Claims

1. A beverage dispensing machine (1) comprising a first hydraulic circuit (C1) including a water source (3), a pump (4), a water heating means (5), a brewing means (2), said brewing means (2) having inlet and outlet means, beverage collecting means (6) for collecting brewed beverage leaving said brewing means (2) and for dispensing said beverage to a container, and control means (9),

characterised in further comprising a second hydraulic circuit (C2) that includes a second pump (4bis) and second water heating means (5bis), said second water heating means (5bis) being different and separate from the water heating means (5) of the first circuit (C1), to change the temperature of the first circuit with respect to the temperature of the second circuit and to adapt both temperatures and volumes of the liquids dispensed by the two circuits according to the required taste of the final beverage, and wherein the outlet of said water heating means (5bis) is connected to said first circuit (C1) at a location that is downstream to the said brewing means (2) with respect to the water flow in said first circuit (C1).

2. A dispensing machine according to claim 1, wherein the water from the second hydraulic circuit (C2) is delivered to said beverage collecting means (6).

3. A dispensing machine according to claim 1 or 2, further comprising control means (9) to operate said second circuit as a function of said first circuit flow-rate.

4. A dispensing machine as per any claim 1 to 3, further comprising flow-rate detecting means (8, 8bis) and control means (9) to control the flow-rate of said second circuit (C2) according to the detected flow-rate value in said first circuit (C1) so that a pre-determined relationship is maintained between said flow-rates.

5. A method of preparing a beverage in a machine according to any previous claim, comprising the steps of heating water in a first heating means (5), feeding said heated water to a brewing means (2), and collecting the beverage leaving said brewing means in beverage collecting means (6) to deliver said beverage to a cup or other beverage container (7), said brewing means, beverage collecting means and cup or container being part of a first hydraulic circuit (C1), and control means (9), said machine having a second circuit (C2) that includes a second pump (4bis) and second water heating means (5bis),

characterized in further comprising the steps of feeding further water and/or other edible liquid to said first hydraulic circuit (C1) at a position located downstream to the said brewing means (2) with respect to the water flow in said first circuit (C1) by means of said second hydraulic circuit (C2) and **in that** the said water or edible liquid in said second circuit (C2) is heated to the requested

temperature by means of a second heating means (5bis) that is different and separate from said first water heating means of said first circuit (C1), to change the temperature of the first circuit with respect to the temperature of the second circuit (C2) and to adapt both temperatures and volumes of the liquids dispensed by the two circuits according to the required taste of the final beverage.

6. A method according to claim 5, wherein the water from the second hydraulic circuit (C2) is delivered to said beverage collecting means (6).

7. A method according to claim 5 or 6, wherein the quantity of liquid supplied by said first circuit (C1) and the quantity of liquid supplied by the second circuit (C2) of the total volume of the beverage to be dispensed are selected in at least one predetermined set of values.

8. A method according to claim 7, wherein the flow rate (fr1 and fr2) of the first and second circuit C1 and C2 for supplying said quantity of liquid respectively from the first and second circuits is constant during the dispensing time or is varied during the dispensing time according to different laws or algorithm.

9. A method according to any claim 5 to 8, wherein the flow-rate of said second circuit is controlled according to the flow-rate value in said first circuit so that at least one pre-determined relationship is maintained between first and second flow rates (fr1 and fr2).

10. A method according to claim 9, wherein the pre-determined relationship between the ratio of the flowrate (fr1) of the first circuit (C1) and the flowrate (fr2) of the second circuit (C2) is selected at least from constant, linear, exponential, or logarithmic functions.

11. A method according to any claim 5 to 10, wherein said second circuit (C2) is operated to feed a preset amount of water to said first circuit (C1) after a flow of beverage leaving said brewing means has started and wherein said water feeding is stopped earlier than or simultaneously with the stopping of the flow of beverage from said brewing means.

12. A method according to any claim 5 to 11, wherein coffee is prepared from ground coffee having granulometric distribution with d(0.5) within the range of 150 to 500 microns, preferably 290 to 350 microns.