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[54] METHOD OF PRODUCING AN AVIAN EMBRYONIC STEM CELL CULTURE AND THE AVIAN EMBRYONIC STEM CELL CULTURE PRODUCED BY THE PROCESS

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A method of producing undifferentiated avian cells expressing an embryonic stem cell phenotype is disclosed. The method comprises collecting avian cells from an avian blastoderm prior to formation of the primitive streak, then depositing the avian cells in contact with a mouse fibroblast feeder cell layer, and then growing the avian cells on the mouse fibroblast feeder cell layer in the presence of a media containing leukemia inhibitory factor in a differentiation-inhibiting amount for a time sufficient to produce a sustained avian cell culture. Cell cultures produced by the aforesaid process and veterinary pharmaceutical formulations containing such cells are also disclosed.

10 Claims, 1 Drawing Sheet