

DESCRIPTION

Chip, in particular for coming into contact with and/or for
5 effecting on animal food or aquarium water

The invention relates to a chip. The chip is preferably
provided for coming into contact with animal food and/or for
effecting on animal food. Alternatively or additionally, the
10 chip is preferably provided for coming into contact with
aquarium water (e.g. for attaching to an internal surface of
an aquarium) and/or for effecting on aquarium water.

Feed dishes for animals, for example, dogs, cats or other
15 domestic animals are known in a wide variety of embodiments.
Functionally, the known feed dishes are typically bowl-shaped
objects which are filled with food or water which is then
consumed by the animals.

20 It is an object of the invention to extend and/or improve the
functionality of conventional feed dishes. It is a further
object of the invention to provide a possibility by means of
which animal food can be supplemented and/or suitably
positively influenced in a simple way. However, the invention
25 is not restricted to embodiments which solve all the
aforementioned objects. Rather, the invention also claims
protection in general for the embodiments described below.

The invention comprises a chip. The chip is preferably
30 suitable for coming into contact with animal foods and/or for
effecting on animal foods. Alternatively or additionally, the
chip is preferably provided for coming into contact with
aquarium water (e.g. for attaching to an internal surface of
an aquarium) and/or for effecting on aquarium water.

In the context of the invention, "animal foods" comprise foods suitable for animals, in particular water and/or nutrition (e.g. feed), preferably for dogs, cats, fish or other animals.

The chip comprises an attaching means in order to attach the chip to a target object, and a receiving space in which an application means is accommodated.

The application means is preferably selected from the group comprising: at least one crystal, in particular at least one crystal body, at least one mineral (e.g. minerals of, for example, the same or different types), at least one quartz (e.g. a quartz body), at least one vitalisation agent (e.g. a vitalising material, a vitalising substance, etc.), at least one nutritional supplemental agent.

The vitalisation and/or nutritional supplemental agents in the context of the invention can comprise, in particular, conventional nutritional supplements, vitamins, mineral nutrients, etc., but also herbal and/or homeopathic substances or even drugs or medications. The crystal, mineral or quartz can be, for example, a so-called "healing stone".

The receiving space can be, for example, partially or entirely filled by the application means.

The attaching means preferably comprises an adhesion or gluing face configured, for example, as adhesion or gluing film.

The chip preferably has a layered structure. The chip is preferably elastically deformable.

It is possible for the receiving space and/or the application means to be provided between a first layer and a second layer. The first layer and/or the second layer are preferably transparent. The first layer and the second layer may be, for example, one and the same layer. Preferably, however, the first layer and the second layer are different layers, for example, a polyester layer and a PVC (polyvinyl chloride) layer.

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It is possible that the first layer is a film layer, in particular a PVC film layer and/or that the second layer is a film layer, in particular a polyester film layer.

15 It is possible that an external shell of the chip is formed by at least one external layer or comprises at least one external layer, in particular a prepolymer layer, a layer of thermoplastic plastic or a layer of another suitable plastics material.

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The external layer can be, for example, multiple times thicker than the first layer and/or the second layer which preferably merely have a typical film thickness.

25 It is possible that the external shell directly or indirectly surrounds the first layer, the second layer and/or the application means, suitably externally, preferably on all sides or at least covers them on one side.

30 The external shell is preferably transparent.

The first layer and the second layer can be connected to one another in the edge regions thereof (e.g. glued, welded, etc.), preferably so that the receiving space is closed in

the peripheral direction and/or so that the application means is isolated from the external shell.

The first layer and/or the second layer are preferably
5 configured such that the application means can act externally and/or can escape.

The first layer and/or the second layer can be, for example, closed or can have one or more openings.

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The attaching means is preferably provided on the external shell, in particular the prepolymer layer.

It is possible that sections of the chip coming into contact
15 with the animal foods or the aquarium water are configured to be food-safe. In particular, it is possible that at least one of the following is configured to be food-safe: the attaching means, in particular the adhesion or gluing face, the external shell of the chip or the chip in general. Thereby,
20 it can suitably be ensured that no health risk to animals is caused by the chip.

It is also possible that at least one of the following is configured to be waterproof and/or moisture-proof: the
25 attaching means, in particular the adhesion or gluing face, the external shell of the chip or the chip in general. Thereby, it can preferably be ensured that the chip is also not damaged under the effect of water and/or moisture and/or remains safely attached to the target object.

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The chip is configured, in particular, in order to come into direct contact with animal food and/or aquarium water.

The target object is preferably a feed dish and/or water dish for animals, in particular dogs or cats, or an aquarium for fishes.

- 5 The attaching means or the chip in general is preferably configured in order to be attached to an internal surface, in particular a bottom inner surface, of the feed dish or water dish or in order to be attached onto an internal surface of the aquarium, for example, above or below the water level.
- 10 However, attaching to an external surface of the feed dish or water dish and the aquarium is also conceivable.

The application means is preferably energetically charged, for example, according to penergetic technology or similar
 15 technologies for processing and/or frequency transmission.

The chip preferably has a deformable layered structure.

The chip can have, for example, a thickness of less than or
 20 equal to 4.0 mm; 3.0 mm; 2.5 mm or 2.0 mm and/or a diameter of less than or equal to 50 mm; 45 mm; 40 mm or 33 mm.

Preferably, the external periphery of the chip is configured to be edge-free and/or at least partially curved, for
 25 example, circular or oval. The surface form of the chip is also preferably configured edge-free and/or at least partially curved. Thereby, in particular, it is made possible that an animal perceives contact with the chip (for example, during licking it with the tongue) as not unpleasant.

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The invention also covers a feed dish and/or water dish for animals or a fish aquarium with a chip, in particular for coming into contact with and/or for effecting on animal food or aquarium water. The chip comprises a receiving space in

which an application means is accommodated. The application means is selected, for example, from the group including: a vitalisation agent, a nutritional supplemental agent, a crystal, a mineral, a quartz. Otherwise, the chip can be
5 configured as described herein.

It should also be mentioned that at least one of the following can also be made of polyoxymethylene (POM): the first layer, the second layer and the external layer forming
10 the external shell.

The features and preferred exemplary embodiments of the invention as described above can be combined with one another as desired. Other advantageous developments of the invention
15 are disclosed in the subclaims or are contained in the following description of exemplary embodiments of the invention which makes reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

20 Fig. 1 shows a schematic plan view of a chip according to an embodiment of the invention,

Fig. 2 shows a schematic side view of the chip of Fig. 1, and

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Fig. 3 shows a schematic cross-sectional view of a chip according to an embodiment of the invention.

Fig. 1 shows a plan view of a chip 1 according to an
30 embodiment of the invention, whilst Fig. 2 shows a side view of the chip 1 of Fig. 1. The chip 1 is provided and suitable for coming into contact with and/or for having an effect on animal food, in particular feed and water.

The chip 1 comprises an attaching means 10 in order to attach the chip 1 to a target object in the form of a feed dish or water dish (e.g. for dogs or cats), preferably on the inside of the bottom thereof, so that the chip 1 comes into direct
5 contact with animal food and can have a preferably direct effect thereon. The attaching means 10 is configured as an adhesion or gluing face.

The chip 1 further comprises a receiving space 20 in which an
10 application means 30 is accommodated. The application means 30 can completely or partially fill the receiving space 20. The application means 30 can be, e. g., a crystal, a mineral, a quartz, a vitalisation agent, and/or a nutritional
15 supplemental agent. The application means 30 can be, e. g., energetically charged.

The chip 1 also comprises a first layer 40 which is configured as a PVC film layer. The chip 1 also comprises a second layer 50 which is configured as a polyester film
20 layer. The receiving space 20 and the application means 30 are arranged between the first layer 40 and the second layer 50.

In particular, the second layer 50 is configured such that
25 the application means 30 can act or escape outwardly. The second layer 50 can be configured free of openings or with one or more openings.

The external shell of the chip 1 is made up of at least one
30 prepolymer layer 60 which externally surrounds the first layer 40, the second layer 50 and the application means 30 directly or indirectly on all sides.

The surface form of the chip 1 and the outer periphery of the chip 1 are edge-free and are configured at least partially curved, so that they are not perceived as unpleasant when they are touched by an animal.

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The attaching means 10 in the form of the adhesion or gluing face and the external shell of the chip 1 formed by the external layer 60 or portions of the chip 1 in general which come into contact with animal food are configured to be food-safe and water or moisture-resistant. It is thereby ensured, firstly, that no hazard to the health of animals arises from the chip 1 and, secondly, that the chip 1 is not damaged even under the action of water or moisture and remains securely attached to the target object.

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The chip 1 preferably has a thickness s of approximately 1.9 mm and a diameter D of approximately 33 mm. The support substrate 40 preferably has a thickness of approximately 0.3 mm.

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The external periphery of the chip 1 is circular, although it can also be, for example, oval.

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It should also be mentioned that the target object does not necessarily have to be a feed dish or water dish for animals. The target object can be, for example, an aquarium for fishes. The chip 1 is preferably attached to an internal surface of the aquarium in aquarium water, above or below the water level.

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Fig. 3 shows, in schematic form, a cross-sectional view of a chip according to an embodiment of the invention. The embodiment described with reference to Fig. 3 partially matches the embodiment described above, wherein similar or

identical parts are identified with the same reference signs and for their description, reference is also made, for the avoidance of repetition, to the description above.

5 The chip 1 has a layered structure which comprises the first layer 40, the second layer 50 and the external shell formed by the prepolymer layer 60. The attaching means 10 is externally applied to the external shell. The external shell externally surrounds the application means 30, the first
10 layer 40 and the second layer 50 - directly or indirectly - on all sides.

In the schematic representation of Fig. 3, the first layer 40 and the second layer 50 are shown not connected to one
15 another, but can be connected to one another, for example, in the edge regions thereof, for example, in order to isolate the receiving space 20 and the application means 30 from the external shell.

20 The invention is not restricted to the preferred exemplary embodiments described above. Rather a plurality of variants or derivations is possible which also make use of the inventive concept and therefore fall within the scope of protection. Furthermore, the invention also claims protection
25 for the subject matter and the features of the subclaims separately from the claims to which they refer.

CLAIMS

- 5 1. Chip (1), in particular for coming into contact with
and/or for effecting on animal food or aquarium water,
comprising:
- an attaching means (10) in order to attach the chip (1)
to a target object, and
 - 10 - a receiving space (20) in which an application means
(30) is accommodated, and the application means (30)
comprises at least one of the following:
 - at least one vitalisation agent,
 - at least one nutritional supplemental agent,
 - 15 - at least one crystal,
 - at least one mineral, in particular a quartz,
wherein
 - the attaching means (10) comprises an adhesion or gluing
face.
- 20
2. Chip (1) according to claim 1, wherein the application
means (30) is arranged between a preferably transparent first
layer (40) and a preferably transparent second layer (50).
- 25 3. Chip (1) according to any one of the preceding claims,
wherein
- the external shell of the chip (1) is formed by at least
one external layer (60) or comprises at least one
external layer, in particular at least one prepolymer
30 layer, and/or
 - the external shell externally surrounds the first layer
(40), the second layer (50) and/or the application means
(30), directly or indirectly, on all sides, or at least
on one side.

4. Chip (1) according to claim 3, wherein the attaching means (10) is provided on the external shell.

5 5. Chip (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the first layer (40) and/or the second layer (50) is configured such that the application means (30) can act or escape outwardly.

10 6. Chip (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the first layer (40) and/or the second layer (50) is configured without openings or has one or more openings.

7. Chip (1) according to any one of the claims 2 to 6,
15 wherein the first layer (40) is a film layer, in particular a PVC film layer, and the second layer (50) is a film layer, in particular a polyester film layer.

8. Chip (1) according to any one of the claims 2 to 7,
20 wherein the first layer (40) and the second layer (50) are connected to one another in the edge regions thereof, preferably so that the receiving space (20) is closed in the peripheral direction and preferably so that the application means (30) is isolated from the external shell.

25 9. Chip (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein sections of the chip (1) coming into contact with animal food, aquarium water and/or animals are configured food-safe, in particular at least one of the following is
30 configured to be food-safe:

- the attaching means (10), in particular the adhesion or gluing face,
- the application means (30),
- the external shell of the chip (1).

10. Chip (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein at least one of the following is configured waterproof or moisture-proof:

- 5 - the attaching means (10), in particular the adhesion or gluing face,
- the application means (30),
- the external shell of the chip (1).

10 11. Chip (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the chip (1) is configured in order to come into contact directly with animal food or to come into contact directly with water of an aquarium.

15 12. Chip (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the target object is at least one of the following:

- a feed or water dish for animals, in particular for dogs or cats,
- an aquarium for fishes.

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13. Chip (1) according to claim 12, wherein the attaching means (10) is configured in order to be attached to an internal surface, in particular a bottom inner surface, of the feed or water dish, or in order to be attached to an
25 internal surface of the aquarium, preferably in aquarium water.

14. Chip (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the application means (30) is energetically charged.

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15. Chip (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the chip (1) has a preferably elastically deformable layered structure.

16. Chip (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the chip (1) has a thickness (s) of less than or equal to 4.0 mm; 3.0 mm; 2.5 mm or 2.0 mm and/or a diameter (D) of less than or equal to 50,0 mm; 45 mm; 40 mm or 35 mm.

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17. Chip (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the surface form of the chip (1) is edge-free and/or is at least partially configured curved.

10 18. Chip (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the external periphery of the chip (1) is edge-free and/or is at least partially configured curved, preferably circular or oval.

15 19. Feed or water dish for animals or a fish aquarium comprising
a chip (1), in particular for coming into contact with and/or for effectin on animal food or aquarium water, wherein the chip (1) comprises:

- 20 - a receiving space (20) in which an application means (30) is accommodated, and the application means (30) comprises at least one of the following:
- at least one vitalisation agent,
 - at least one nutritional supplemental agent,
 - 25 - at least one crystal,
 - at least one mineral, in particular a quartz.

20. Feed or water dish for animals or a fish aquarium according to claim 19, wherein the chip (1) has an attaching
30 means (10) by means of which the chip (1) can be attached to the feed or water dish for animals or to the fish aquarium.

21. Feed or water dish for animals or a fish aquarium according to claim 19 or 20, comprising a chip (1) according to any one of the claims 1 to 18.