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[54] **SELECTIVE ENZYMATIC OXIDATION OF AROMATIC METHYL GROUPS TO ALDEHYDES BY OXYGEN IN THE PRESENCE OF A LACCASE-MEDIATOR CATALYST**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** **435/147**; 435/189; 435/254.1; 568/426; 568/431

[58] **Field of Search** 435/147, 189, 435/254.1; 568/425, 426, 431

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A method for oxidation of a pendant methyl moiety on an aromatic ring to the pendant aldehyde moiety is presented. The reaction employs laccase and the diammonium salt of 2,2'-azinobis(3-ethylbenzothiazoline-6-sulfonic acid), and is carried out in the presence of oxygen.

9 Claims, No Drawings