Production of industrial alcohol is an age old practice. But with time, the usage areas as well as production techniques have gone through a major transformation. Industrial alcohol is distilled ethyl alcohol (C2H5OH), normally of high proof, produced and sold for other than beverage purposes. It is usually distributed in the form of pure ethyl alcohol, completely denatured alcohol, especially denatured alcohol and proprietary solvent blends. Ethyl Alcohol is the common name for the hydroxyl derivative of the hydrocarbon ethane. Industrial alcohol is distilled ethyl alcohol normally of high proof, produced and sold for other than beverage purposes. Industrial alcohol finds its applications in many chemical industries, pharmaceutical industries, Ink Industries and various allied applications. Much of this alcohol is obtained synthetically from ethylene. However, its production from microbial fermentation using variety of cheap sugary substrates is still commercially important. The various substrates used for ethanol production are sugar crops such as sugarcane, sugar beet, sorghum, etc. provide a good substrate. By-product of these crop processing, e.g., molasses, sweet sorghum syrup, etc. are the most common substrates. Cereals like maize, wheat, rice etc are also used for ethanol production. Distillation of industrial alcohol, which is normally not used for consumption, can be made in a two step process. The process of distillation is one with a slow dynamics making it essential to have a carefully planned and designed control system. Ethyl alcohol or ethanol ranks second only to water as the most widely used solvent in chemical industry and as these industries have expanded, so the demand for industrial alcohol has increased.

Some of the fundamentals of the book are base case production of alcohol, survey and natural alcohols manufacture, alcohol from wheat straw, alcohol from sacchariferous feed stocks, conventional process used in Indian distilleries, fermentation, distillation, continuous rectification and reflux ratio, alcohol recovery, quality of alcohol, steam economy, fuel oil separation, trihydric and polyhydric alcohols, coal gasification, methanol synthesis, coal gasification and raw gas purification, synthesis gas preparation, methanol synthesis and purification, badger conceptual design.

This handbook on Industrial alcohol technology provides complete details on process and the technology used in the production of ethanol from various sugar crops and cereals and also briefs the different types of monohydric, trihydric and polyhydric alcohols. This handbook will be very helpful to its readers who are just beginners in this field and will also find useful for upcoming entrepreneurs, existing industries, technical institution, etc.
Contents

1. Alcohol from Corn
   Base Case Production of Alcohol, Overall Material and Energy Flows, Grain Motor Fuel Alcohol Plant,
   Excursions on Feedstock Material, Sensitivity to Financial Parameters, Depreciation Schedule, Purchase
   Price of Corn, DOG By-product, Leveraged Capital, Investment Tax Credit, Background and Job Scope,
   Design Basis, Base Case, Excursions, Plant Capacity, Nature of Raw Material For Process, Corn Stover
   (Biomass) as Primary Boiler Fuel, Corn Processing By-products, Production of Motor Fuel Grade Alcohol,
   Base Case, Process Description, Receiving, Storage and Milling, Mash Cooking and Saccharification, Fungal
   Amylase Production, Fermentation (Batch), Distillation, Fusel Oil and Heads Removal, Evaporation and
   Drying of Stilage Residue, Alcohol Storage and Shipping, Ammonium Sulfate Storage and Shipping, Dry
   Grains Storage and Shipping, Coal Fired Boiler, Water Supply, Waste Water Treatment, Flue Gas Scrubber,
   100 mm Gallon per year Alcohol Plant, Fixed Investment, Excursions on Feedstock Materials, Wheat,
   Process Description, Milo (Grain Sorghum), Process Description, Sweet Sorghum, Process Description,
   Environmental Impact, Air Emissions, Waste Water, Solid Waste, Noise, Labor and Employment Impact,
   Agricultural Production, Plant Labour, Agricultural Impact, Subsidies and Land Use, Improved Farm Income,
   Grain Supply and Price, Comments on Developing Technology, Grain Production, Animal Feed Processing,
   Distillation, Animal Feed Processing, Cellulose Alcohol Development, U.S. Army-Natick
   Laboratories, University of California of Berkeley (Wilke), University of Pennsylvania (Humphrey) and General
   Electric Company, Purdue (Tsao), Gulf Oil Chemicals Co., Development Obstacles and Research Priorities,
   Grain Production Improvement, Grain and Residue Collection, Grain Processing, Fermentation, Distillation,
   Animal Feed, Agricultural and Forest Residues, Socio-economic Development, Gasohol Subsidy, Support
   Adjustment, Octane Improvement and Emissions, Plant Layout, Raw Materials and Chemicals, Utilities, Plant
   Personnel, Products and By-products, Department of Energy Washington, D.c., Grain Motor Fuel Alcohol
   Plant, Investment Cost Summary, Comments on Grades of Alcohol, Cost Differential to go from 190°Proof
   Spirits to 199° Proof Motor Fuel Alcohol, Cost Differential Between 199° Proof Motor Fuel Alcohol and 200°
   Proof Industrial Anhydrous Alcohol, Evaluation Procedure for Economic Analyses, General, Annual Operating
   Expense, Working Capital, Parameters Affecting Financial Analyses Inflation Environment, Depreciation
   Schedule, Federal, State, and Local Taxes, Investment Tax Credit, Discounted Cash Flow, Methods of
   Obtaining Capital, Production of Grain Motor Fuel Alcohol, Alternate Capacities, 10 mm Gallon Per Year
   Alcohol Plant, Fixed Investment, Financial Analysis, Alcohols Polyhydric, Reactions, Manufacture, Analysis,
   Health and Safety Factors, Uses
   2. ALCOHOLS, HIGHER ALIPHATIC
      Survey and Natural Alcohols Manufacture, Detergent Range Alcohols, Plasticizer Range Alcohols, Physical
      Properties, Chemical Properties, Shipement and Storage, Analysis, Specifications and Standards,
      Toxicological Properties, Manufacture from Fats and Oils, Hydrogenolysis Process, High Pressure
      Hydrogenolysis, Methyl Ester Hydrogenolysis, Fatty Acid Hydrogenolysis, Production of Unsatu-rated
      Alcohols, Uses of Detergent Range Alcohols, Surfactants, Cosmetics and Pharmaceuticals, Lubricants and
      Petroleum, Other Applications, Uses of Plasticizer Range Alcohols, Plasticizers, Other Plastics Uses,
      Lubricants, Fuels, and Petroleum, Agricultural Chemicals, Surfactants, Other Applications, Synthetic
      Processes, The Ziegler Process, Triethylaluminum Preparation, Chain Growth, Oxidation, Hydrolysis,
      Environmental Considerations, The Oxo Process, Process Technology, Olefin Sources, The Aldol Process,
      The Paraffin Oxidation Process, The Guerbet Process
   3. ALCOHOL FROM WHEAT STRAW
      Introduction, Summary and Conclusions, Process Description, Process Discussion, Cost Estimates, Batch
      Process Technology in Indian Distilleries, Definitions, Molasses, Total Reducing Sugars, Unfermentable
      Sugars, Fermentable Sugars, Brix, Polarisation (Pol.), Purity, Alcohol, Spirit's, Wort, Pitch or Bub, Wash,
      Sludge, Sediment, Reflux, Spent Wash, Proof Spirit, Calculation of Efficiency Data, Alcohol Production
      Processes, Synthetic Process, Alcohol from Starchy Materials (Grain Spirit), Scenario, Potential of Grain as
      Raw Material, Process Description, Raw Material Preparation, Liquefaction, Yeast Cultivation &
      Prefermentation, Saccharification & Fermentation, Alcohol from Sacchariferous Feed Stocks, Conventional
      Process Used in Indian Distilleries, Fermentation, Distillation, Continuous Rectification and Reflux Ratio,
Alcohol Recovery, Quality of Alcohol, Steam Economy, Fusel Oil Separation, Absolute Alcohol

4. Monoxydric Alcohols


5. Trihydric and Polyxydric Alcohols

Trihydric Aliphatic Alcohols (Glycerols), General, Preparation, Properties, Uses, Glycerol, Occurrence, Production, Physical Properties, Grades of glycerol, Specific Gravity, Epoxy Compounds, Esters, 1,2,4-Butanetriol, Pentaglycerol, Hexaglycerol, 1,2,6-Hexanetriol, Higher Polyxydric Aliphatic Alcohols, Chemical Properties, Toxicological Properties, Uses, General, Physical Properties, Tetraxydric Alcohols (Tetritols), CH2OH(CHOH)2 CH2OH, Erythritol, d-and I-Threitol, dl-Threitol, Pentaerythritol, Pentahydric Alcohols (Pentitols), Ribitol, Xylitol, Preparation, d-Arabitol, l-Arabitol, dl-Arabitol, Hexahydric Alcohols (Hexitols), Allitol, Dulcitol, Sorbitol, Chemical Properties, Toxicity and Uses, l-Glucitol, d-Mannitol, l-Mannitol, Physical Properties, Chemical Properties, Toxicity and Uses, dl-Mannitol, d-Iditol, l-Iditol, d-Talitol, l-Talitol, dl-Talitol, Inositol, Heptahydric Alcohols (Heptitols), Perseitol, Volemitol, Glycerico-gulo-Heptitol and D-glycero-D-ido-Heptitol, Octahydric Alcohols (Octitols), Polyvinyl Alcohol

6. METHANOL FROM COAL


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