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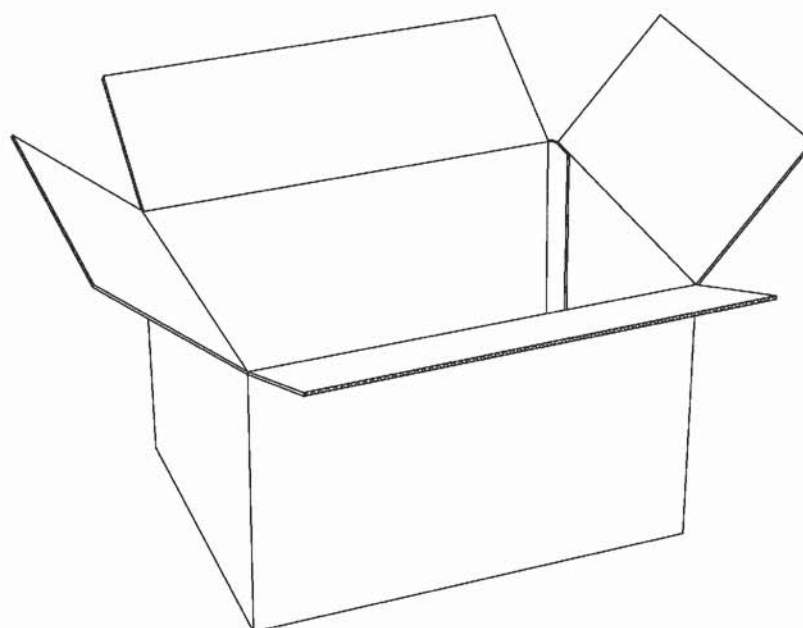


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: The present invention provides a sheet material formed of a degradable composition, the composition comprising: 30 to 80 wt% calcium carbonate by weight of the composition; an additive; and the balance a polymer selected from polyethylene, polypropylene and copolymers and blends thereof, wherein the additive comprises, by combined weight of the additive and the polymer: (a) two or more transition metal compounds in a total amount of from 0.15 to 0.6 wt%; (b) a mono- or poly-unsaturated C₁₄-C₂₄ carboxylic acid, or an ester, anhydride or amide thereof, in an amount of from 0.04 to 0.08 wt%; (c) a synthetic rubber in an amount of from 0.04 to 0.2 wt%; and, optionally: (d) dry starch in an amount of from 0 to 20 wt%; and/or (e) calcium oxide in an amount of from 0 to 1 wt%; and/or (f) a phenolic antioxidant stabilizer in an amount of from 0 to 0.2 wt%; wherein the two or



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