(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
19 October 2000 (19.10.2000)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 00/60920 A3

(51) International Patent Classification[7]: A01C 23/00

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US00/09384

(22) International Filing Date: 7 April 2000 (07.04.2000)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/128,491 9 April 1999 (09.04.1999) US

(71) Applicant and
(72) Inventor: SCHRAVEN, Hendrikus, M. [NL/US]; 14461 Tiger Mountain Road SE, Issaquah, WA 98027 (US).

(74) Agents: BETCHER, Susan, D. et al.; Seed Intellectual Property Law Group PLLC, Suite 6300, 701 Fifth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104-7092 (US).

(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.

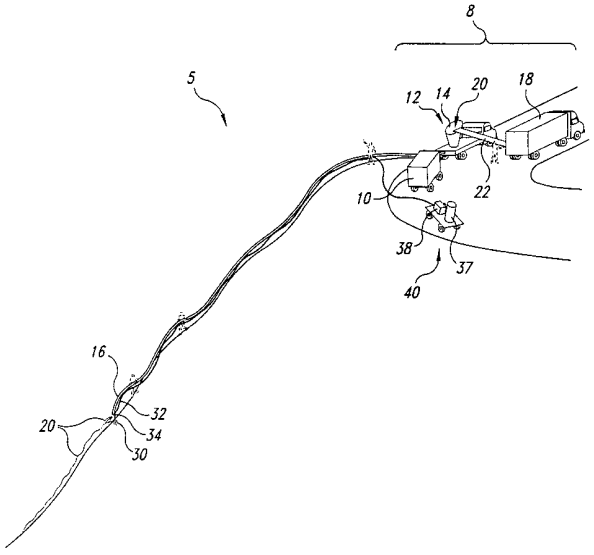
(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:
— With international search report.

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
5 April 2001

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD OF SOIL DISTRIBUTION, SUCH AS A SOIL BLEND, CAPABLE OF BEING BLOWN INTO PLACE



(57) Abstract: A soil distribution system, and particularly a method of blowing topsoil, using an improved topsoil blend (20) and specialized equipment, onto selected surfaces, including sloped surfaces. The topsoil blend may be placed either via traditional or selected placement means including placement by blowing the mixture into place. The topsoil blend may be blown through a manipulatable distribution line onto the surface, including areas which may be substantially inaccessible. A selected aerobic compost tea (30) may be combined with the soil distribution operations such that the tea is distributed and intermixed with the soil as the soil is blown into place. Greensand may be distributed over the surface prior to blowing the soil in place and the soil is then distributed over the layer of greensand.

WO 00/60920 A3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/US 00/09384

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A01C23/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 A01C B65D

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, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X Y	EP 0 504 089 A (ARAMBURU ARBELAIZ MELCHOR) 16 September 1992 (1992-09-16) column 1, line 34 - line 40 column 2, line 45 - line 47 column 3, line 30 -column 4, line 7 figure 2	1-4,8 5
X A	DE 197 41 055 A (LEHMANN MASCHBAU GMBH) 25 March 1999 (1999-03-25) the whole document	1-3,8 4
Y A	EP 0 813 806 A (LAURSEN AS A P) 29 December 1997 (1997-12-29) column 2, line 53 -column 3, line 31 figure 2	5 6

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
25 July 2000	08. 12. 2000

Name and mailing address of the ISA	Authorized officer
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Amaro, H

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1992)

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US 00/09384

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International 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 International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional 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 searched 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. ☒ 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.:

1-8

Remark on Protest

☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. Claims: 1-8

   A soil distribution system

2. Claims: 9-20

   A soil mixture

3. Claims: 21-22

   An agitator

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

Interr al Application No
PCT/US 00/09384

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0504089 A	16-09-1992	ES 2024382 A	16-02-1992
		AT 116795 T	15-01-1995
		DE 69201147 D	23-02-1995
		DE 69201147 T	24-08-1995
		DK 504089 T	19-06-1995
		ES 2062959 A	16-12-1994
DE 19741055 A	25-03-1999	NONE	
EP 0813806 A	29-12-1997	AT 177285 T	15-03-1999
		DE 69601703 D	15-04-1999
		DE 69601703 T	30-09-1999
		DK 813806 T	27-09-1999