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(54) **Improvements relating to sliced bale conditioning.**

(57) Apparatus for processing tobacco bales, comprising slicer means (1) for successively cutting slices from a bale; a pusher device (2) for moving the cut slices away from the slicer blade; and a conveyor (6) for receiving the slices from the pusher and delivering them to a further processing device (5).

The combination of the conveyor and pusher enables a predetermined and controllable loading space for the addition of any additional loose tobacco (or other material) whilst avoiding the requirement of a long travel mechanism for the pusher.



European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			EP 92300694.4
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 5)
X	EP - A - 0 095 866 (AMF INCORPORATED) * Claims *	1, 3, 5, 6	A 24 B 3/06
D, X	EP - A - 0 159 836 (W.H. DICKINSON ENGINEERING LIMITED) * Claims *	1, 3, 6	
A	WO - A - 87/02 868 (GBE INTERNATIONAL PLC) * Claims *	1, 4, 6	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 5)
			A 24 B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search VIENNA		Date of completion of the search 28-10-1992	Examiner WEIGERSTORFER
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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