from the culture medium; Concentration of biomass ([separating microorganisms from their culture media C12N 1/02](#))}
- 47/04 . {Cell isolation or sorting ([purging biological preparations of unwanted cells C12N 5/0081](#), determining the presence or kind of microorganism [C12Q 1/04](#))}
- 47/06 . {Hydrolysis; Cell lysis; Extraction of intracellular or cell wall material (lysis of microorganisms [C12N 1/06](#); extracting or separating nucleic acids from biological samples [C12N 15/1003](#))}
- 47/08 . {Homogenizing}
- 47/10 . {Separation or concentration of fermentation products ([bioreactors combined with means for distillation or extraction of liquid fuel C12M 43/02](#))}
- 47/12 . {Purification ([C12M 47/04](#) takes precedence)}
- 47/14 . {Drying}
- 47/16 . {Sterilization ([autoclaves in general B01J 3/04](#))}
- 47/18 . {Gas cleaning, e.g. scrubbers; Separation of different gases ([separating dispersed particles from gases or vapours B01D 45/00](#); separation of gases or vapours [B01D 53/00](#); gas washing apparatus for laboratory uses [B01L 5/04](#))}
- 47/20 . {Heating or cooling (heating or cooling apparatus for laboratory uses [B01L 7/00](#))}
  
- 99/00** **{Subject matter not otherwise provided for in other groups of this subclass}**
- 99/02 . {Disc dispensing devices}

## C12M

### APPARATUS FOR ENZYMOLOGY OR MICROBIOLOGY; {APPARATUS FOR CULTURING MICROORGANISMS FOR PRODUCING BIOMASS, FOR GROWING CELLS OR FOR OBTAINING FERMENTATION OR METABOLIC PRODUCTS, i.e. BIOREACTORS OR FERMENTERS}

#### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Apparatus or devices specially adapted to the fermentation or to the growth of microorganisms, animal or plant cells or tissues, i.e. bioreactors and fermenters. The apparatus or devices covered by this subclass are designed for producing biomass or artificial tissues in laboratory or industrial scale.

The most simple bioreactor or fermenter is an apparatus comprising at least a container where the microorganisms or cells are placed and which is put under conditions that make it suitable for the culturing of the microorganisms or cells.

This subclass covers also devices for the pre-treatment of the material to be treated in the apparatus and for the after-treatment of the biomass, cells or tissues grown in the apparatus.

This subclass does not cover the methods or processes taking place in bioreactors which are not based on the use of the apparatus or its parts.

In this subclass the term microorganism includes prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells. Viruses, human, animal or plant cells, protozoa and unicellular algae are considered microorganisms.

#### Relationships with other classification places

Apparatus and devices per se which are not specifically intended or adapted for culturing microorganisms or cells are classified in the subclasses corresponding to their general function, e.g. mixing and mixers in general [B01F](#), chemical or physical laboratory apparatus for general use [B01L](#), apparatus for chemical or physical processes in general [B01J](#).

Documents describing an apparatus or device and mentioning its use for culturing microorganisms, cells or tissue among other different uses are to be primarily classified in the subclasses corresponding to the general type of apparatus or device (e.g. [B01F](#), [B01L](#), [B01J](#), etc.) with a secondary classification should be given in [C12M](#).

[C12M](#) covers devices for controlling the product of the biomass production process taking place in the bioreactor. The analysis and determination of microorganisms and cells per se as well as apparatus for cellular observation or diagnostic are classified in [C12Q](#) and [G01N](#).

#### References

##### Limiting references

*This place does not cover:*

Apparatus for culturing plant tissue	<a href="#">A01H 4/001</a>
Apparatus for preserving living parts of the human or animal body	<a href="#">A01N 1/0242</a>
Apparatus or devices for disinfecting or sterilising in general. Investigating the degree of sterilization	<a href="#">A61L 2/00</a> , <a href="#">G01N 31/226</a>
Chemical or physical processes in general. Chemical or physical laboratory apparatus for general use. Investigating or analysing biological material	<a href="#">B01J</a> , <a href="#">B01L</a> , <a href="#">G01N 33/48</a>
Apparatus or devices for DNA or RNA technology	<a href="#">B01L 7/52</a> , <a href="#">B01J 19/0046</a> , <a href="#">C12N 15/1003</a>

Apparatus for the biological treatment of water, waste water, sewage or sludge	<a href="#">C02F 3/00</a> , <a href="#">C02F 11/00</a>
Apparatus for preparing fertilisers characterised by the composting step	<a href="#">C05F 17/02</a>
Apparatus for beer brewing	<a href="#">C12C</a>
Apparatus for production of wine or vinegar	<a href="#">C12G</a> , <a href="#">C12J 1/10</a>
Fermentation processes	<a href="#">C12P</a>
Apparatus for bioleaching of ores	<a href="#">C22B 3/18</a>
Removing non-cellulose substances from cellulose-containing materials	<a href="#">D21C</a>
Investigating individual particles	<a href="#">G01N 15/10</a>
Testing or evaluating the effect of a chemical or biological compound involving human or animal cells	<a href="#">G01N 33/5005</a>
Investigating or analysing biological material by immunoassay	<a href="#">G01N 33/5302</a>
Automatic analysis	<a href="#">G01N 35/00</a>

### Special rules of classification

IPC groups [C12M 1/00](#) - [C12M 3/00](#) are not used in CPC.

The CPC groups [C12M 21/00](#) - [C12M 99/00](#) do not correspond to former or current IPC groups.

The concordance table ECLA:IPC under the title of the subclass should be disregarded.

All the inventive technical features of the bioreactor should be classified in the corresponding groups and subgroups of [C12M](#). Additional information can also be classified in [C12M](#) and should be taken into account for proposing a classification in other subclasses.

The last place rule for classification is not used in [C12M](#).

### Glossary of terms

*In this place, the following terms or expressions are used with the meaning indicated:*

Bioreactor	Apparatus comprising at least a container where the microorganisms or cells are placed and which is put under conditions that make it suitable for the culturing of the microorganisms or cells.
Fermenter	Term used for bioreactors for culturing bacteria or yeast with the purpose of obtaining their metabolic or fermentation products

### Synonyms and Keywords

*In patent documents, the following abbreviations are often used:*

Bioreactor	Fermenter, Digester, Biodigester
Cell growth	Cell expansion, cell differentiation
Incubator	Apparatus for temperature control

## C12M 21/00

{Bioreactors or fermenters specially adapted for specific uses (digesters for manure [A01C 3/023](#); apparatus for PCR [B01L 7/52](#); destroying or transforming solid waste [B09B 3/00](#); methods for genetic engineering [C12N 15/00](#), [C12Q 1/68](#); nucleic acid amplification reactions [C12Q 1/6844](#))}

### References

#### Limiting references

*This place does not cover:*

Apparatus for biological treatment of water, waste water, sewage or sludge	<a href="#">C02F 3/00</a> , <a href="#">C02F 11/00</a>
Apparatus for preparing organic fertiliser by composting	<a href="#">C05F 17/02</a>

#### Informative references

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Digesters for manure	<a href="#">A01C 3/023</a>
Apparatus for PCR	<a href="#">B01L 7/52</a>
Destroying or transforming solid waste	<a href="#">B09B 3/00</a>
Methods for genetic engineering	<a href="#">C12N 15/00</a> , <a href="#">C12Q 1/68</a>
Nucleic acid amplification reactions	<a href="#">C12Q 1/6844</a>

### Special rules of classification

The main group [C12M 21/00](#) should not be used for classification.

The titles of the subgroups of [C12M 21/00](#) form a non exhaustive list of the most common uses of bioreactors or fermenters covered by [C12M](#). Documents relating to one of the uses enumerated in the subgroups of [C12M 21/00](#) should be classified in the relevant subgroups. Documents on bioreactors or fermenters which are not related to one of the uses enumerated in the subgroups of [C12M 21/00](#) should not be classified in [C12M 21/00](#) or its subgroups at all.

Notwithstanding the classification according to the use in [C12M 21/00](#), at least a further classification should be given in [C12M 23/00](#) - [C12M 99/00](#) according the technical features of the apparatus.

## C12M 21/02

{Photobioreactors (culturing algae [A01G 33/00](#), [A01H 4/001](#), [C12N 1/12](#))}

### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Bioreactors or fermenters using a source of illumination which is needed for achieving cellular growth.

Photobioreactors can be closed systems or open systems such ponds or basins.

## References

### Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Methods for culturing algae	<a href="#">A01G 33/00</a> , <a href="#">C12N 1/12</a>
Apparatus for plant tissue culture	<a href="#">A01H 4/001</a>

## Glossary of terms

In this place, the following terms or expressions are used with the meaning indicated:

PBR	Photobioreactor
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## C12M 21/04

{for producing gas, e.g. biogas (digesters for manure with production of biogas [A01C 3/028](#), biological treatment of water, waste water or sewage [C02F 3/00](#), [C02F 11/02](#), preparation of natural gas or syngas [C10L 3/06](#), [C10L 3/10](#))}

## References

### Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Biological treatment of water, waste water, sewage or sludge	<a href="#">C02F 3/00</a> , <a href="#">C02F 11/02</a>
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### Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Digesters for manure with production of biogas	<a href="#">A01C 3/028</a>
Preparation of natural gas or syngas or other gaseous fuels	<a href="#">C10L 3/06</a> , <a href="#">C10L 3/08</a> , <a href="#">C10L 3/10</a>

## C12M 21/06

{for in vitro fertilization}

## Glossary of terms

In this place, the following terms or expressions are used with the meaning indicated:

IVF	in vitro fertilization
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## C12M 21/08

{for producing artificial tissue or for ex-vivo cultivation of tissue (prostheses [A61F 2/00](#), grafts [A61L 27/00](#))}

### References

#### Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Prostheses, artificial parts of the human body	<a href="#">A61F 2/00</a>
Grafts, transplant tissues	<a href="#">A61L 27/00</a>

## C12M 21/12

{for producing fuels or solvents ([C12M 21/04](#) takes precedence; liquid carbonaceous fuels [C10L 1/00](#), solid fuels [C10L 5/00](#))}

### References

#### Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Bioreactors or fermenters for producing gas	<a href="#">C12M 21/04</a>
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#### Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Grafts, transplant tissues	<a href="#">A61L 27/00</a>
Liquid carbonaceous fuels	<a href="#">C10L 1/00</a>
Solid Fuels	<a href="#">C10L 5/00</a>

## C12M 21/16

{Solid state fermenters, e.g. for koji production}

### Definition statement

This place covers:

Bioreactors or fermenters for solid state fermentation. Solid state fermentation is characterized by a content of at least 90% of dry matter. In the solid state fermentation the liquid phase is not continuous.

### Glossary of terms

In this place, the following terms or expressions are used with the meaning indicated:

SSF	Solid-state fermentation
SLF	Submerged liquid fermentation
Non submerged state fermenter	Solid-state fermenter

## C12M 23/00

{Constructional details, e.g. recesses, hinges (flow directing inserts in [C12M 27/18](#)-[C12M 27/24](#); apparatus for chemical or physical processes in general [B01J](#), chemical or physical laboratory apparatus in general [B01L](#))}

### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Apparatus or devices for culturing microorganisms or cells or for culturing tissues characterized by constructional details of the vessel of the bioreactor or characterized by parts with a mechanical function not covered by groups [C12M 25/00](#) - [C12M 41/00](#).

### References

#### Limiting references

*This place does not cover:*

Flow directing inserts	<a href="#">C12M 27/18</a>
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#### Informative references

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Apparatus for chemical or physical processes in general	<a href="#">B01J</a>
Chemical or physical laboratory apparatus in general	<a href="#">B01L</a>

## C12M 23/02

{Form or structure of the vessel (large containers [B65D 88/00](#))}

### References

#### Limiting references

*This place does not cover:*

Large containers in general	<a href="#">B65D 88/00</a>
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## C12M 23/04

{Flat or tray type, drawers ([C12M 23/10](#), [C12M 23/12](#), [C12M 23/16](#) take precedence)}

### References

#### Limiting references

*This place does not cover:*

Petri dish	<a href="#">C12M 23/10</a>
Well or multiwell plates	<a href="#">C12M 23/12</a>
Microfluidic devices; Capillary tubes	<a href="#">C12M 23/16</a>

**C12M 23/06****{Tubular ([C12M 23/08](#), [C12M 23/16](#) take precedence)}****References****Limiting references***This place does not cover:*

Test tubes	<a href="#">C12M 23/08</a>
Capillary tubes	<a href="#">C12M 23/16</a>

**C12M 23/08****{Flask, bottle or test tube}****References****Informative references***Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Tubes and flasks for laboratory use in general	<a href="#">B01L 3/561</a> , <a href="#">B01L 3/08</a>
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**C12M 23/10****{Petri dish (crystallising dishes [B01L 3/06](#))}****References****Informative references***Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Crystallizing dishes in general	<a href="#">B01L 3/06</a>
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**C12M 23/12****{Well or multiwell plates ([C12M 25/04](#) takes precedence)}****References****Limiting references***This place does not cover:*

Membranes or filters in combination with well or multiwell plates	<a href="#">C12M 25/04</a>
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**Informative references***Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Multi-well filtration in general	<a href="#">B01L 3/50255</a>
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**C12M 23/16**

{Microfluidic devices; Capillary tubes (integrated microfluidic structures [B01L 3/5027](#); microreactors [B01J 19/0093](#))}

**References****Informative references**

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Biochips	<a href="#">B01J 19/0046</a>
Microreactors per se	<a href="#">B01J 19/0093</a>
Integrated microfluidic devices in general	<a href="#">B01L 3/5027</a>

**C12M 23/18**

{Open ponds; Greenhouse type or underground installations}

**Definition statement**

*This place covers:*

i.a. combinations of closed and open bioreactors.

**References****Limiting references**

*This place does not cover:*

Closed bioreactors which are situated in or on an open water space itself not used for culture	<a href="#">C12M 23/56</a>
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**C12M 23/20**

{Material Coatings (immunocoatings [C12M 25/00](#))}

**Definition statement**

*This place covers:*

Materials and coatings for the materials other than immunocoatings.

**References****Limiting references**

*This place does not cover:*

Immunocoatings	<a href="#">C12M 25/00</a>
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**C12M 23/22****{Transparent or translucent parts (glassware for laboratory use [B01L 3/00](#))}****References*****Informative references****Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Glassware for laboratory use in general	<a href="#">B01L 3/00</a>
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**C12M 23/26****{flexible (flexible containers for laboratory use [B01L 3/505](#))}****References*****Limiting references****This place does not cover:*

Bags	<a href="#">C12M 23/14</a>
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***Informative references****Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Flexible containers for laboratory use in genera	<a href="#">B01L 3/505</a>
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**C12M 23/40****{Manifolds; Distribution pieces (fluid transfer means [B01L 3/563](#))}****References*****Informative references****Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Fluid transfer means in general	<a href="#">B01L 3/563</a>
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**C12M 23/42****{Integrated assemblies, e.g. cassettes or cartridges}****Definition statement***This place covers:*

Bioreactors or fermenters built as integral units comprising all the different parts disposed in a compact unit. This compact unit comprising all parts of the bioreactor can be in the form of a cassette or a cartridge which could also be assembled with other devices.

**C12M 23/44****{Multiple separable units; Modules}****Definition statement***This place covers:*

Bioreactors or fermenters comprising separated or separable units which can be mounted or dismounted independently from each other.

**References****Limiting references***This place does not cover:*

Reaction vessels connected in series or in parallel	<a href="#">C12M 23/58</a>
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**C12M 23/48****{Holding appliances; Racks; Supports (holding devices for laboratory apparatus [B01L 9/00](#))}****References****Informative references***Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Holding devices for laboratory use in general	<a href="#">B01L 9/00</a>
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**C12M 23/50****{Means for positioning or orientating the apparatus ([C12M 41/08](#) takes precedence)}****References****Limiting references***This place does not cover:*

Control of illumination by means of changing the orientation	<a href="#">C12M 41/08</a>
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**C12M 23/52****{Mobile; Means for transporting the apparatus (transportable laboratories [B01L 99/00](#))}****References****Informative references***Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Transportable laboratories in general	<a href="#">B01L 99/00</a>
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## C12M 23/58

{Reaction vessels connected in series or in parallel (combinations of bioreactors with other apparatus, [C12M 43/00](#))}

### References

#### Limiting references

*This place does not cover:*

Combinations of bioreactors or fermenters with other apparatus (different from a bioreactor or fermenter)	<a href="#">C12M 43/00</a>
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#### Informative references

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Connected reactors for chemical or physical processes in general	<a href="#">B01J 19/1818</a> , <a href="#">B01J 19/1825</a> , <a href="#">B01J 19/1856</a> , <a href="#">B01J 19/1862</a> , <a href="#">B01J 19/242</a> , <a href="#">B01J 19/2425</a> , <a href="#">B01J 19/2445</a> , <a href="#">B01J 19/245</a>
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## C12M 25/00

{Means for supporting, enclosing or fixing the microorganisms, e.g. immunocoatings}

### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Apparatus, devices or systems for culturing microorganisms or cells or for culturing tissues characterized by the means for supporting the organism to be cultured, e.g. immunological coatings of the walls of the vessel.

### Relationships with other classification places

Note that [C12N 5/0068](#) covers supports for cell culture "per se" and [C12M 25/00](#) and subgroups covers these supports when they form part of a bioreactor or fermenter.

### References

#### Informative references

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Apparatus in general for separation processes using semipermeable membranes	<a href="#">B01D 63/00</a>
Fluidized bed apparatus	<a href="#">B01J 8/18</a>
Packing elements for chemical or physical processes	<a href="#">B01J 19/32</a>

**C12M 25/02****{Membranes; Filters (filters or filtration in general [B01D 24/00](#)-[B01D 41/00](#))}****References*****Informative references****Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Filters or filtration in general	<a href="#">B01D 24/00</a> - <a href="#">B01D 41/00</a>
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**C12M 25/10****{Hollow fibers or tubes (hollow fiber modules in general [B01D 63/02](#))}****References*****Informative references****Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Hollow fibre modules in general	<a href="#">B01D 63/02</a>
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**C12M 25/14****{Scaffolds; Matrices (in general [C12N 5/0068](#))}****References*****Informative references****Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Substrate, supports and/or coatings for cell culture	<a href="#">C12N 5/0068</a> , <a href="#">C12N 2533/00</a>
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**C12M 25/16****{Particles; Beads; Granular material; Encapsulation (chemical or physical processes conducted in the presence of fluids and solid particles [B01J 8/00](#))}****References*****Informative references****Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Chemical or physical processes conducted in the presence of fluids and solid particles	<a href="#">B01J 8/00</a>
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**C12M 25/20****{Fluidized bed (in chemical or physical processes [B01J 8/18](#))}****References****Informative references***Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Fluidized bed apparatus in chemical or physical processes	<a href="#">B01J 8/18</a>
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**C12M 27/00****{Means for mixing, agitating or circulating fluids in the vessel (by introduction of gas [C12M 29/06](#), [C12M 29/14](#), mixing in general or mixers per se [B01F](#); mixing in apparatus for chemical or physical processes [B01J](#))}****Definition statement***This place covers:*

Bioreactors or fermenters characterized by means for mixing, agitating or fluid circulation.

**Relationships with other classification places**Mixing and mixers in general are covered by [B01F](#).**References****Limiting references***This place does not cover:*

Bioreactors or fermenters characterized by means for mixing, agitating or fluid circulation by introduction of gas when the gas is not introduced through an stirrer	<a href="#">C12M 29/06</a> , <a href="#">C12M 29/14</a>
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**Informative references***Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Digesters for manure with mixing means	<a href="#">A01C 3/026</a>
Mixing in apparatus for chemical or physical processes	<a href="#">B01J</a>

**C12M 27/02****{Stirrer or mobile mixing elements}****References****Informative references***Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Mixing with completely immersed stirring elements	<a href="#">B01F 3/04531</a>
Stirrers in general	<a href="#">B01F 7/00008</a>
Stirred reactor in general	<a href="#">B01J 19/0066</a>

**C12M 27/04****{with introduction of gas through the stirrer or mixing element}****References****Informative references***Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Mixing in general with introduction of gas through the stirrer	<a href="#">B01F 3/04539</a>
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**C12M 27/06****{with horizontal or inclined stirrer shaft or axis}****References****Informative references***Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Mixing in general with stirrer rotating around an horizontal axis	<a href="#">B01F 3/04588</a>
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**C12M 27/10****{Rotating vessel}****References****Informative references***Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Mixers with rotating receptacles per se	<a href="#">B01F 9/00</a>
Rotating reactors in general	<a href="#">B01J 19/28</a>

**C12M 27/16****{Vibrating; Shaking; Tilting}****References****Informative references***Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Mixers in general with shaking, oscillating or vibrating mechanisms	<a href="#">B01F 11/00</a>
In chemical or physical processes in general	<a href="#">B01J 19/285</a>

**C12M 27/20****{Baffles; Ribs; Ribbons; Auger vanes}****References****Informative references***Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Baffles in general	<a href="#">B01F 15/00915</a>
Baffles in reactors for physical or chemical processes	<a href="#">B01J 19/006</a>

**C12M 29/00****{Means for introduction, extraction or recirculation of materials, e.g. pumps (pumps per se [F04B](#))}****Definition statement***This place covers:*

Means for introduction or extraction of materials in or from a bioreactor or fermenter. These materials can be in gaseous, liquid or solid form and do not include microorganisms or biomass.

Means for extraction and reintroduction (i.e. recirculation) of materials other than microorganisms or biomass are also covered in this section.

**References****Limiting references***This place does not cover:*

Pumps per se	<a href="#">F04B</a>
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**C12M 29/02****{Percolation}****Definition statement***This place covers:*

Bioreactors or fermenters with a recirculation of filtered culture medium not containing microorganisms or cells to the same vessel or to a different bioreactor vessel.

**C12M 29/06****{Nozzles; Sprayers; Spargers; Diffusers (per se [B01F 3/04106](#), [B01J 19/26](#))}****References****Informative references***Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Mixing in general by use of nozzles, diffusers or sprayers	<a href="#">B01F 3/04106</a> , <a href="#">B01F 5/02</a> , <a href="#">B01F 5/04</a> , <a href="#">B01F 5/18</a> , <a href="#">B01J 19/26</a>
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**C12M 29/16****{Hollow fibers (hollow fiber modules in general [B01D 63/02](#))}****Definition statement***This place covers:*

Hollow fibers used as means for introduction or extraction of materials in the bioreactor or fermenter.

**References****Limiting references***This place does not cover:*

Hollow fibers used as means for supporting the microorganisms.	<a href="#">C12M 25/10</a>
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**Informative references***Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Hollow fibre modules in general	<a href="#">B01D 63/02</a>
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**C12M 29/18****{External loop; Means for reintroduction of fermented biomass or liquid percolate (loop type reactors for chemical or physical processes [B01J 19/2435](#))}****Definition statement***This place covers:*

Bioreactors or fermenters with systems for recirculation and reintroduction of biomass or culture medium containing microorganisms or cells.

**References****Informative references***Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Loop type reactors for chemical and physical processes in general	<a href="#">B01J 19/2435</a>
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**C12M 29/20****{Degassing; Venting; Bubble traps (means for collection or storage of gas [C12M 23/36](#); gas collection apparatus for laboratory use [B01L 5/02](#))}****References****Limiting references***This place does not cover:*

Means for collection or storage of gas	<a href="#">C12M 23/36</a>
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**Informative references**

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Gas collection apparatus for laboratory use in general	<a href="#">B01L 5/02</a>
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**C12M 31/00**

{Means for providing, directing, scattering or concentrating light ([C12M 41/06](#) takes precedence)}

**References****Limiting references**

This place does not cover:

Means for control of illumination	<a href="#">C12M 41/06</a>
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**C12M 31/12**

{Rotating light emitting elements}

**Definition statement**

This place covers:

Bioreactors or fermenters with rotating light emitting and/or light transmitting elements.

**C12M 33/00**

{Means for introduction, transport, positioning, extraction, harvesting, peeling or sampling of biological material in or from the apparatus (chemical or physical laboratory apparatus in general [B01L](#), devices for taking cell samples [A61B 10/0045](#), withdrawing or distributing predetermined quantities of fluid [B01L 99/00](#))}

**Definition statement**

This place covers:

Means for introduction into the bioreactor or extraction from the bioreactor of biomass comprising the microorganisms or cells that are to be cultured or have been already cultured.

Means for shifting the biomass or positioning the biomass inside the bioreactor.

**References****Limiting references**

This place does not cover:

Loop means for reintroduction of biomass	<a href="#">C12M 29/18</a>
Sampling of air borne microorganisms	<a href="#">G01N 33/497</a>

**Informative references**

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Devices for taking samples of body liquids	<a href="#">A61B 10/0045</a>
Chemical or physical laboratory apparatus in general	<a href="#">B01L</a>
Withdrawing or distributing predetermined quantities of fluid	<a href="#">B01L 3/0289</a>

**C12M 33/02**

{by impregnation, e.g. using swabs or loops (fluid transport using swabs [B01L 3/5029](#))}

**Definition statement**

This place covers:

Absorbing means for transferring liquids.

**References****Informative references**

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Fluid transport using swabs	<a href="#">B01L 3/5029</a>
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**C12M 33/04**

{by injection or suction, e.g. using pipettes, syringes, needles (pipettes in general [B01L 3/02](#))}

**References****Informative references**

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Pipettes in general	<a href="#">B01L 3/02</a>
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**C12M 33/10**

{by centrifugation (centrifuges in general [B04B](#)); Cyclones (cyclones in general [B04C](#))}

**References****Informative references**

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Centrifuges in general	<a href="#">B04B</a>
Cyclones in general	<a href="#">B04C</a>

## C12M 35/00

{Means for application of stress for stimulating the growth of microorganisms or the generation of fermentation or metabolic products; Means for electroporation or cell fusion (machines for extracting juice from animal or plant tissue by electroplasmolysis [A23N 1/006](#), processes employing electric or wave energy [B01J 19/08](#); treatment of microorganisms or enzymes with electrical or wave energy [C12N 13/00](#); methods for cell fusion [C12N 15/02](#); introduction of foreign genetic material [C12N 15/87](#))}

### References

#### Limiting references

*This place does not cover:*

Methods for cell fusion	<a href="#">C12N 15/02</a>
Introduction of foreign genetic material	<a href="#">C12N 15/87</a>

#### Informative references

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Machines or apparatus for extracting juice from animal or vegetable tissue by electroplasmolysis	<a href="#">A23N 1/006</a>
Processes employing electric or wave energy	<a href="#">B01J 19/08</a>
Treatment of microorganisms or enzymes with electrical or wave energy	<a href="#">C12N 13/00</a>

## C12M 35/06

{Magnetic means ([C12M 35/02](#) takes precedence)}

### References

#### Limiting references

*This place does not cover:*

Application of stress on microorganisms or cells or electroporation by electromagnetic means	<a href="#">C12M 35/02</a>
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## C12M 37/00

{Means for sterilizing, maintaining sterile conditions or avoiding chemical or biological contamination ([C12M 23/38](#) takes precedence; filtration in general and filters per se [B01D 24/00-B01D 41/00](#); autoclaves [B01J 3/04](#); treatment of microorganisms with electrical or wave energy [C12N 13/00](#))}

### References

#### Limiting references

*This place does not cover:*

Caps or covers	<a href="#">C12M 23/38</a>
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**Informative references**

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Filters and filtration in general	<a href="#">B01D 24/00</a> - <a href="#">B01D 41/00</a>
Autoclaves	<a href="#">B01J 3/04</a>
Treatment of microorganisms with electrical or wave energy	<a href="#">C12N 13/00</a>

**C12M 37/04**

{Seals}

**References****Informative references**

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Seals for reactors in general	<a href="#">B01J 19/0073</a>
Seals for laboratory containers	<b>B01L3/00B4</b>
Seals in general	<a href="#">F16L</a>

**C12M 37/06**

{Means for testing the completeness of the sterilization (testing for sterility conditions [C12Q 1/22](#))}

**References****Informative references**

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Sterilizing in general	<a href="#">A61L</a>
Testing for sterility conditions	<a href="#">C12Q 1/22</a>

**C12M 39/00**

{Means for cleaning the apparatus or avoiding unwanted deposits of microorganisms (apparatus for cleaning laboratory receptacles or instruments [B01L 99/00](#); cleaning in general [B08B](#))}

**References****Informative references**

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Apparatus for cleaning laboratory receptacles or instruments	<a href="#">B01L 99/00</a>
Cleaning in general	<a href="#">B08B</a>

**C12M 41/00**

{Means for regulation, monitoring, measurement or control, e.g. flow regulation (controlling or regulating chemical, physical or physicochemical processes [B01J 19/0006](#); heating or cooling apparatus for laboratory use [B01L 7/00](#); electro optical investigation of individual particles, flow cytometers [G01N 15/14](#); automatic analysis [G01N 35/00](#); controlling or regulating in general [G06N](#))}

**References****Informative references**

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Controlling or regulating chemical, physical or physico-chemical processes	<a href="#">B01J 19/0006</a>
Heating or cooling apparatus for laboratory use	<a href="#">B01L 7/00</a>
Electro-optical investigation of individual particles, flow cytometers	<a href="#">G01N 15/14</a>
Automatic analysis	<a href="#">G01N 35/00</a>
Controlling or regulating in general	<b>G05N</b>

**C12M 41/02**

{of foam (foam prevention during gasification of liquids [B01D 19/02](#))}

**References****Informative references**

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Foam prevention during degasification of liquids	<a href="#">B01D 19/02</a>
--	----------------------------

**C12M 41/04**

{Means for foam enhancement (making foam by mixing [B01F 3/04446](#))}

**References****Informative references**

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Making foam by mixing	<a href="#">B01F 3/04446</a>
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**C12M 41/12**

{of temperature (controlling the temperature of chemical or physical processes [B01J 19/0013](#), heating or cooling apparatus for laboratory use [B01L 7/00](#))}

**References****Informative references**

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Digesters for manure with heat recuperation means	<a href="#">A01C 3/025</a>
Controlling the temperature of chemical or physical processes	<a href="#">B01J 19/0013</a>
Heating or cooling apparatus for laboratory use	<a href="#">B01L 7/00</a>

**C12M 41/14**

{Incubators; Climatic chambers (per se [B01L 1/00](#))}

**References****Informative references**

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Enclosures or chambers for laboratory use	<a href="#">B01L 1/00</a>
---	---------------------------

**C12M 41/36**

{of biomass, e.g. colony counters or by turbidity measurements (electrooptical investigation of individual particles [G01N 15/14](#), flow cytometers [G01N 15/1404](#))}

**References****Informative references**

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Electrooptical investigation of individual particles	<a href="#">G01N 15/14</a>
Flow cytometers	<a href="#">G01N 15/1404</a>

**C12M 41/48**

{Automatic or computerized control (automatic analysis [G01N 35/00](#))}

**References****Informative references**

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Automatic analysis	<a href="#">G01N 35/00</a>
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**C12M 43/00****{Combinations of bioreactors or fermenters with other apparatus}****Definition statement***This place covers:*

Bioreactors or fermenters characterized in that they are connected to other apparatus which are not bioreactors or fermenters.

**References****Limiting references***This place does not cover:*

Bioreactors or fermenters connected with other bioreactors or fermenters	<a href="#">C12M 23/58</a>
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**C12M 43/04**

**{Bioreactors or fermenters combined with combustion devices or plants, e.g. for carbon dioxide removal ([C12M 43/06](#) takes precedence; recovery of carbon dioxide [C12F 3/02](#))}**

**References****Limiting references***This place does not cover:*

Photobioreactors combined with devices or plants for gas production	<a href="#">C12M 43/06</a>
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**Informative references***Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Recovery of carbon dioxide	<a href="#">C12F 3/02</a>
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**C12M 45/00****{Means for pre-treatment of biological substances}****Definition statement***This place covers:*

Means for treating the biomass before introducing it into the bioreactor or fermenter and before starting the culturing process. These means are normally situated outside the bioreactor or fermenter.

**References****Informative references***Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Preservation of living parts of the human or animal body	<a href="#">A01N 1/02</a>
--	---------------------------

**C12M 45/02**

{by mechanical forces; **Stirring; Trituration; Comminuting (crushing, pulverizing, disintegrating in general [B02C](#))**}

**References****Informative references**

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Cutting apparatus specially adapted for plant tissue culture	<a href="#">A01H 4/003</a>
Crushing, pulverizing, disintegrating in general	<a href="#">B02C</a>

**C12M 45/05**

{by centrifugation (centrifuges in general [B04B](#))}

**References****Informative references**

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Centrifuges in general	<a href="#">B04B</a>
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**C12M 45/22**

{Means for packing or storing viable microorganisms (casings for storing cell samples [A61B 10/0096](#), preservation of living parts of the human or animal body [A01N 1/02](#))}

**References****Informative references**

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Preservation of living parts of the human or animal body	<a href="#">A01N 1/02</a>
Casings for storing cell samples	<a href="#">A61B 10/0096</a>

**C12M 47/00**

{Means for after-treatment of the produced biomass or of the fermentation or metabolic products, e.g. storage of biomass (filters in general [B01D 23/00-B01D 41/00](#))}

**Definition statement**

*This place covers:*

Means for treating the biomass that has been already cultured. These means are normally situated outside the bioreactor or fermenter.

## References

### Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Preservation of living parts of the human or animal body	<a href="#">A01N 1/02</a>
Filters and filtration in general	<a href="#">B01D 23/00</a> - <a href="#">B01D 41/00</a>

## C12M 47/02

{Separating microorganisms from the culture medium; Concentration of biomass (separating microorganisms from their culture media [C12N 1/02](#))}

## References

### Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Separating microorganisms from their culture media	<a href="#">C12N 1/02</a>
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## C12M 47/04

{Cell isolation or sorting (purging biological preparations of unwanted cells [C12N 5/0081](#), determining the presence or kind of microorganism [C12Q 1/04](#))}

## References

### Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Purging biological preparations of unwanted cells	<a href="#">C12N 5/0081</a>
Determining the presence or kind of microorganism	<a href="#">C12Q 1/04</a>

## C12M 47/06

{Hydrolysis; Cell lysis; Extraction of intracellular or cell wall material (lysis of microorganisms [C12N 1/06](#); extracting or separating nucleic acids from biological samples [C12N 15/1003](#))}

## References

### Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Lysis of microorganisms	<a href="#">C12N 1/06</a>
Extracting or separating nucleic acids from biological samples	<a href="#">C12N 15/1003</a>

**C12M 47/10**

{Separation or concentration of fermentation products (bioreactors combined with means for distillation or extraction of liquid fuel [C12M 43/02](#))}

**References****Limiting references**

*This place does not cover:*

Bioreactors or fermenters combined with means for liquid fuel extraction	<a href="#">C12M 43/02</a>
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**C12M 47/12**

{Purification ([C12M 47/04](#) takes precedence)}

**References****Limiting references**

*This place does not cover:*

Cell isolation or sorting	<a href="#">C12M 47/04</a>
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**C12M 47/16**

{Sterilization (autoclaves in general [B01J 3/04](#))}

**References****Informative references**

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Autoclaves in general	<a href="#">B01J 3/04</a>
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**C12M 47/18**

{Gas cleaning, e.g. scrubbers; Separation of different gases (separating dispersed particles from gases or vapours [B01D 45/00](#); separation of gases or vapours [B01D 53/00](#); gas washing apparatus for laboratory uses [B01L 5/04](#))}

**References****Informative references**

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Separating dispersed particles from gases or vapours	<a href="#">B01D 45/00</a>
Separation of gases or vapours	<a href="#">B01D 53/00</a>
Gas washing apparatus for laboratory use	<a href="#">B01L 5/04</a>

**C12M 47/20**

{Heating or cooling (heating or cooling apparatus for laboratory uses  
[B01L 7/00](#))}

**References*****Informative references***

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Heating or cooling apparatus for laboratory use	<a href="#">B01L 7/00</a>
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# CPC COOPERATIVE PATENT CLASSIFICATION

## C CHEMISTRY; METALLURGY

(NOTES omitted)

### CHEMISTRY

## C12 BIOCHEMISTRY; BEER; SPIRITS; WINE; VINEGAR; MICROBIOLOGY; ENZYMOLOGY; MUTATION OR GENETIC ENGINEERING

(NOTES omitted)

## C12R PROCESSES USING MICROORGANISMS

### NOTE

The basis for the bacteria terminology is "Bergey's Manual of Determinative Bacteriology", Eighth Edition, 19/75.

### WARNINGS

- The following IPC groups are not in the CPC scheme. The subject matter for these IPC groups is classified in the following CPC groups:  
C12R 1/92-C12R 1/94 covered by
- In this subclass non-limiting references (in the sense of paragraph 39 of the Guide to the IPC) may still be displayed in the scheme.

<b>1/00</b>	<b>Processes using microorganisms</b>	1/25	. . . Lactobacillus plantarum
1/01	. using bacteria or actinomycetales	1/26	. . Methylomonas
1/02	. . Acetobacter	1/265	. . Micrococcus
1/025	. . Achromobacter	1/27	. . . Micrococcus flavus
1/03	. . Actinomadura	1/28	. . . Micrococcus glutamicus
1/04	. . Actinomyces	1/285	. . . Micrococcus lysodeikticus
1/045	. . Actinoplanes	1/29	. . Micromonospora
1/05	. . Alcaligenes	1/30	. . . Micromonospora chalybeata
1/06	. . Arthrobacter	1/31	. . . Micromonospora purpurea
1/065	. . Azotobacter	1/32	. . Mycobacterium
1/07	. . Bacillus	1/325	. . . Mycobacterium avium
1/075	. . . {Bacillus thuringiensis}	1/33	. . . Mycobacterium fortuitum
1/08	. . . Bacillus brevis	1/34	. . . Mycobacterium smegmatis
1/085	. . . Bacillus cereus	1/35	. . Mycoplasma
1/09	. . . Bacillus circulans	1/36	. . Neisseria
1/10	. . . Bacillus licheniformis	1/365	. . Nocardia
1/11	. . . Bacillus megaterium	1/37	. . Proteus
1/12	. . . Bacillus polymyxa	1/38	. . Pseudomonas
1/125	. . . Bacillus subtilis	1/385	. . . Pseudomonas aeruginosa
1/13	. . Brevibacterium	1/39	. . . Pseudomonas fluorescens
1/14	. . Chainia	1/40	. . . Pseudomonas putida
1/145	. . Clostridium	1/41	. . Rhizobium
1/15	. . Corynebacterium	1/42	. . Salmonella
1/16	. . . Corynebacterium diphtheriae	1/425	. . Serratia
1/165	. . . Corynebacterium poinsettiae	1/43	. . . Serratia marcescens
1/17	. . . Corynebacterium pyogenes	1/44	. . Staphylococcus
1/18	. . Erwinia	1/445	. . . Staphylococcus aureus
1/185	. . Escherichia	1/45	. . . Staphylococcus epidermidis
1/19	. . . Escherichia coli	1/46	. . Streptococcus; {Enterococcus; Lactococcus}
1/20	. . Flavobacterium	1/465	. . Streptomyces
1/21	. . Haemophilus	1/47	. . . Streptomyces albus
1/22	. . Klebsiella	1/48	. . . Streptomyces antibioticus
1/225	. . Lactobacillus	1/485	. . . Streptomyces aureofaciens
1/23	. . . Lactobacillus acidophilus	1/49	. . . Streptomyces aureus
1/24	. . . Lactobacillus brevis	1/50	. . . Streptomyces bikiniensis
1/245	. . . Lactobacillus casei	1/51	. . . Streptomyces candidus

1/52	. . .	<i>Streptomyces chartreusis</i>
1/525	. . .	<i>Streptomyces diastatochromogenes</i>
1/53	. . .	<i>Streptomyces filipinensis</i>
1/54	. . .	<i>Streptomyces fradiae</i>
1/545	. . .	<i>Streptomyces griseus</i>
1/55	. . .	<i>Streptomyces hygrosopicus</i>
1/56	. . .	<i>Streptomyces lavendulae</i>
1/565	. . .	<i>Streptomyces lincolnensis</i>
1/57	. . .	<i>Streptomyces noursei</i>
1/58	. . .	<i>Streptomyces olivaceus</i>
1/585	. . .	<i>Streptomyces platensis</i>
1/59	. . .	<i>Streptomyces rimosus</i>
1/60	. . .	<i>Streptomyces spargosgenes</i>
1/61	. . .	<i>Streptomyces venezuelae</i>
1/62	. .	<i>Streptosporangium</i>
1/625	. .	<i>Streptoverticillium</i>
1/63	. .	<i>Vibrio</i>
1/64	. .	<i>Xanthomonas</i>
1/645	. using	fungi
1/65	. .	<i>Absidia</i>
1/66	. .	<i>Aspergillus</i>
1/665	. . .	<i>Aspergillus awamori</i>
1/67	. . .	<i>Aspergillus flavus</i>
1/68	. . .	<i>Aspergillus fumigatus</i>
1/685	. . .	<i>Aspergillus niger</i>
1/69	. . .	<i>Aspergillus oryzae</i>
1/70	. . .	<i>Aspergillus ustus</i>
1/71	. . .	<i>Aspergillus wentii</i>
1/72	. .	<i>Candida</i>
1/725	. . .	<i>Candida albicans</i>
1/73	. . .	<i>Candida lipolytica</i>
1/74	. . .	<i>Candida tropicalis</i>
1/745	. .	<i>Cephalosporium</i>
1/75	. . .	<i>Cephalosporium acremonium</i>
1/76	. . .	<i>Cephalosporium coeruleum</i>
1/765	. . .	<i>Cephalosporium crocinigenum</i>
1/77	. .	<i>Fusarium</i>
1/78	. .	<i>Hansenula</i>
1/785	. .	<i>Mucor</i>
1/79	. .	<i>Paecilomyces</i>
1/80	. .	<i>Penicillium</i>
1/81	. . .	<i>Penicillium brevi</i>
1/82	. . .	<i>Penicillium chrysogenum</i>
1/825	. . .	<i>Penicillium notatum</i>
1/83	. . .	<i>Penicillium patulum</i>
1/84	. .	<i>Pichia</i>
1/845	. .	<i>Rhizopus</i>
1/85	. .	<i>Saccharomyces</i>
1/86	. . .	<i>Saccharomyces carlsbergensis</i>
1/865	. . .	<i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i>
1/87	. . .	<i>Saccharomyces lactis</i>
1/88	. .	<i>Torulopsis</i>
1/885	. .	<i>Trichoderma</i>
1/89	. using	algae
1/90	. using	protozoa
1/91	. using	viruses or cell lines

# CPC COOPERATIVE PATENT CLASSIFICATION

## C CHEMISTRY; METALLURGY

(NOTES omitted)

### CHEMISTRY

## C12 BIOCHEMISTRY; BEER; SPIRITS; WINE; VINEGAR; MICROBIOLOGY; ENZYMOLOGY; MUTATION OR GENETIC ENGINEERING

(NOTES omitted)

## C12G WINE; OTHER ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES; PREPARATION THEREOF (beer [C12C](#))

### WARNING

The following IPC groups are not in the CPC scheme. The subject matter for these IPC groups is classified in the following CPC groups:

<a href="#">C12G 1/022</a>	covered by	<a href="#">C12G 1/0203</a>
<a href="#">C12G 1/024</a>	covered by	<a href="#">C12G 1/0209</a>
<a href="#">C12G 1/026</a>	covered by	<a href="#">C12G 1/02</a>
<a href="#">C12G 1/028</a>	covered by	<a href="#">C12G 1/0213</a>
<a href="#">C12G 1/032</a>	covered by	<a href="#">C12G 1/0216</a>
<a href="#">C12G 1/036</a>	covered by	<a href="#">C12G 1/0206</a>
<a href="#">C12G 1/067</a>	covered by	<a href="#">C12G 1/06</a>
<a href="#">C12G 1/073</a>	covered by	<a href="#">C12G 1/06</a> , <a href="#">C12G 1/064</a>
<a href="#">C12G 1/09</a>	covered by	<a href="#">C12G 1/08</a>
<a href="#">C12G 1/10</a>	covered by	<a href="#">C12G 1/00</a> , <a href="#">C12H 1/10</a> , <a href="#">C12H 1/18</a>
<a href="#">C12G 1/12</a>	covered by	<a href="#">C12G 1/00</a>

### 1/00 Preparation of wine or sparkling wine

#### WARNING

Group [C12G 1/00](#) is impacted by reclassification into groups [C12G 1/06](#) and [C12G 1/14](#).

Groups [C12G 1/00](#), [C12G 1/06](#), and [C12G 1/14](#) should be considered in order to perform a complete search.

- 1/005 . {Methods or means to load or unload, to weigh or to sample the vintage; Replenishing; Separation of the liquids from the solids before or after fermentation}
- 1/02 . Preparation of must from grapes; Must treatment and fermentation
- 1/0203 . . {by microbiological or enzymatic treatment}
- 1/0206 . . {using a home wine making vessel}
- 1/0209 . . {in a horizontal or rotatably mounted vessel ([C12G 1/0206](#) takes precedence)}
- 1/0213 . . {with thermal treatment of the vintage ([C12G 1/0206](#) takes precedence)}
- 1/0216 . . {with recirculation of the must for pomage extraction}
- 1/04 . . Sulfiting the must; Desulfiting

- 1/06 . Preparation of sparkling wine; Impregnation of wine with carbon dioxide (methods for reducing the alcohol content after fermentation [C12H 3/00](#); methods for increasing the alcohol content after fermentation [C12H 6/00](#))

#### WARNING

Group [C12G 1/06](#) is incomplete pending reclassification of documents from group [C12G 1/00](#).

Group [C12G 1/06](#) is also impacted by reclassification into groups [C12H 3/00](#), [C12H 3/02](#), [C12H 3/04](#), [C12H 6/00](#), [C12H 6/02](#), and [C12H 6/04](#).

All groups listed in this Warning should be considered in order to perform a complete search.

- 1/062 . . {Agitation, centrifugation, or vibration of bottles}
- 1/064 . . {using enclosed yeast}
- 1/08 . Removal of yeast ("degorgeage")
- 1/14 . Preparation of wine or sparkling wine with low alcohol content (methods for reducing the alcohol content after fermentation [C12H 3/00](#))

#### WARNING

Group [C12G 1/14](#) is incomplete pending reclassification of documents from group [C12G 1/00](#).

Groups [C12G 1/00](#) and [C12G 1/14](#) should be considered in order to perform a complete search.

### 3/00 Preparation of other alcoholic beverages

- 3/005 . Solid or pasty alcoholic beverage-forming compositions
- 3/02 . by fermentation
- WARNING**
- Group [C12G 3/02](#) is impacted by reclassification into groups [C12G 3/021](#), [C12G 3/022](#), [C12G 3/023](#), [C12G 3/024](#), [C12G 3/025](#), and [C12G 3/026](#).
- All groups listed in this Warning should be considered in order to perform a complete search.
- 3/021 . . of botanical family Poaceae, e.g. wheat, millet, sorghum, barley, rye, or corn
- WARNING**
- Group [C12G 3/021](#) is incomplete pending reclassification of documents from groups [C12G 3/02](#) and [C12G 3/025](#).
- Groups [C12G 3/02](#), [C12G 3/025](#), and [C12G 3/021](#) should be considered in order to perform a complete search.
- 3/022 . . . of botanical genus Oryza, e.g. rice
- WARNING**
- Group [C12G 3/022](#) is incomplete pending reclassification of documents from groups [C12G 3/02](#) and [C12G 3/025](#).
- Groups [C12G 3/02](#), [C12G 3/025](#), and [C12G 3/022](#) should be considered in order to perform a complete search.
- 3/023 . . of botanical family Solanaceae, e.g. potato
- WARNING**
- Group [C12G 3/023](#) is incomplete pending reclassification of documents from groups [C12G 3/02](#) and [C12G 3/025](#).
- Groups [C12G 3/02](#) and [C12G 3/025](#) and [C12G 3/023](#) should be considered in order to perform a complete search.
- 3/024 . . of fruits other than botanical genus Vitis
- WARNING**
- Group [C12G 3/024](#) is incomplete pending reclassification of documents from group [C12G 3/02](#) and [C12G 3/025](#).
- Groups [C12G 3/02](#), [C12G 3/025](#), and [C12G 3/024](#) should be considered in order to perform a complete search.
- 3/025 . . Low-alcohol beverages (methods for reducing the alcohol content after fermentation [C12H 3/00](#))
- WARNING**
- Group [C12G 3/025](#) is incomplete pending reclassification of documents from group [C12G 3/02](#).
- Group [C12G 3/025](#) is also impacted by reclassification into groups [C12G 3/021](#), [C12G 3/022](#), [C12G 3/023](#), [C12G 3/024](#), and [C12G 3/026](#).
- All groups listed in this Warning should be considered in order to perform a complete search.
- 3/026 . . with health-improving ingredients, e.g. flavonoids, flavones, polyphenols or polysaccharides, added before or during the fermentation stage; with flavouring ingredients added before or during the fermentation stage
- WARNING**
- Group [C12G 3/026](#) is incomplete pending reclassification of documents from groups [C12G 3/02](#) and [C12G 3/025](#).
- Groups [C12G 3/02](#), [C12G 3/025](#) and [C12G 3/026](#) should be considered in order to perform a complete search.
- 3/04 . by mixing, e.g. for preparation of liqueurs
- WARNING**
- Group [C12G 3/04](#) is impacted by reclassification into group [C12G 3/05](#) and [C12G 3/055](#).
- Groups [C12G 3/04](#), [C12G 3/05](#) and [C12G 3/055](#) should be considered in order to perform a complete search.
- 3/05 . . with health-improving ingredients, e.g. flavonoids, flavones, polyphenols or polysaccharides
- WARNING**
- Group [C12G 3/05](#) is incomplete pending reclassification of documents from group [C12G 3/04](#).
- Groups [C12G 3/04](#) and [C12G 3/05](#) should be considered in order to perform a complete search.
- 3/055 . . . extracted from plants
- WARNING**
- Group [C12G 3/055](#) is incomplete pending reclassification of documents from group [C12G 3/04](#).
- Groups [C12G 3/04](#) and [C12G 3/055](#) should be considered in order to perform a complete search.
- 3/06 . . with flavouring ingredients
- 3/07 . . . Flavouring with wood extracts, e.g. generated by contact with wood; Wood pretreatment therefor

## C12G

- 3/08 . by methods for altering the composition of fermented solutions or alcoholic beverages not provided for in groups [C12G 3/02](#) - [C12G 3/07](#) (methods for reducing the alcohol content of fermented solutions or alcoholic beverages [C12H 3/00](#); methods for increasing the alcohol content of fermented solutions or alcoholic beverages [C12H 6/00](#))

### **WARNING**

Group [C12G 3/08](#) is impacted by reclassification into groups [C12H 3/00](#) and [C12H 3/02](#).

Groups [C12G 3/08](#), [C12H 3/00](#) and [C12H 3/02](#) should be considered in order to perform a complete search.

### **2200/00 Special features**

- 2200/05 . Use of particular microorganisms in the preparation of wine
- 2200/11 . Use of genetically modified microorganisms in the preparation of wine
- 2200/15 . Use of particular enzymes in the preparation of wine
- 2200/21 . Wine additives, e.g. flavouring or colouring agents
- 2200/25 . Preparation of wine or sparkling wine in vessels with movable equipment for mixing the content
- 2200/31 . Wine making devices having compact design or adapted for home use

## C12H

**PASTEURISATION, STERILISATION, PRESERVATION, PURIFICATION, CLARIFICATION OR AGEING OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES; METHODS FOR ALTERING THE ALCOHOL CONTENT OF FERMENTED SOLUTIONS OR ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES (simulation ageing by flavouring [C12G 3/06](#))**

### Relationships with other classification places

Beer per se, brewing of beer, fermentation processes and post fermentation treatments for beer are classified in subclass [C12C](#).

[C12C](#) deals with the process of making beer with a low alcohol content

Low alcohol beer is classified in [C12C 12/04](#).

Low alcohol wine is classified in [C12G 1/14](#) and other low alcohol beverages are classified in [C12G 3/00](#).

Post-fermentation treatment such as carbonation is subject matter of this subclass but is classified in [C12H](#) when combined with subject matter of that subclass.

When classifying in this subclass, classification is also made in group [B01D 15/08](#) insofar as subject matter of general interest relating to chromatography is concerned.

### References

#### Limiting references

*This place does not cover:*

Simulation of ageing by flavouring	<a href="#">C12G 3/06</a>
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#### Informative references

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Preservation of foods or foodstuffs, in general	<a href="#">A23L 3/00</a>
Distillation or rectification of fermented solutions to obtain pure alcohol	<a href="#">B01D 3/00</a>
Recovery of by-products from wine or beer	<a href="#">C12F 3/06</a>
Preparation of alcoholic beverages other than wine or beer by varying the composition of fermented solutions	<a href="#">C12G 3/08</a>

### Glossary of terms

*In this place, the following terms or expressions are used with the meaning indicated:*

Adsorption	Capability of all solid substances to attract to their surfaces molecules of gases or solutions with which they are in contact
Clarification	Removal of the suspended material during aging
Lagering	Ageing or ripening of the beer by storing. During lagering, fermentation and clarification take place
Sulfiting	Process for adding sulfur dioxide (SO <sub>2</sub> )

## C12H 1/00

**Pasteurisation, sterilisation, preservation, purification, clarification, or ageing of alcoholic beverages (simulating ageing by flavouring [C12G 3/06](#))**

### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Methods as well as apparatus pertaining to pasteurisation, sterilisation, preservation, purification, clarification, ageing of alcoholic beverages (typically wine, beer, distilled alcoholic beverages).

### References

#### Limiting references

*This place does not cover:*

Preparation of beer	<a href="#">C12C</a>
Simulation of ageing by flavouring	<a href="#">C12C 3/06</a>
Recovery of by-products from fermented solutions (in particular derived from the preparation of alcoholic beverages)	<a href="#">C12F</a>
Preparation of wine and alcoholic beverages other than beer and wine	<a href="#">C12G</a>
Pitching / depitching machines and cellar tools	<a href="#">C12L</a>

#### Informative references

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Subject-matter of general interest relating to chromatography	<a href="#">B01D 15/08</a>
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### Special rules of classification

Filtration is always to be classified in [C12H 1/063](#), irrespective of precipitation, adsorption, or the nature of the material to be separated.

## C12H 1/003

**{by a biochemical process}**

### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Methods or apparatus pertaining to pasteurisation, sterilisation, preservation, purification, clarification or ageing of alcoholic beverages, e.g. wine, beer or distilled alcoholic beverages, by a biochemical process.

## C12H 1/006

**{using bacterial cultures}**

### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Methods or apparatus pertaining to pasteurisation, sterilisation, preservation, purification, clarification or ageing of alcoholic beverages, e.g. wine, beer or distilled alcoholic beverages, wherein bacterial cultures are used.

## C12H 1/02

**combined with removal of precipitate or added materials, e.g. adsorption material**

### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Methods or apparatus pertaining to pasteurisation, sterilisation, preservation, purification, clarification or ageing of alcoholic beverages, e.g. wine, beer or distilled alcoholic beverages, wherein the precipitate, e.g. protein haze or colloidal haze, and/or added materials, e.g. PVPP or silica gel is/are removed.

### References

#### Limiting references

*This place does not cover:*

Removal of yeast from (sparkling) wine by "degorgeage"	<a href="#">C12G 1/08</a>
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## C12H 1/04

**with the aid of ion-exchange material or inert clarification material, e.g. adsorption material**

### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Methods or apparatus pertaining to pasteurisation, sterilisation, preservation, purification, clarification or ageing of alcoholic beverages, e.g. wine, beer or distilled alcoholic beverages, wherein ion-exchange and/or inert clarification material is removed.

## C12H 1/0408

**{with the aid of inorganic added material}**

### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Methods as well as apparatus pertaining to pasteurisation, sterilisation, preservation, purification, clarification or ageing of alcoholic beverages e.g. wine, beer or distilled alcoholic beverages, wherein inorganic added clarification material is removed.

### References

#### Informative references

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Silicon derived materials used in clarification, e.g. silica hydrogels and xerogels	<a href="#">C01B 33/00</a>
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### Synonyms and Keywords

*In patent documents, the following words/expressions are often used with the meaning indicated:*

Silica gel	Silica hydrogel
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Xerogel	Silica xerogel
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## C12H 1/0416

{with the aid of organic added material}

### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Methods or apparatus pertaining to pasteurisation, sterilisation, preservation, purification, clarification or ageing of alcoholic beverages, e.g. wine, beer or distilled alcoholic beverages, wherein added organic clarification material is removed.

## C12H 1/0424

{with the aid of a polymer}

### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Methods or apparatus pertaining to pasteurisation, sterilisation, preservation, purification, clarification or ageing of alcoholic beverages, e.g. wine, beer or distilled alcoholic beverages, wherein added polymeric organic clarification material is removed.

### References

#### Limiting references

*This place does not cover:*

Use of ion-exchange material (in so far as the ion-exchange functionality is of essential importance)	<a href="#">C12H 1/0432</a>
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## C12H 1/0432

{with the aid of ion-exchange material}

### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Methods or apparatus pertaining to pasteurisation, sterilisation, preservation, purification, clarification or ageing of alcoholic beverages, e.g. wine, beer or distilled alcoholic beverages, wherein an ion-exchange material is removed.

### Special rules of classification

[C12H 1/0432](#) takes precedence over [C12H 1/0408](#), [C12H 1/0416](#) and [C12H 1/0424](#), in so far as the ion-exchange functionality is of essential importance (factually and/or according to the disclosed information)

### Synonyms and Keywords

*In patent documents various trademarks are often used: Amberlite or Dowex*

## C12H 1/06

### Precipitation by physical means, e.g. by irradiation, vibrations

#### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Methods or apparatus pertaining to pasteurisation, sterilisation, preservation, purification, clarification or ageing of alcoholic beverages, e.g. wine, beer or distilled alcoholic beverages, wherein precipitate is generated by physical means (in particular by irradiation and/or vibration) and/or separated by filtration.

#### Special rules of classification

Until further notice, a large interpretation for the term "irradiation " is given. For instance the application of electric fields and magnetic fields is covered.

## C12H 1/061

### {Separation by centrifugation}

#### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Methods or apparatus pertaining to pasteurisation, sterilisation, preservation, purification, clarification or ageing of alcoholic beverages, e.g. wine, beer or distilled alcoholic beverages, wherein precipitate is generated by physical means, in particular by irradiation and/or vibration, and removed by centrifugation.

#### References

##### *Informative references*

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Centrifuges in general	<a href="#">B04B</a>
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## C12H 1/063

### {Separation by filtration}

#### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Methods or apparatus pertaining to pasteurisation, sterilisation, preservation, purification, clarification or ageing of alcoholic beverages, e.g. wine, beer or distilled alcoholic beverages, wherein

(a) precipitation is generated by physical means, in particular by irradiation and/or vibration, and removed by filtration, or (more generally)

(b) filtration is performed, irrespective of precipitation, adsorption, or the nature of the material to be separated.

## References

### Limiting references

*This place does not cover:*

Post fermentation treatment of beer involving filtration	<a href="#">C12C 11/11</a>
Yeast removal in wine or champagne production by degorgage type methods	<a href="#">C12G 1/08</a>

## C12H 1/08

### by heating

#### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Methods or apparatus pertaining to pasteurisation, sterilisation, preservation, purification, clarification or ageing of alcoholic beverages, e.g. wine, beer or distilled alcoholic beverages, wherein precipitate is generated by heating.

## References

### Informative references

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Boiling and cooling of beer wort (whereby haze is formed)	<a href="#">C12C 7/20</a> , <a href="#">C12C 7/24</a>
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## C12H 1/10

### Precipitation by chemical means

#### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Methods or apparatus pertaining to pasteurisation, sterilisation, preservation, purification, clarification or ageing of alcoholic beverages, e.g. wine, beer or distilled alcoholic beverages, wherein precipitate is generated by chemical means.

## C12H 1/12

### without precipitation

#### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Methods or apparatus pertaining to pasteurisation, sterilisation, preservation, purification, clarification or ageing of alcoholic beverages, e.g. wine, beer or distilled alcoholic beverages not relying on or involving precipitation and/or removal of added materials.

## References

### Informative references

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Pasteurisation with non-precipitating compounds, by heating	<a href="#">C12H 1/14</a> , <a href="#">C12H 1/18</a>
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## C12H 1/14

**with non-precipitating compounds, e.g. sulfiting; Sequestration, e.g. with chelate-producing compounds**

### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Methods or apparatus pertaining to pasteurisation, sterilisation, preservation, purification, clarification or ageing of alcoholic beverages, e.g. wine, beer or distilled alcoholic beverages not relying on or involving precipitation and/or removal of added materials, wherein non-precipitating compounds e.g. sulfite or chelating agents, are used.

### References

#### Informative references

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Preserving agents for non-alcoholic beverages	<a href="#">A23L 2/44</a>
Preserving agents for beer	<a href="#">C12C 5/02</a>
Sulfiting must in winemaking	<a href="#">C12G 1/04</a>

## C12H 1/16

**by physical means, e.g. irradiation**

### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Methods or apparatus pertaining to pasteurisation, sterilisation, preservation, purification, clarification or ageing of alcoholic beverages, e.g. wine, beer or distilled alcoholic beverages not relying on or involving precipitation and/or removal of added materials, wherein physical means (in particular irradiation and/or vibration) are applied.

## C12H 1/165

**{by irradiation}**

### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Methods or apparatus pertaining to pasteurisation, sterilisation, preservation, purification, clarification or ageing of alcoholic beverages, e.g. wine, beer or distilled alcoholic beverages not relying on or involving precipitation and/or removal of added materials, wherein irradiation is applied.

### References

#### Informative references

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Preservation of non-alcoholic beverages by heating by irradiation or electric treatment	<a href="#">A23L 2/48</a>
Preservation of non-alcoholic beverages by irradiation or electric treatment without heating	<a href="#">A23L 2/50</a>

## Special rules of classification

Until further notice, a large interpretation for the term "irradiation " is given. For instance the application of electric fields and magnetic fields is covered.

## C12H 1/18

### by heating

#### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Methods or apparatus pertaining to pasteurisation, sterilisation, preservation, purification, clarification or ageing of alcoholic beverages, e.g. wine, beer or distilled alcoholic beverages not relying on or involving precipitation and/or removal of added materials, wherein heating is applied.

#### References

##### Informative references

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Preservation of non-alcoholic beverages by heating	<a href="#">A23L 2/46</a>
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## C12H 1/20

### in containers allowing for expansion of the contents

#### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Methods or apparatus pertaining to pasteurisation, sterilisation, preservation, purification, clarification or ageing of alcoholic beverages, e.g. wine, beer or distilled alcoholic beverages not relying on or involving precipitation and/or removal of added materials, wherein heating is applied and a flexible container allowing for expansion of the contents is used.

## C12H 1/22

### Ageing or ripening by storing, e.g. lagering of beer

#### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Methods for ageing of alcoholic beverages, e.g. wine, beer or distilled alcoholic beverages.

Apparatus, e.g. tanks or barrels, specifically adapted for ageing of alcoholic beverages.

#### References

##### Informative references

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Containers	<a href="#">B65D</a>
Beer flavouring preparations	<a href="#">C12C 5/026</a>

### Special rules of classification

If flavouring with wood material and storing are essential aspects, both symbols [C12H 1/22](#) and [C12G 3/07](#) should be given.

## C12H 3/04

### using semi-permeable membranes

#### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Methods for reducing the alcohol content of fermented solutions or alcoholic beverages to obtain low alcohol or non-alcoholic beverages other than beer, wine (derived from grapes) or sparkling wine (derived from grapes) wherein membranes are used (e.g. ultrafiltration, dialysis, electro dialysis, osmosis, reverse osmosis), and apparatus specifically adapted therefor.

#### References

##### Informative references

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Reverse osmosis process	<a href="#">B01D 65/00</a>
Semi-permeable membrane for separation processes	<a href="#">B01D 67/00</a> - <a href="#">B01D 71/00</a>

## C12H 6/00

### Methods for increasing the alcohol content of fermented solutions or alcoholic beverages

#### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Methods for preparing alcoholic beverages other than beer, wine (derived from grapes) or sparkling wine (derived from grapes), by increasing the alcohol content;

Apparatus specifically adapted therefor.

## C12H 6/02

### by distillation

#### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Methods for preparing alcoholic beverages other than beer, wine (derived from grapes) or sparkling wine (derived from grapes), by increasing the alcohol content by distillation.

Apparatus specifically adapted therefor.

#### References

##### Informative references

*Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:*

Processes specially adapted for distillation or rectification of fermented solutions	<a href="#">B01D 3/001</a>
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## **C12H 6/04**

### **by freezing**

#### **Definition statement**

*This place covers:*

Methods for preparing alcoholic beverages other than beer, wine (derived from grapes) or sparkling wine (derived from grapes), by increasing the alcohol content by refrigeration and separation of the crystals thus formed (i.e. freeze-concentration);

Apparatus specifically adapted therefor.