

Title (en)  
Optical sorting of asparagus

Title (de)  
Optisches Sortieren von Spargel

Title (fr)  
Tri optique d'asperges

Publication  
**EP 1022066 A1 20000726 (EN)**

Application  
**EP 00200188 A 20000119**

Priority  
NL 1011080 A 19990120

Abstract (en)  
A device for sorting asparagus (3) according to blooming comprises a light source (25) that directs structured light on asparagus and a camera (21) for taking a picture of the asparagus. The device also has electronic processing facilities (19) to analyze the image of the light projected on the asparagus and on the basis of this analysis to determine a qualification with regard to the blooming. Finally, the device comprises sorting facilities to sort the asparagus on the basis of this qualification. The light source (25) illuminates the asparagus at an angle that differs from the angle at which the camera (21) takes a picture of the asparagus. Preferably the light source (25) illuminates the asparagus at a right angle to the longitudinal direction of the asparagus (3) and the camera (21) takes a picture of the asparagus (3) at an angle with regard to the longitudinal direction of the asparagus (3). <IMAGE>

IPC 1-7  
**B07C 5/10**

IPC 8 full level  
**B07C 5/04** (2006.01); **B07C 5/10** (2006.01)

CPC (source: EP)  
**B07C 5/342** (2013.01); **B07C 5/04** (2013.01); **B07C 2501/009** (2013.01)

Citation (search report)  
• [Y] US 5381236 A 19950110 - MORGAN COLIN G [GB]  
• [YA] EP 0881002 A1 19981202 - BESNARD PERE ET FILS SARL [FR]  
• [A] US 4875777 A 19891024 - HARDING KEVIN G [US]  
• [Y] PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 016, no. 098 (C - 0918) 11 March 1992 (1992-03-11)  
• [A] PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 012, no. 307 (P - 747) 22 August 1988 (1988-08-22)

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