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(54) **Docking device**

(57) The invention relates to a device for docking animal tails and/or ears, for example of piglets and lambs, comprising a first handle, which is provided with a cutting element, which cutting element can be heated by heating means, and a second handle pivotally connected to the first handle, which second handle is provided with a press-on surface, which cutting element and

which press-on surface can be brought into contact with each other by exerting a force.

According to the invention, the force and the speed at which the cutting element and the press-on surface are moved into contact can readily be controlled and reproduced, the cutting element and the press-on surface abut against each other in a position of rest under the influence of the force in question.

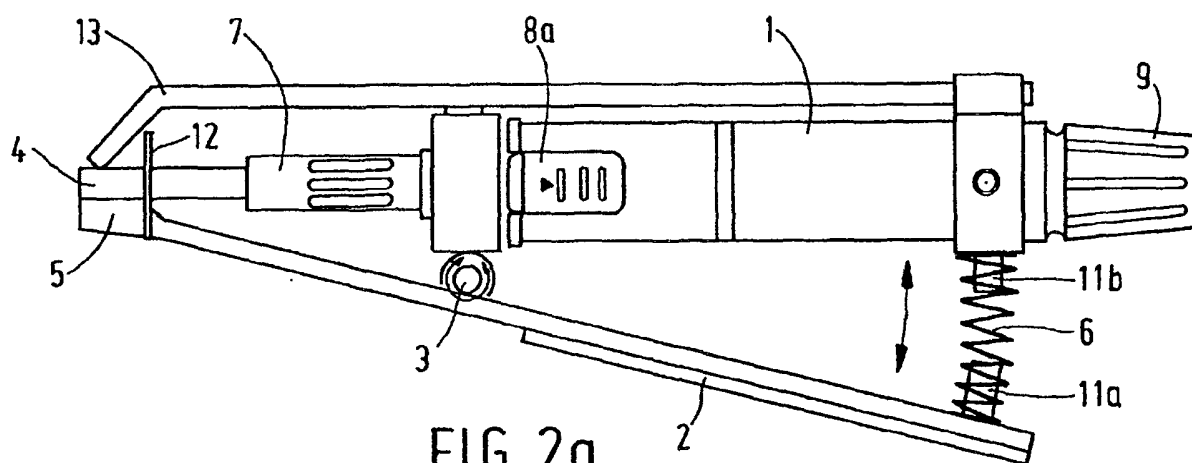


FIG. 2a

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 16 December 2002	Examiner Vanrunxt, J
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 I : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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