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**Jackson et al.**

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(54) **METHOD FOR MAKING DISSOLVING PULP FROM PAPER PRODUCTS CONTAINING HARDWOOD FIBERS**

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**Related U.S. Application Data**

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(51) **Int. Cl.**<sup>7</sup> ..... **D21H 11/20**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **162/5; 162/8; 162/72; 162/90; 435/277; 435/278**

(58) **Field of Search** ..... **162/72, 88, 89, 162/90, 5, 8; 435/277, 278**

(56) **References Cited**

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A method for making dissolving pulp from cellulosic fiber. The fiber is treated with a 3-stage sequence having a first alkali extraction stage, a xylanase treatment stage, and a second alkali extraction stage. Having the xylanase treatment stage sandwiched between 2 alkali extraction stages results in the dissolving pulp exhibiting both a very low xylan content of about 2.6% by weight or less and a very low mannan content of about 1.5% by weight or less. The low contents of these 2 components cannot be achieved with comparison treatments of only an alkali extraction stage, only a xylanase treatment stage, or only 2 stages of a xylanase treatment stage and an alkali extraction stage.

**12 Claims, No Drawings**