(11) **EP 2 778 304 A1**

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(43) Date of publication:

17.09.2014 Bulletin 2014/38

(51) Int Cl.: **E03F 3/04** (2006.01)

(21) Application number: 14158654.5

(22) Date of filing: 10.03.2014

(71) Applicant: Blücher Metal A/S 7480 Vildbjerg (DK)

(84) Designated Contracting States:

AL AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR HR HU IE IS IT LI LT LU LV MC MK MT NL NO PL PT RO RS SE SI SK SM TR

Designated Extension States:

BA ME

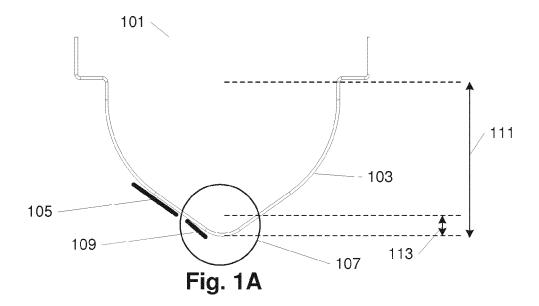
(30) Priority: 11.03.2013 DK 201370142

- (72) Inventor: Johansen, Per Thanning 8600 Silkeborg (DK)
- (74) Representative: Nielsen, Leif et al Patrade A/S Fredens Torv 3A 8000 Aarhus C (DK)

(54) Drainage channel with bottom ditch

(57) The invention concerns a drainage channel (101) adapted to conduct drainage water towards a drain, including a concave shell form (103) with sidewalls. The drainage channel is provided with a bottom ditch (107) at its bottom part. This bottom ditch is smaller than the

drainage channel, and thereby less drain water is required in order to conduct the drain water towards a drain. Even small amounts of drain water can now be conducted towards a drain whereby it is avoided that water stands still in the channels.



30

40

Description

Scope of the Invention

[0001] The present invention concerns a drainage channel adapted to conduct drain water towards a drain, wherein the drainage channel at its bottom part is designed with a bottom ditch, and wherein the drainage channel includes a shell form with sidewalls.

1

Background of the Invention

[0002] In connection with floor drains, e.g. in connection with wet rooms in production areas of slaughterhouses or similar, oblong drain channels may be provided in the floor with a slope whereby excessive water is conducted to a drain via the channels.

[0003] By small amounts of drain water, the water cannot be conducted by the slope of the channels, and due to the surface tension of the water it will lie at the bottom of the channels until it is flushed out together with a larger amount of drain water. These small amounts of drain water, e.g. water drops, can lie at the bottom for long periods of time, forming calcareous deposits in the channel when evaporating, or bacteria are formed if the water becomes rotten.

[0004] WO 2010/047720 Al discloses a drainage channel of the type mentioned in the introduction. Herein are described plane sidewalls meeting at sharp corners. Drain water can be accumulated at these corners, staying for longer periods of time and giving rise to the above mentioned problems. Even if the bottom ditch has smaller cross-section than the upper main part of the drainage channel, it has a plane bottom. Small amounts of drain water, e.g. water drops, can also lie on this plane bottom for long periods of time and therefore also give rise to the above mentioned problems.

Object of the Invention

[0005] An object of the invention is to solve the above mentioned problems, including providing a drainage channel by which it can be avoided that water is standing still at the bottom of it.

Description of the Invention

[0006] This is achieved by the present invention by a drainage channel of the type mentioned in the introduction which is peculiar in that the shell form of the drainage channel is a concave shell form having curving sidewalls with a first radius of curvature, and that the sidewalls of the bottom ditch are curving and have a second radius of curvature which is smaller than the first radius of curvature.

[0007] Thereby is formed a small ditch at the bottom of the drainage channel where drain water can be collected independently of the dimensions of the remaining

channel. By forming a small bottom ditch by means of the curving sidewalls, the number of sharp corners can be avoided/minimised. This is particularly an advantage as sharp corners are more sensitive to breakage when the drainage channel is formed by bending sheet material. Furthermore, such sharp corners may slow down water drops on their way to the bottom ditch.

[0008] The bottom ditch is smaller than the drainage channel, and thereby less drain water is required in order to conduct the drain water towards a drain. Even small amounts of drain water can now be conducted towards a drain whereby it is avoided that water stands still in the channels. The concave shape will also enable to obviate sharp edges that may contribute to accumulation of water at the bottom of the drainage channel not being conducted away. The bottom ditch will also not have a plane bottom, further contributing to the drainage channel being efficiently emptied from drain water.

[0009] In an embodiment, the second radius of curvature is $\frac{1}{4}$ of the first radius of curvature. This has appeared to be an advantageous dimensioning in order to achieve optimal draining of waste water towards a drain.

[0010] In an embodiment, the height the bottom ditch is less than 1/5 of the total channel height of the drainage channel. This has appeared to be an advantageous dimensioning in order to achieve optimal draining of waste water towards a drain.

[0011] In an embodiment, the drainage channel is made of bent steel sheet. This is a simple way of production and steel also has good hygienic qualities in relation to subsequent cleaning of the channels.

Short Description of the Drawing

[0012] The invention will be explained in more detail below with reference to the accompanying drawing, where:

Figs. 1A-D show a drainage channel according to the invention, viewed from various angles.

Detailed Description of Embodiments of the Invention

[0013] Figs. 1A-D illustrate a first embodiment of a drainage channel 101 with a bottom ditch 107 as seen from various angles, and where Fig. 1A is a cross-section, Fig. 1B is viewed obliquely from above, Fig. 1C is a side view, and Fig. 1D is a view from above.

[0014] The drainage channel 101 is adapted to conduct drainage water towards a drain, including a concave shell form 103 with sidewalls. The drainage channel is designed with a bottom ditch 107 at its bottom.

[0015] The bottom ditch 107 forms a smaller channel compared with the drainage channel 101, whereby small amounts of drain water can be collected therein and form a relative large amount of drain water in relation to the relatively small or narrow bottom ditch 107.

[0016] In order to achieve a bottom ditch that can collect and conduct even relatively small amounts of drain water, the concave shell form of the drainage channel has sidewalls with a first inclination 105, and the sidewalls of the bottom ditch has a second inclination 109 which is steeper than the first inclination 105. These inclination can be adapted to the amount of drain water, depending on the production area in which the drain is placed.

[0017] Bottom ditch as well as drainage channel can have straight, inclining sides, but alternatively and as shown on the Figure, the drain channel has curving sidewalls with a first radius of curvature marked by 105, and the bottom ditch with sidewalls have a second radius of curvature marked by 109, and which is smaller than the first radius of curvature.

[0018] The first radius of curvature can be about 60 mm and the second radius can be 15 mm which is about $\frac{1}{2}$ of the first radius of curvature.

[0019] It appears from the Figure that the height 113 of the bottom ditch is substantially less than the height 111 of the whole drainage channel.

[0020] The drainage channel shown on the Figure is made of a bent sheet, preferably of steel.

[0021] The invention is not limited to the embodiments shown in the Figures and described above. Other embodiments with other shapes of the drainage channel may be envisaged within the scope of this invention and the subsequent claims.

Claims

- 1. A drainage channel (101) adapted to conduct drain water towards a drain, wherein the drainage channel at its bottom part is designed with a bottom ditch (107), and wherein the drainage channel includes a shell form (103) with sidewalls, characterised in that the shell form of the drainage channel is a concave shell form having curving sidewalls with a first radius of curvature, and that the sidewalls of the bottom ditch are curving and have a second radius of curvature which is smaller than the first radius of curvature.
- 2. A drainage channel according to claim 1, wherein the second radius of curvature is ¼ of the first radius of curvature.
- 3. A drainage channel according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the height (113) of the bottom ditch is less than 1/5 of the total channel height (111) of the drainage channel.
- **4.** A drainage channel according to claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the drainage channel is made of a bent steel plate.

10

15

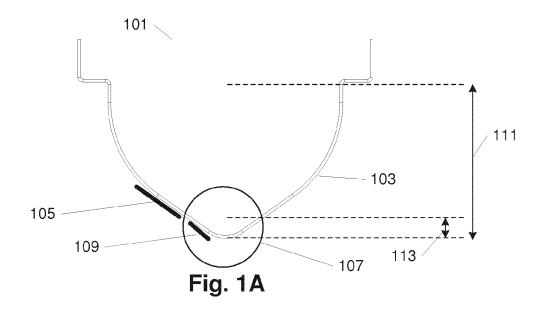
20

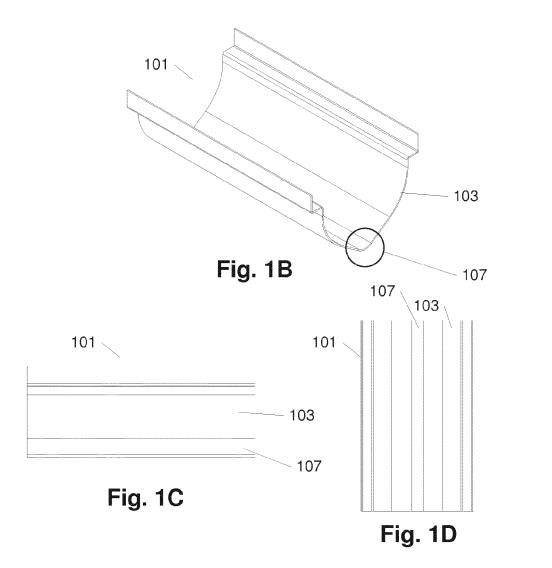
25

30

45

50







EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number EP 14 15 8654

	DOCUMENTS CONSIDE	RED TO BE RELEVANT				
Category	Citation of document with in of relevant passa		Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)		
Х			1-4	INV. E03F3/04		
X	CN 201 381 548 Y (FMATERIALS TECHNOLOG 13 January 2010 (20	Y CO LTD) 10-01-13)	1-3			
Υ	* abstract; figure	l * 	4			
Υ	FR 2 350 043 A7 (SCI 25 November 1977 (19 * page 2, lines 2,3		4			
Χ		IEDRICH WOLFARTH GMBH &	2,3			
v		per 2010 (2010-12-15)	4			
Υ	figure 1 *	- [0019]; claim 12;	4			
Υ	EP 1 170 428 A1 (ST 9 January 2002 (2002 * paragraph [0001];	2-01-09)	4	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)		
х	DE 10 2009 019375 A	1 (AHLMANN ACO SEVERIN	1-3	E03F E01C		
Υ	[DE]) 5 November 200 * figure 1 *		4			
Υ	US 7 306 401 B1 (LII 11 December 2007 (20 * figure 1 *	NKOGLE LES L [US]) 907-12-11)	4			
Х	US 2005/074294 A1 (/ [GB] ET AL) 7 April * figure 1 *	ALBONE DAVID CHARLES 2005 (2005-04-07)	1-3			
	The present search report has b	een drawn up for all claims				
	Place of search	Date of completion of the search		Examiner		
	Munich	10 July 2014	July 2014 Isa			
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		E : earlier patent door after the filing date er D : document cited in L : document cited in	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			

ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

EP 14 15 8654

5

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

10-07-2014

10

15

20

25

30

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 2008020836	A1	21-02-2008	NONE		•
CN 201381548	Υ	13-01-2010	NONE		
FR 2350043	A7	25-11-1977	NONE		
EP 2261429	A1	15-12-2010	NONE		
EP 1170428	A1	09-01-2002	AT DE DK EP	256226 T 50004729 D1 1170428 T3 1170428 A1	15-12-2003 22-01-2004 05-04-2004 09-01-2002
DE 102009019375	A1	05-11-2009	NONE		
US 7306401	B1	11-12-2007	NONE		
US 2005074294	A1	07-04-2005	NONE		

35

40

45

50

55

FORM P0459

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82

EP 2 778 304 A1

REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION

This list of references cited by the applicant is for the reader's convenience only. It does not form part of the European patent document. Even though great care has been taken in compiling the references, errors or omissions cannot be excluded and the EPO disclaims all liability in this regard.

Patent documents cited in the description

• WO 2010047720 A1 [0004]