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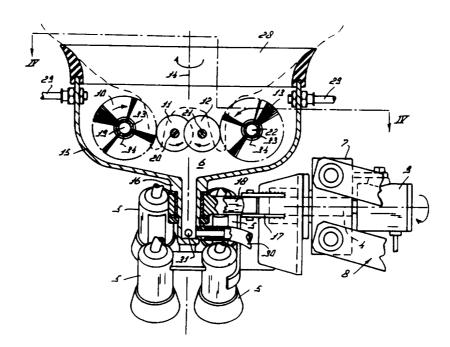
With international search report.

Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:

13 May 1993 (13.05.93)

(54) Title: AN IMPLEMENT FOR CLEANING TEATS OF MILK-PRODUCING ANIMALS



### (57) Abstract

An implement for cleaning teats of milk-producing animals, such as cows, is provided with a computer having means for process control. With the aid of this computer, cleaning means are supplied to an animal's udder. During cleaning, with the aid of monitoring means the contamination of the used cleaning means is determined. When it has been established that the contamination of the cleaning means has come below a predetermined standard, the cleaning process is terminated and the milking process subsequently started.

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH. REPORT

International Application No

PCT/NL 92/00170

I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJ	ECT MATTER (if several classification sy		/NL 92/001/0
According to International Paten Int.C1.5	t Classification (IPC) or to both National Cl A 01 J 7/00 A 0	assification and IPC 1 K 13/00	
II. FIELDS SEARCHED		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
	Minimum Docume	ntation Searched <sup>7</sup>	
Classification System		Classification Symbols	
Int.C1.5 A 01 J		01 K	*****
	Documentation Searched other to the Extent that such Documents a		
III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERI			
Category <sup>o</sup> Citation of D	ocument, 11 with indication, where appropria	ite, of the relevant passages 12	Relevant to Claim No. <sup>13</sup>
P,X EP,A,C March	0476771 (C. VAN DER LEL 1992	Y) 25	1-3
Y see co	olumn 9, line 44 - line	51; figure 2	4,6,7,9 -11,13- 19,24, 26,27, 29-31,
August	559351 (P. MARQUAIRE) 1985 ge 2, line 2 - line 30;		4,6,7,9 -11,13- 18,33
Y EP,A,0 5 July	323444 (C. VAN DER LEL 1989	Y N.V.)	19,24, 26,27, 29-31
		-/-	
considered to be of partic "E" earlier document but publ filing date "L" document which may thro which is cited to establish citation or other special re "O" document referring to an other means "P" document published prior later than the priority dat	neral state of the art which is not ular relevance ished on or after the international w doubts on priority claim(s) or the publication date of another eason (as specified) oral disclosure, use, exhibition or to the international filing date but	"T" later document published after the inter or priority date and not in conflict with cited to understand the principle or thee invention "X" document of particular relevance; the cited cannot be considered novel or cannot be involve an inventive step "Y" document of particular relevance; the cited cannot be considered to involve an inventive step document is combined with one or more ments, such combination being obvious in the art. "&" document member of the same patent far	the application but ory underlying the aimed invention considered to aimed invention ative step when the other such docu- to a person skilled
IV. CERTIFICATION			
Date of the Actual Completion of 12-01-1		Date of Mailing of this International Sec 26, 03, 93	arch Report
International Searching Authority		Signature of Authorized Officer	
	AN PATENT OFFICE	Milena Mazuera Vargas	

International Application No Page 2 PCT/NL 92/00170

III DOCINE	NTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT (CONTINUED FROM THE SECOND SHEET)	/NL 92/00170
Category °	Citation of Document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to Claim No
A	EP,A,0277396 (MULTINORM B.V.) 10 August 1988 see column 3, line 7 - line 13; figure 3	1,35
A	FR,A,2501965 (M. JARDIN) 24 September 1982 see page 4, line 13 - line 14; figures	21
A	WO,A,8900378 (TAITTOMETALLI OY) 26 January 1989	
A	EP,A,0360354 (C. VAN DER LELY) 28 March 1990	

#### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/NL92/00170

Box I	Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)
This is	nternational search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:
1.	Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2.	Claims Nos.:  because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3.	Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).
Box II	Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This In	sternational Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
Se	ee attached sheet
1.	As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2.	As all searchable claims could be searches without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3.	As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. X	No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:
Remark	on Protest  The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.  No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

#### INVITATION TO PAY ADDITIONAL FEES

- 1. Claims: 1,35 and 2-4,6,7,9-19,21-24,26,27,29-31,33,34 as far as related to 1: Implement and method for cleaning teats of animals having monitoring means for cleaning means
- 2. Claims: 5 and 6,7,9-19,21-24,26,27,29-31,33,34 as far as related to 5: Implement for cleaning teats of animals having cleaning members which are operative in two positions
- 3. Claims: 8,28 and 9-19,21-24,26,27,29-31,33,34 as far as related to 8,28: Implement for cleaning teats of animals having brushes as cleaning members
- 4. Claims: 20 and 21-24,26,27,29-31,33,34 as far as related to 20: Implement for cleaning teats of animals having drying air supply means
- 5. Claims: 25 and 26,27,29-31,33,34 as far as related to 25: Implement for cleaning teats of animals having positioning means for cleaning members
- 6. Claims: 32 and 33,34 as far as related to 32: Implement for cleaning teats of animals having cleaning liquid supply means

In claims 1,35 and the relevant dependent claims the special technical feature is: monitoring means for determining the contamination of used cleaning means.

In claim 5 and the relevant dependent claims the special technical feature is: cleaning members which are operative in two positions.

In claims 8,28 and the relevant dependent claims the special technical feature is: brushes as cleaning members.

In claims 20 and the relevant dependent claims the special technical feature is: means for the supply of drying air.

In claim 25 and the relevant dependent claims the special technical feature is: means for positioning the cleaning members.

In claim 32 and the relevant dependent claims the special technical feature: means for the supply of cleaning liquid.

These special technical features are unrelated to each other as they make different contributions over the prior art resulting in completely independent solutions. A single general inventive concept is not present, therefore the requirement of unity of invention between claims 1,35 and 5 and 8,28 and 20 and 25 and 32 is not fulfilled.

## ANNEX TO THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL PATENT APPLICATION NO.

NL 9200170

SA 65372

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on 23/03/93 The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

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