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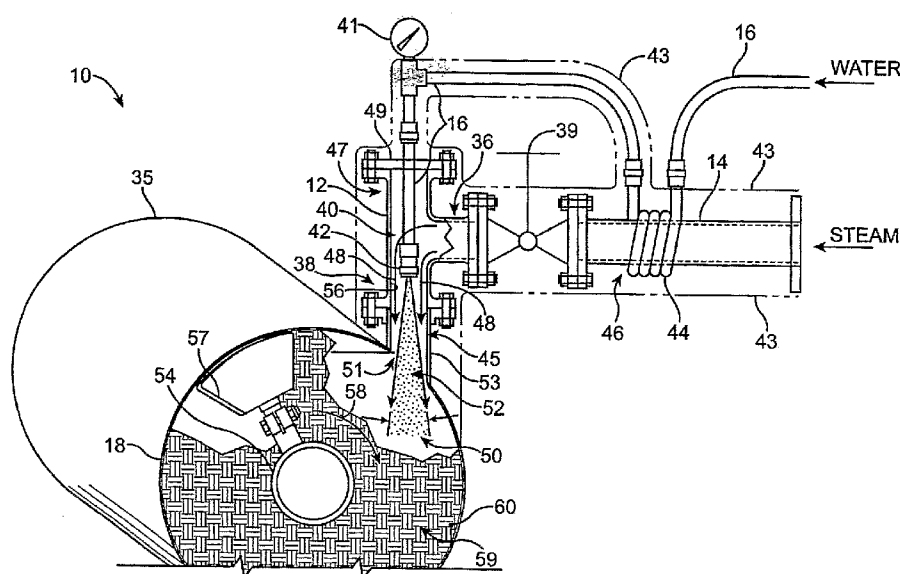
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(54) Title: MASH CONDITIONING APPARATUS AND METHOD



(57) Abstract: Disclosed is an apparatus and method for conditioning mash product in a conditioning vessel (18) by mixing steam and water together using an injector housing (12) located above the conditioning vessel. The steam-water mixture is added to a mash product within the conditioning vessel (18) so that the mash product is brought to an optimal temperature and moisture content for making pellets from the mash. Steam is supplied to the injector housing (12) and water is mixed with the steam by a spray nozzle (42) located inside the injector housing. The water can be preheated by the steam outside the injector housing prior to mixing with the steam. The amount of steam supplied and the amount of water preheating can be regulated as a function of weather conditions and the starting temperature and moisture content of the mash.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
A23N C12C

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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A	US 3 268 336 A (DOUGLAS HALE ET AL) 23 August 1966 (1966-08-23) column 2, line 24 - line 44; figure 1 -----	1,16
A	WO 98/43682 A (FORBERG HALVOR [NO]) 8 October 1998 (1998-10-08) page 2, line 11 - line 27; claims 1,2; figures -----	1,16
A	GB 474 320 A (ALEXANDER LOGINOV) 29 October 1937 (1937-10-29) page 1, line 54 - line 103; claims 1-3; figure 1 ----- -/--	1,16

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☒ See patent family annex.

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- * & * document member of the same patent family

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C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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Information on patent family members

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