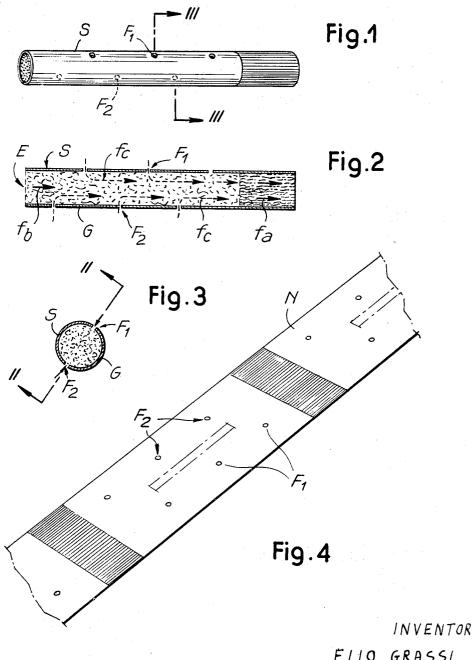
CIGARETTE WITH AIR DILUTION MEANS

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CIGARETTE WITH AIR DILUTION MEANS
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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A paper wrapper for a cigarette is formed of a strip of cigarette paper having a first end intended to form a mouthpiece and a second end intended to be lighted. The paper wrapper is provided with two longitudinally extending transversely spaced rows of holes with the holes in one row offset longitudinally with respect to the holes in the other row. The rows of holes terminate at spaced positions from the mouthpiece end of the paper wrapper. When the cigarette is lighted air is drawn through the holes to dilute the smoke passing through the cigarette to the mouthpiece. Preferably the rows of holes are disposed in diametrically opposed offset relationship for the optimum dilution and mixture of air with the cigarette smoke.

Summary of the invention

This invention relates to cigarettes and to the paper strip used in making cigarettes.

It is known that cigarette smoke, drawn in by suction through the tubular sheath resulting from the combustion of tobacco at the end of the same cigarette, often causes an irritating effect on the mucous membranes of the smoker.

One object of the present invention is to provide a cigarette which decreases the irritating effect of the smoke.

According to the present invention there is provided a system for reducing the irritating effect on a smoker of smoke drawn from a cigarette, said system including the production of a plurality of apertures in the paper wrapper of the cigarette, and drawing smoke through the cigarette and air in through the apertures, whereby the smoke is diluted by air.

Still further according to the present invention there is provided a paper strip for use in the manufacture of cigarettes, said strip having a plurality of apertures therein for each length of strip corresponding to one cigarette.

Yet further according to the present invention there is provided in a process for the manufacture of a cigarette, the step of producing a plurality of apertures in the paper of the cigarette before introduction of tobacco.

Yet further according to the present invention there is provided a process for the manufacture of cigarettes comprising the steps of perforating a strip of cigarette paper with a plurality of apertures, cutting the strip into cigarette lengths, and filling said lengths with tobacco.

An embodiment of a cigarette in accordance with the invention will now be described, by way of example, with references to the accompanying drawing, in which:

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FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a cigarette in accordance with the invention;

FIG. 2 is a longitudinal section of the cigarette of FIG. 2 on line II—II of FIG. 3;

FIG. 3 s a cross-section on the line III—III of FIG. 1; and

FIG. 4 is a perspective view of a paper strip for making cigarettes in accordance with the invention.

As shown in the drawing, the cigarette S has a sheath G, made from a strip N (see FIG. 4), which is provided with two series or rows of apertures F_1 , F_2 arranged in two longitudinal lines, the apertures of one series being offset or out-of-phase with respect to those of the other.

When the cigarette is lighted the intake of air and smoke by the smoker is effected in the direction of the arrows f_a at the holder or filter end and smoke from the burning end being drawn in as indicated by arrows f_b , and air being additionally drawn in as indicated by arrows f_c . The amount of air drawn in depends upon the number of the apertures and the positions thereof. Mixing of air and smoke in a tortuous path is obtained within the cigarette. Progressively with the consumption of the cigarette, the number of apertures for the entry of the air is reduced, but simultaneously the effect of the return, due to the suction or intake, increases, and thus the proportions of the air and smoke mixed with each other remain practically constant.

I claim:

1. A cigarette comprising a longitudinally extending strip of cigarette paper formed in a cylindrical shape and containing tobacco, said strip of paper having a first end arranged to act as a mouthpiece for the cigarette and a second end arranged to be lighted, two longitudinally extending rows of open holes formed through said strip of paper, the holes in one of said rows offset longitudinally with respect to the holes in the other said row, and said rows spaced from one another and arranged to be located on opposite sides of the cigarette constituting a means whereby after the cigarette is lighted and smoke is drawn through it, air is drawn through the holes in an alternating pattern into and through the tobacco for mixture with and dilution of the cigarette smoke passing therethrough in a tortuous path.

A paper wrapper as set forth in claim 1, wherein
 said rows of holes commence at a transverse location spaced closer to said second end than said first end of said paper strip.

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