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PROCESS FOR THE EXTRACTION OF RESIN FROM TOMATO SKINS

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The present invention refers to a process for the extraction from tomato skins of resin which is particularly suitable for industrial application as in the manufacture of materials for flooring and lining e. g. wall covering.

The product obtained according to the process object of the present invention is particularly suitable for substituting linseed oil derivatives in the manufacture of fibrous elastic layers known under the trade-name "linoleum".

Tomato skins are thoroughly washed with water until all seeds and other foreign matters are removed therefrom, in order that there may

remain only the epithelial portion of the fruit which is then treated with hot or cold solution of caustic alkalies in water or in organic solvents.

5 The resin is thus transformed into a solution and the liquid portion is separated from the skins by filtration or decantation; the alkaline liquid obtained is neutralized or is acidified with mineral or organic acids. In such a way the resin is liberated and floats on the surface; then the same
10 is collected and washed with water until the reactive substances are completely removed and finally is dried.

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