

EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CPC NOTICE OF CHANGES 1432

DATE: MAY 1, 2023

PROJECT RP11513

The following classification changes will be effected by this Notice of Changes:

<u>Action</u>	<u>Subclass</u>	<u>Group(s)</u>
SCHEME:		
Symbols Deleted Pending Reclassification: (frozen (F))	A01C	7/166
Symbols New:	A01C	7/0443, 7/0445
Titles Changed:	A01C	1/04
	A01C	7/10
Warnings New:	A01C	7/042, 7/044, 7/0443, 7/0445, 7/046, 7/166
	A01C	17/00
DEFINITIONS:		
Definitions New:	A01C	7/0443, 7/0445, 7/163
Definitions Modified:	A01C	Subclass
	A01C	7/04, 7/042, 7/16
	A01C	17/00, 17/006, 17/008

No other subclasses/groups are impacted by this Notice of Changes.

This Notice of Changes includes the following *[Check the ones included]*:

1. CLASSIFICATION SCHEME CHANGES

- A. New, Modified or Deleted Group(s)
- B. New, Modified or Deleted Warning(s)
- C. New, Modified or Deleted Note(s)
- D. New, Modified or Deleted Guidance Heading(s)

2. DEFINITIONS

- A. New or Modified Definitions (Full definition template)
- B. Modified or Deleted Definitions (Definitions Quick Fix)

3. REVISION CONCORDANCE LIST (RCL)

4. CHANGES TO THE CPC-TO-IPC CONCORDANCE LIST (CICL)

5. CHANGES TO THE CROSS-REFERENCE LIST (CRL)

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1. CLASSIFICATION SCHEME CHANGES

A. New, Modified or Deleted Group(s)

SUBCLASS A01C - PLANTING; SOWING; FERTILISING

Type*	Symbol	Indent Level Number of dots (e.g. 0, 1, 2)	Title <u>“CPC only” text should normally be enclosed in {curly brackets}**</u>	Transferred to#
U	A01C	Subclass	PLANTING; SOWING; FERTILISING (parts, details or accessories of agricultural machines or implements, in general A01B 51/00 - A01B 75/00)	
M	A01C 1/04	1	Arranging seed on carriers, e.g. on tapes, on cords {; Carrier compositions}	
U	A01C7/04	1	Single-grain seeders with or without suction devices	
C	A01C7/042	2	{using pneumatic means}	A01C7/0443, A01C7/042, A01C7/0445
C	A01C7/044	3	{Pneumatic seed wheels}	A01C7/0445, A01C7/044, A01C7/0443
N	A01C7/0443	4	{Seed singulators}	
N	A01C7/0445	4	{Seed ejectors}	
C	A01C7/046	4	{with perforated seeding discs}	A01C7/0445, A01C7/0443, A01C7/046
U	A01C7/048	2	{Seed tape planters}	
M	A01C 7/10	2	Devices for adjusting the seed-box {; Regulation of machines for depositing quantities at intervals}	
U	A01C7/16	2	Seeders with other distributing devices, e.g. brushes, discs, screws or slides	
U	A01C7/163	3	{Gravity distributors}	
F	A01C7/166	3	{Centrifugal distributors}	A01C17/008, A01C17/001, A01C17/00, A01C17/005, A01C17/006, A01C17/003
T	A01C17/00	0	Fertilisers or seeders with centrifugal wheels	
T	A01C17/001	1	{Centrifugal throwing devices with a vertical axis}	
T	A01C17/003	1	{Centrifugal throwing devices with a horizontal axis}	
T	A01C17/005	1	{Driving mechanisms for the throwing devices}	
T	A01C17/006	1	{Regulating or dosing devices}	

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T	A01C17/008	2	{Devices controlling the quantity or the distribution pattern}	
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*N = new entries where reclassification into entries is involved; C = entries with modified file scope where reclassification of documents from the entries is involved; Q = new entries which are firstly populated with documents via administrative transfers from deleted (D) entries. Afterwards, the transferred documents into the Q entry will either stay or be moved to more appropriate entries, as determined by intellectual reclassification; T = existing entries with enlarged file scope, which receive documents from C or D entries, e.g. when a limiting reference is removed from the entry title; M = entries with no change to the file scope (no reclassification); D = deleted entries; F = frozen entries will be deleted once reclassification of documents from the entries is completed; U = entries that are unchanged.

NOTES:

- **No {curly brackets} are used for titles in CPC only subclasses, e.g. C12Y, A23Y; 2000 series symbol titles of groups found at the end of schemes (orthogonal codes); or the Y section titles. The {curly brackets} are used for 2000 series symbol titles found interspersed throughout the main trunk schemes (breakdown codes).
- U groups: it is obligatory to display the required “anchor” symbol (U group), i.e. the entry immediately preceding a new group or an array of new groups to be created (in case new groups are not clearly subgroups of C-type groups). Always include the symbol, indent level and title of the U group in the table above.
- All entry types should be included in the scheme changes table above for better understanding of the overall scheme change picture. Symbol, indent level, and title are required for all types.
- “Transferred to” column must be completed for all C, D, F, and Q type entries. F groups will be deleted once reclassification is completed.
- When multiple symbols are included in the “Transferred to” column, avoid using ranges of symbols in order to be as precise as possible.
- For administrative transfer of documents, the following text should be used: “<administrative transfer to XX>”, “<administrative transfer to XX and YY simultaneously>”, or “<administrative transfer to XX, YY, ...and ZZ simultaneously>” when administrative transfer of the same documents is to more than one place.
- Administrative transfer to main trunk groups is assumed to be the source allocation type, unless otherwise indicated.
- Administrative transfer to 2000/Y series groups is assumed to be “additional information”.
- If needed, instructions for allocation type should be indicated within the angle brackets using the abbreviations “ADD” or “INV”: <administrative transfer to XX ADD>, <administrative transfer to XX INV>, or <administrative transfer to XX ADD, YY INV, ... and ZZ ADD simultaneously>.
- In certain situations, the “D” entries of 2000-series or Y-series groups may not require a destination (“Transferred to”) symbol, however it is required to specify “<no transfer>” in the “Transferred to” column for such cases.
- For finalization projects, the deleted “F” symbols should have <no transfer> in the “Transferred to” column.
- For more details about the types of scheme change, see CPC Guide.

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B. New, Modified or Deleted Warning notice(s)

SUBCLASS A01C - PLANTING; SOWING; FERTILISING

Type*	Location	Old Warning notice	New/Modified Warning
N	A01C 7/042		Group A01C 7/042 is impacted by reclassification into groups A01C 7/0443 and A01C 7/0445. Groups A01C 7/042, A01C 7/0443 and A01C 7/0445 should be considered in order to perform a complete search.
N	A01C 7/044		Group A01C 7/044 is impacted by reclassification into groups A01C 7/0445 and A01C 7/0443. Groups A01C 7/044, A01C 7/0445 and A01C 7/0443 should be considered in order to perform a complete search.
N	A01C 7/0443		Group A01C 7/0443 is incomplete pending reclassification of documents from groups A01C 7/042, A01C 7/044 and A01C 7/046. All groups listed in this Warning should be considered in order to perform a complete search.
N	A01C 7/0445		Group A01C 7/0445 is incomplete pending reclassification of documents from groups A01C 7/042, A01C 7/044 and A01C 7/046. All groups listed in this Warning should be considered in order to perform a complete search.
N	A01C 7/046		Group A01C 7/046 is impacted by reclassification into groups A01C 7/0445 and A01C 7/0443. Groups A01C 7/046, A01C 7/0445 and A01C 7/0443 should be considered in order to perform a complete search.
N	A01C 7/166		Group A01C 7/166 is no longer used for the classification of documents as of May 1, 2023. The content of this group is being reclassified into groups A01C 17/00, A01C 17/001, A01C 17/003, A01C 17/005, A01C 17/006 and A01C 17/008. All groups listed in this Warning should be considered in order to perform a complete search.
N	A01C 17/00		Groups A01C 17/00 - A01C 17/008 are incomplete pending reclassification of documents from group A01C 7/166. All groups listed in this Warning should be considered in order to perform a complete search.

*N = new warning, M = modified warning, D = deleted warning

NOTE: The "Location" column only requires the symbol PRIOR to the location of the warning. No further directions such as "before" or "after" are required.

2. A. DEFINITIONS (new)

A01C 7/0443

Insert: The following new Definitions:

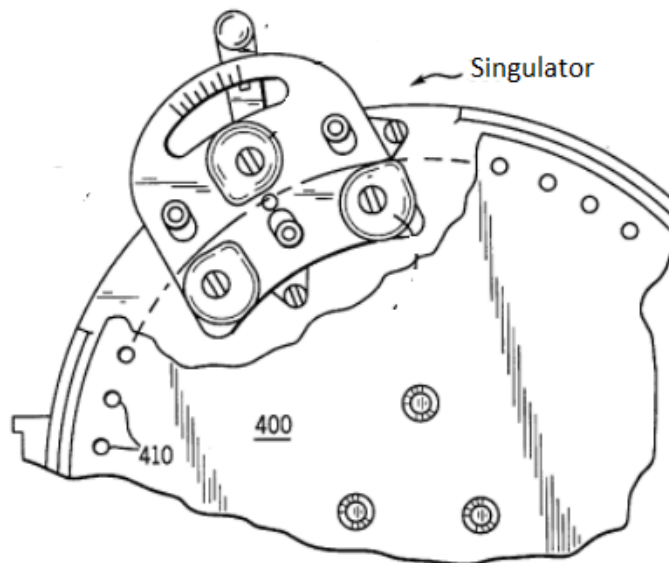
Definition statement

This place covers:

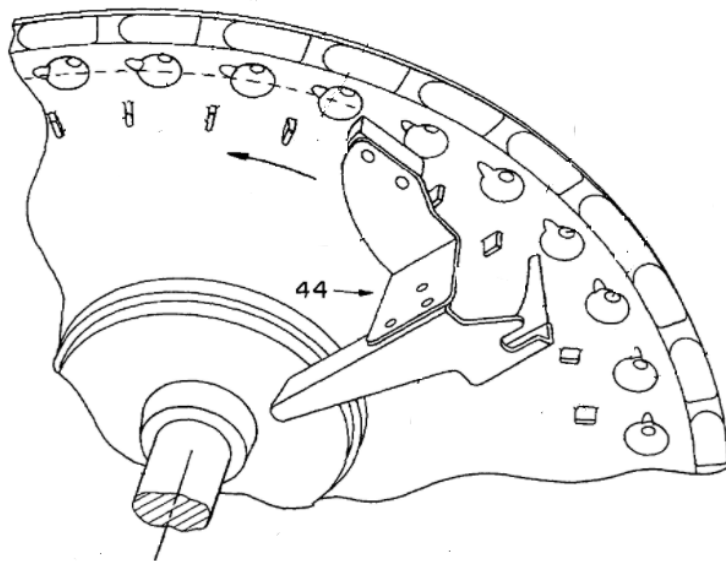
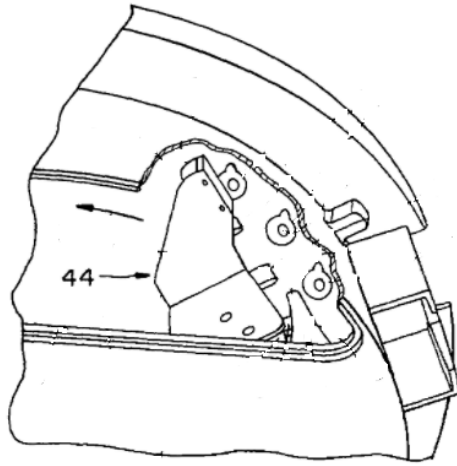
Devices for knocking multiples of seeds from an aperture back into the seed pool such that a single seed remains in the aperture for immediate sowing.

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

Seed singulator assembly



Seed singulator

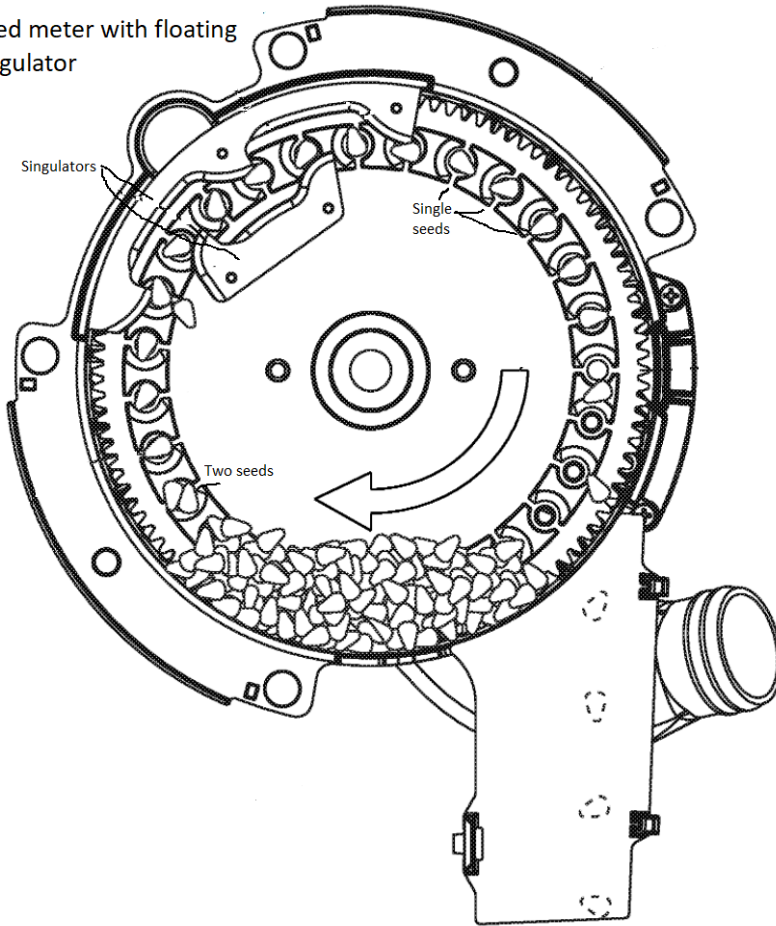


Singulator = 44

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Seed meter with floating singulator



A01C 7/0445

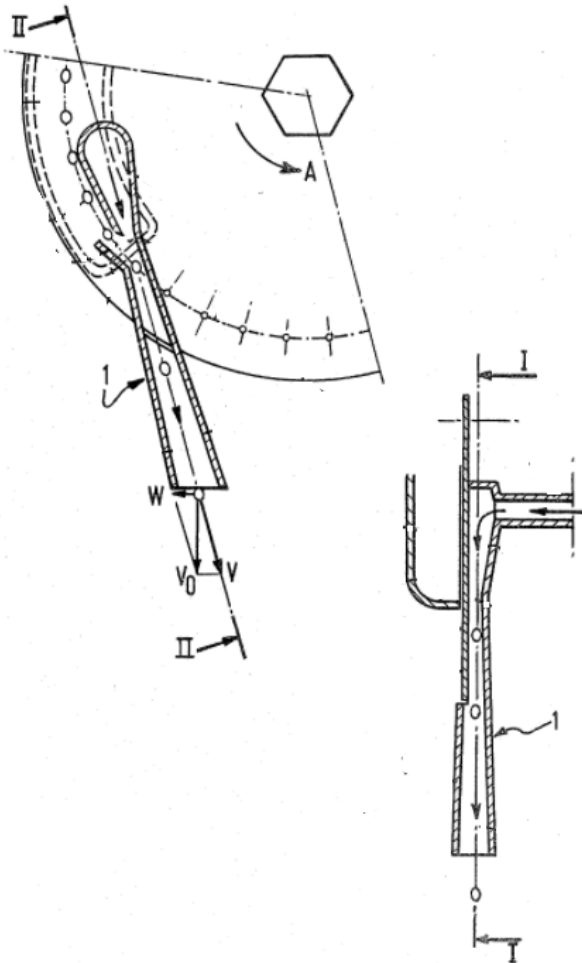
Definition statement

This place covers:

Devices for ejecting seeds from apertures for immediate sowing. This place also includes ejectors for forcefully ejecting seed or debris stuck in apertures.

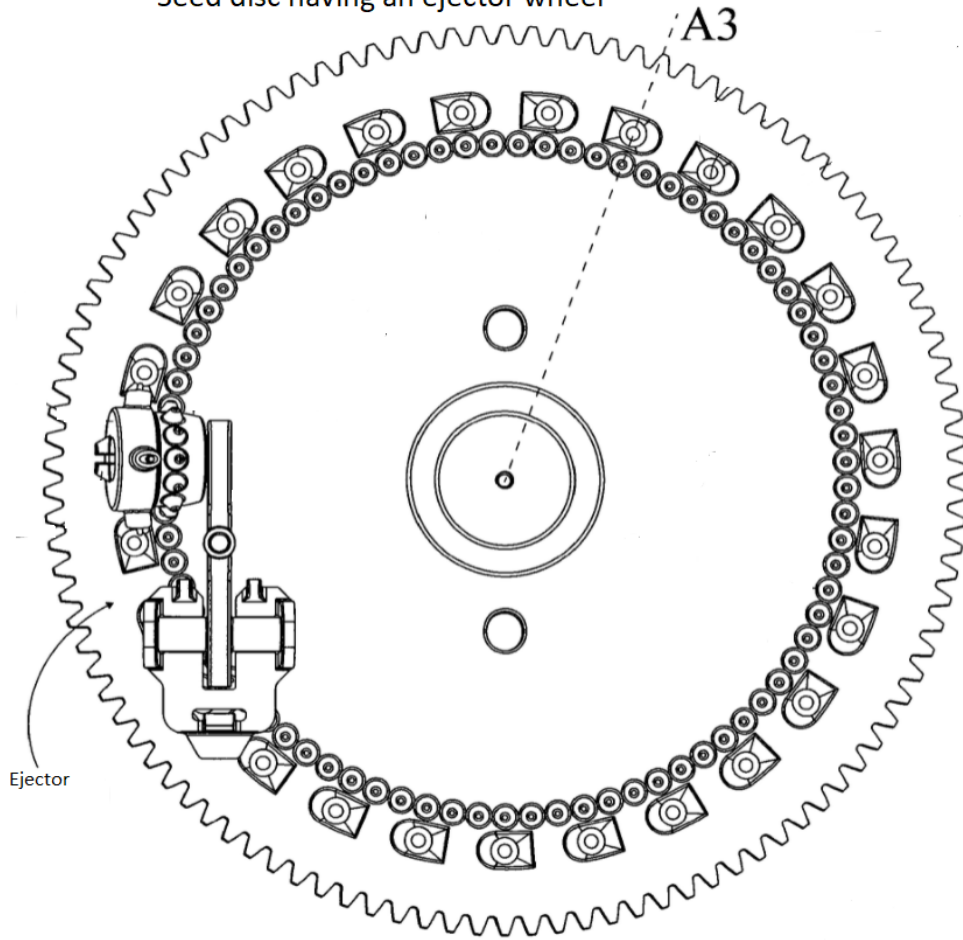
Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

Pneumatic seed ejector

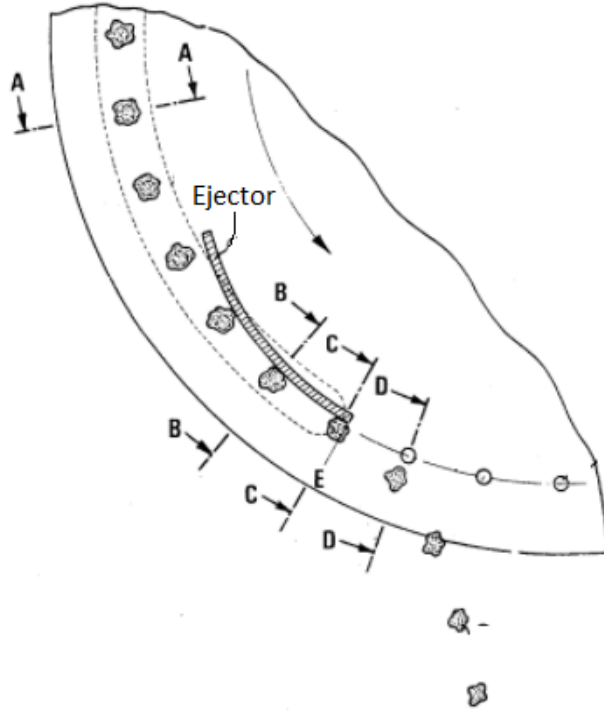


Ejector = 1

Seed disc having an ejector wheel



Pneumatic seeder



A01C 7/163

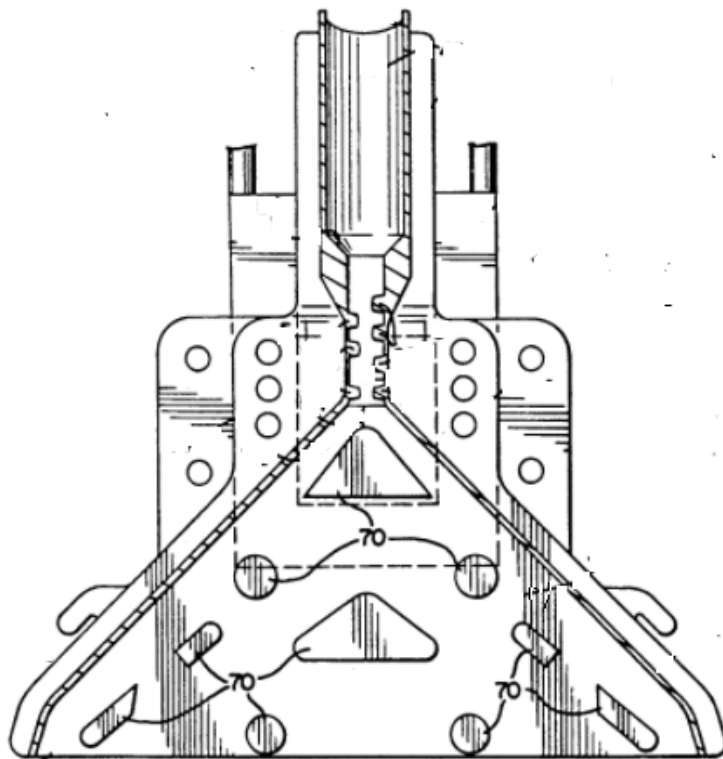
Definition statement

This place covers:

Seeders in which the seeds are downwardly driven only by gravity to the ground.

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

Bander assembly



Deflectors = 70

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2. A. DEFINITIONS (modified)

A01C

References

Informative references

Replace: The existing Informative references table with the following revised table:

Combined with general working of soil	A01B49/04
Horticulture and cultivation in controlled environments or containers	A01G
Sowing and fertilising with aircraft	B64D 1/16 - B64D 1/20
Apparatus for spreading sand or salt	E01C

Glossary of terms

Insert: The following three new rows into the existing Glossary of terms table:

Planting	Placement of seed, bulbs or plants into the ground for growth.
Sowing	Placement of seed into or onto the ground for growth.
Fertilising	Application of fertiliser into or onto the ground near seed, bulb or plants to stimulate growth.

A01C 7/04

Insert: The following new Definition statement text and images:

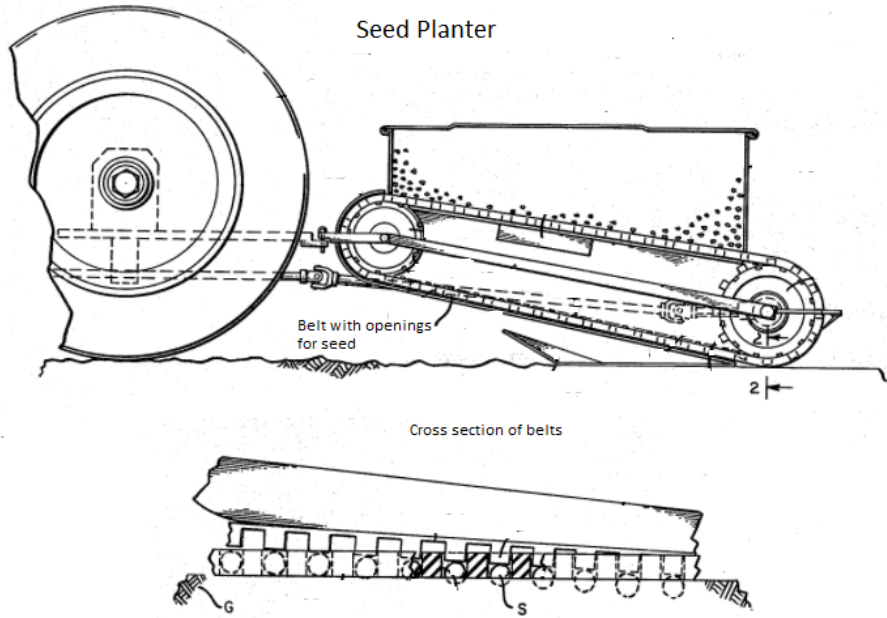
Definition statement

This place covers:

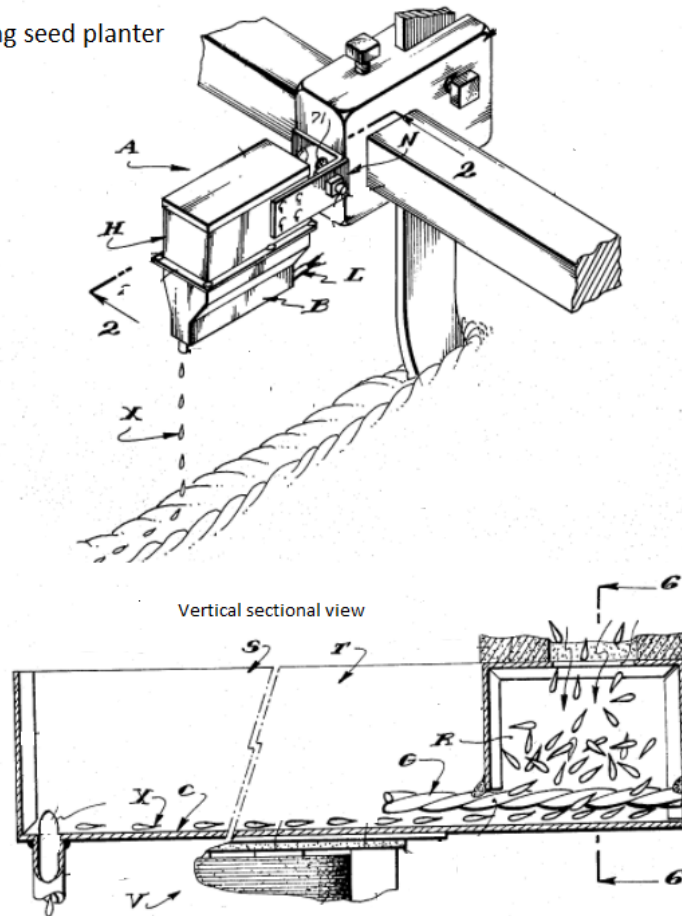
Seeders for planting single seeds at equal intervals typically in laterally spaced rows.

Suction is created by pneumatic means.

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



Vibrating seed planter



A01C 7/042

Insert: The following new Definition statement:

Definition statement

This place covers:

Seed singulators operated under pressure of gas or air.

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A01C 7/16**References*****Informative references***

Replace: The existing Informative references table with the following revised table:

Fertilisers with distributing slots	A01C 15/06
Fertilisers with adjustable shutters or slits	A01C 15/124
Fertilisers with endless chains	A01C 15/18
Centrifugal fertiliser or seed spreaders	A01C 17/00

A01C 17/00

Insert: The following new Definition statement:

Definition statement

This place covers:

Devices using the outward force of a spinning distributor to spread fertiliser or seed across a generally broad area of ground.

References***Informative references***

Replace: The existing Informative references table with the following revised table:

Hand-used implements	A01C 7/02, A01C 15/02
Fertiliser distributors	A01C 15/00
Mechanical throwing machines for articles or solid bulk materials, in general	B65G 31/00
Sand, gravel or salt spreaders for roads	E01C 19/20

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A01C 17/006

Definition statement

Replace: The existing Definition statement text with the following revised text and new images:

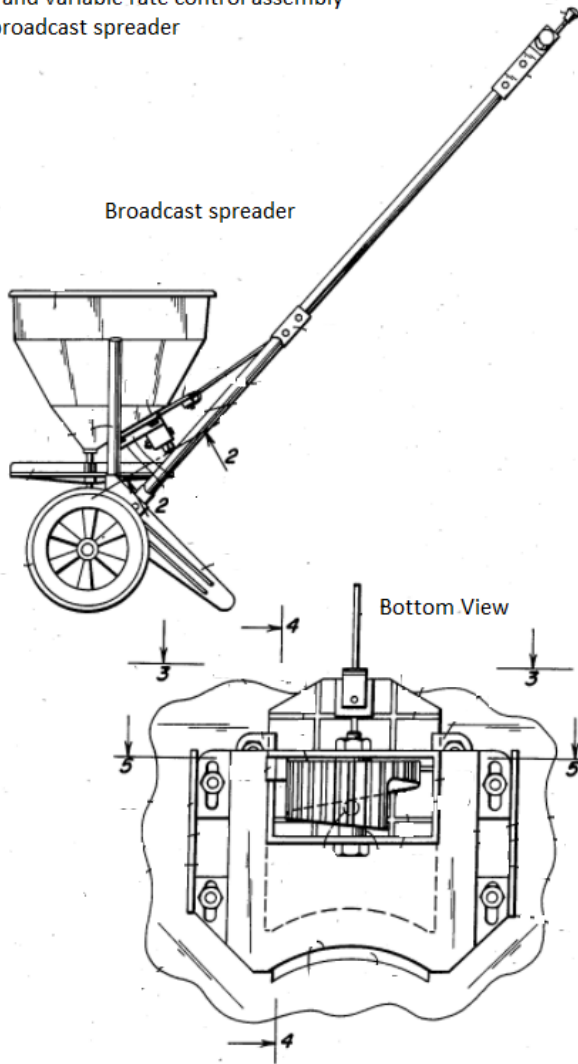
Dosing or regulation of the fertiliser or seed before reaching the rotating disks, i.e. dosing shutters and devices controlling the quantity and location of fertiliser or seed falling onto the rotating disks.

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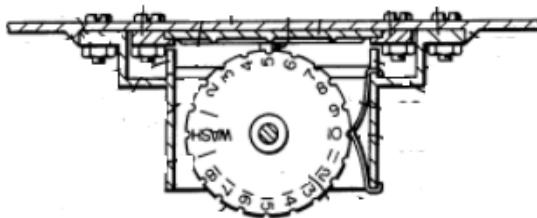
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Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.

Chute and variable rate control assembly
for a broadcast spreader



Vertical sectional view taken along line 5



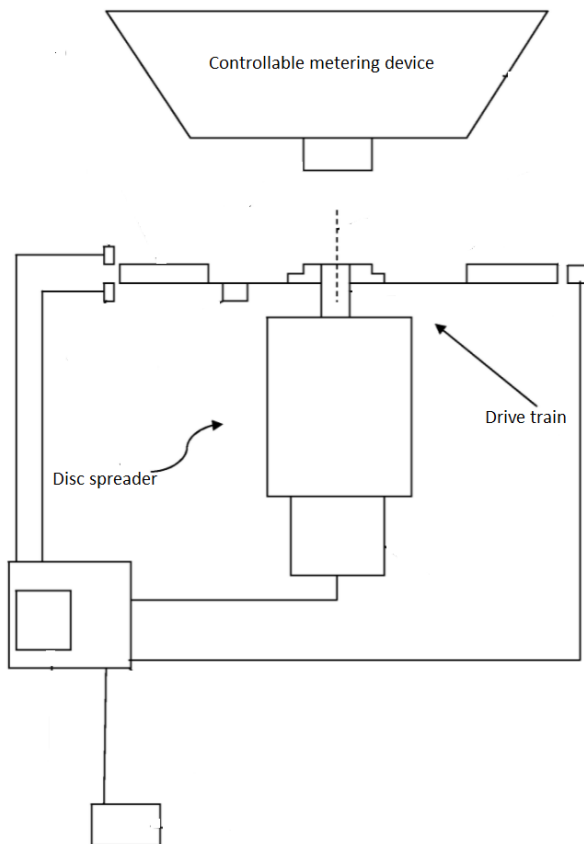
A01C 17/008

Definition statement

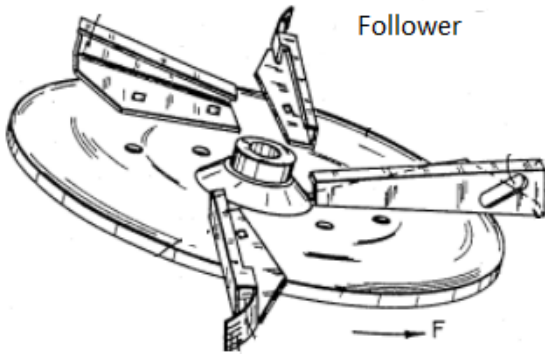
Replace: The existing Definition statement text with the following revised text and new images:

Regulation of the fertiliser or seed on or after the rotating disks, i.e. blades, chutes, plates for directing the flux of fertiliser or seed to the ground in a particular quantity or pattern.

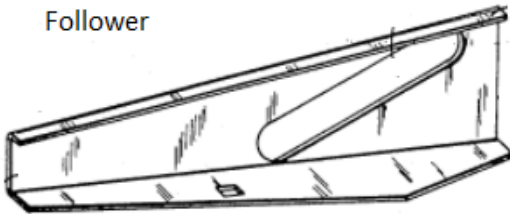
Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



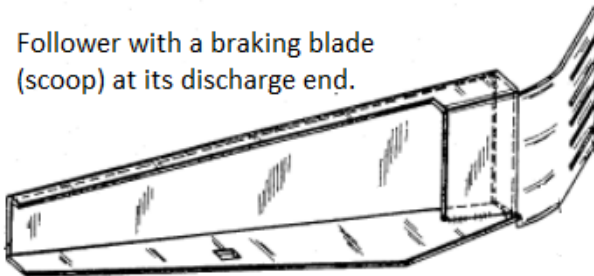
Dual-disk fertiliser



Follower



Follower with a braking blade (scoop) at its discharge end.



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3. REVISION CONCORDANCE LIST (RCL)

Type*	From CPC Symbol (existing)	To CPC Symbol(s)
C	A01C 7/042	A01C 7/0443, A01C 7/042, A01C 7/0445
C	A01C 7/044	A01C 7/0445, A01C 7/044, A01C 7/0443
C	A01C 7/046	A01C 7/0445, A01C 7/0443, A01C 7/046
F	A01C 7/166	A01C 17/008, A01C 17/001, A01C 17/00, A01C 17/005, A01C 17/006, A01C 17/003

* C = entries with modified file scope where reclassification of documents from the entries is involved; Q = new entries which are firstly populated with documents via administrative transfers from deleted (D) entries. Afterwards, the transferred documents into the Q entry will either stay or be moved to more appropriate entries, as determined by intellectual reclassification; D = deleted entries; F = frozen entries will be deleted once reclassification of documents from the entries is completed.

NOTES:

- Only C, D, F, and Q type entries are included in the table above.
- When multiple symbols are included in the “To” column, do not use ranges of symbols.
- For administrative transfer of documents, the following text should be used: “< administrative transfer to XX>”, “<administrative transfer to XX and YY simultaneously>”, or “<administrative transfer to XX, YY, ...and ZZ simultaneously>” when administrative transfer of the same documents is to more than one place.
- Administrative transfer to main trunk groups is assumed to be the source allocation type, unless otherwise indicated.
- Administrative transfer to 2000/Y series groups is assumed to be “additional information”.
- If needed, instructions for allocation type should be indicated within the angle brackets using the abbreviations “ADD” or “INV”: <administrative transfer to XX ADD>, <administrative transfer to XX INV>, or < administrative transfer to XX ADD, YY INV, ... and ZZ ADD simultaneously>.
- In certain situations, the “D” entries of 2000-series or Y-series groups may not require a destination (“To”) symbol, however it is required to specify “<no transfer>” in the “To” column for such cases.
- RCL is not needed for finalisation projects.

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4. CHANGES TO THE CPC-TO-IPC CONCORDANCE LIST (CICL)

<u>CPC</u>	<u>IPC</u>	<u>Action*</u>
A01C7/0443	A01C 7/04	NEW
A01C7/0445	A01C 7/04	NEW

*Action column:

- For an (N) or (Q) entry, provide an IPC symbol and complete the Action column with "NEW."
- For an existing CPC main trunk entry or indexing entry where the existing IPC symbol needs to be changed, provide an updated IPC symbol and complete the Action column with "UPDATED."
- For a (D) CPC entry or indexing entry complete the Action column with "DELETE." IPC symbol does not need to be included in the IPC column.
- For an (N) 2000 series CPC entry which is positioned within the main trunk scheme (breakdown code) provide an IPC symbol and complete the action column with "NEW".
- For an (N) 2000 series CPC entry positioned at the end of the CPC scheme (orthogonal code), with no IPC equivalent, complete the IPC column with "CPCONLY" and complete the action column with "NEW".

NOTES:

- F symbols are not included in the CICL table above.
- T and M symbols are not included in the CICL table above unless a change to the existing IPC is desired.