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**Petitte et al.**

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(54) **METHOD OF PRODUCING AN UNDIFFERENTIATED AVIAN CELL CULTURE USING AVIAN PRIMORDIAL GERM CELLS**

WO99/06533 2/1999 (WO) .  
WO99/06534 2/1999 (WO) .

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(75) Inventors: **James N. Pettite; Il-Kuk Chang**, both of Raleigh, NC (US)

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(73) Assignee: **North Carolina State University**, Raleigh, NC (US)

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(\* ) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

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(51) **Int. Cl.**<sup>7</sup> ..... **L12N 5/00**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **435/349; 435/325; 435/347; 435/373; 435/377**

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(58) **Field of Search** ..... **435/325, 373, 435/377, 349, 347**

*Primary Examiner*—Leon B. Lankford, Jr.  
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Jenkins & Wilson, P.A.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

A method of producing undifferentiated avian cells expressing an embryonic stem cell phenotype. The method includes the steps of collecting avian gonadal cells comprising primordial germ cells from an avian embryo after the formation of the primitive streak; depositing the avian gonadal cells in contact with a preconditioned feeder matrix; and growing the avian gonadal cells on the pre-conditioned feeder matrix in the presence of media for a time sufficient to produce an avian cell culture consisting essentially of undifferentiated avian cells expressing an embryonic stem cell phenotype.

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**43 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets**