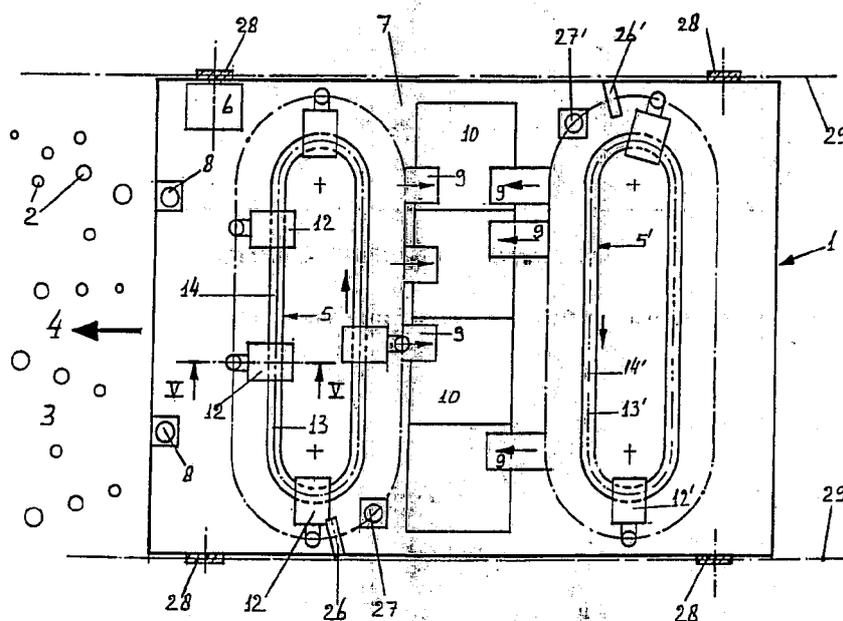


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<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/NL91/00024 (22) International Filing Date: 13 February 1991 (13.02.91) (30) Priority data: 9000378 16 February 1990 (16.02.90) NL (71)(72) Applicants and Inventors: STEIJVERS, Guillaume, Antonius, Maria [NL/NL]; Asbroekweg 13, NL-6021 RS Budel (NL). STEIJVERS, Johannes, Matheus, Henrikus [NL/NL]; Pelterpad 2, NL-6021 DB Budel (NL). (74) Common Representative: STEIJVERS, Guillaume, Antonius, Maria; Asbroekweg 13, NL-6021 RS Budel (NL).</p>		<p>(81) Designated States: AT (European patent), BE (European patent), CH (European patent), DE (European patent), DK (European patent), ES (European patent), FR (European patent), GB (European patent), GR (European patent), IT (European patent), LU (European patent), NL (European patent), SE (European patent), US.</p> <p>Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i> <i>In English translation (filed in Dutch).</i></p>

(54) Title: EQUIPMENT FOR SELECTIVE HARVESTING OF MUSHROOMS AND OTHER RELATED CROPS



(57) Abstract

The equipment (1) has been designed primarily for the selective and absolutely damage-free harvesting of mushrooms (2) from nursery beds (3). It is constructed on a mobile frame (7) which is positioned at an appropriate height above the nursery bed (3). This frame (7) is fitted with picking units (12) which are mounted on a rail system (5, 5', 5'') and controlled automatically by a programmed scanning camera (8). The harvested mushrooms (2) are also delivered automatically to the receptacles (10). The scanning camera (8) is a computer vision system. The picking units (12) remove the mushrooms (2) from the nursery beds (3) by means of a rotary suction cup system (24). The mushrooms (2) are cut to size and sorted according to cap diameter.