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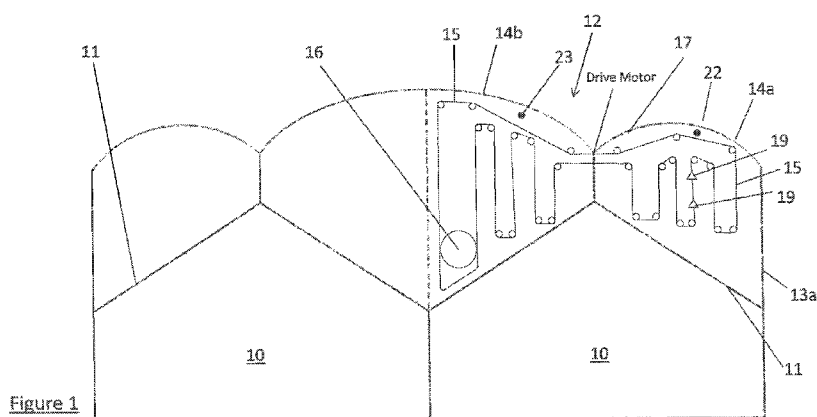


Figure 1

(57) Abstract: An apparatus for use in growing a plant crop, the apparatus comprising a structure enclosing a volume (12) in which a crop can be maintained in a controlled environment during the growth of a crop, the structure housing two endless belts (15) in spaced-apart parallel relationship and mounted for synchronous motion about a closed path, a trough (20) to removably retain a nutrient solution (21) for a crop, suspension means (18, 19a) to enable a container (19) holding a crop to be suspended between and move with the belts (15), the paths of the belts (15) being such as to at least partially immerse the container (19) in nutrient solution and feed a crop at least once on a complete belt circuit.