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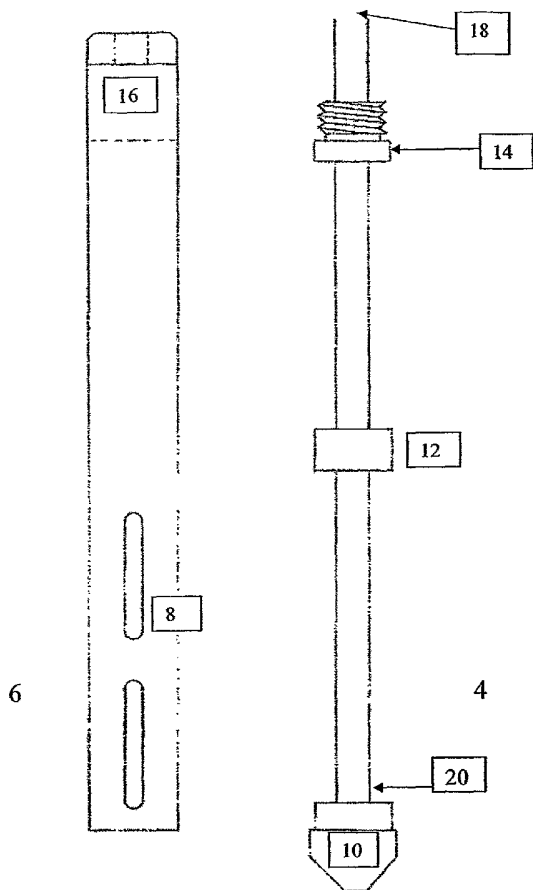
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: FOOD SAMPLE COLLECTOR



(57) Abstract: The present invention provides novel methods and devices for detection of pathogens or other microbes in an analyzed sample (e.g., food, industrial, pharmaceutical, botanical, environmental, etc., sample). The inventive methods and devices provide for increasing the power of detection for pathogens on food surfaces, comprising increasing the number of independent, discrete samples taken during the sampling procedure. The inventive sampling device reduces sampling costs by minimizing time, material and product loss relative to prior art sampling techniques. In particular aspects, a novel surface sampling device for bulk solid foods is provided that operates to remove (e.g., shave) small pieces from contacted product (e.g., product pieces). The device comprises a sampling mechanism having utility to remove samples (e.g., cut slivers from) larger pieces of food or other sample materials. In particular embodiments, the device comprises a primary shaft member (e.g., cylindrical stainless steel), and a shaving means.

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**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

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**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

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**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

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Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X --- A	US 4,383,583 A (BAKER) 17 May 1983 (17.05.1983), see entire document.	13-17 ----- 1-12
X --- A	US 6,676,677 B2 (KLEIN) 13 January 2004 (13.01.2004), see entire document.	13-17 ----- 1-12
A	US 2,896,444 A (FORMAN et al.) 28 July 1959 (28.07.1959), see entire document.	1-17
A	US 4,252,200 A (PETERSON) 24 February 1981 (24.02.1981), see entire document.	1-17
A	US 5,209,129 A (JASELSKIS et al.) 11 May 1993 (11.05.1993), see entire document.	1-17

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.  See patent family annex.

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## C. (Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5,722,985 A (PETTUS) 03 March 1998 (03.03.1998), see entire document.	1-17