

Title (en)
PROCESS FOR EXPANDING CUT TOBACCO

Publication
EP 0078352 B1 19860618 (EN)

Application
EP 81305197 A 19811030

Priority
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Abstract (en)
[origin: EP0078352A1] A process is provided for expanding tobacco by means of overwetting the tobacco to a moisture content of at least 20%, preferably from 20% to about 80%, and then overdrying the tobacco in a period of a few seconds in a turbulent steam atmosphere to a moisture content of less than 7% to achieve increased filling power. The overwetted tobacco is preferably dried to a moisture content of less than 7% within a time period of less than 5 seconds. It is preferred that the tobacco be dried to a moisture content of less than 5%, and even more preferred that it be dried to a moisture content of less than 3%. The turbulent steam drying atmosphere preferably comprises at least about 60% steam. Typically, the tobacco is bulked for from about 1/4 hour to 4 hours after it is overwetted to allow the moisture to be distributed within and absorbed by the tobacco cellular structure of substantial portions of the tobacco. Subsequent to overdrying, the tobacco is typically remoisturized to a processing moisture content of about 12%.

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A24B 3/18

IPC 8 full level
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