

SLATTED ROOFING DEVICE WITH VENTILATION

The present invention relates to a roofing device with slats comprising a chassis receiving a lower series of slats mounted spaced apart and at least one support superposed from the chassis receiving an upper series of slats mounted spaced apart, the support being movable transversely to the direction of the length of the slats on the chassis to modify the lateral position of the slats of the upper series relative to those of the lower series, the slats passing from one position of total overlap when the roofing is open to a partially overlapping position when the roofing is closed.

This device will find particular application in the field of covering balconies or terraces or else to constitute a roofing element for verandas or other types of buildings.

There is known at present a roofing device permitting the modulation and distribution of sunshine, from the document FR-A-2747707.

According to this document, a device is proposed to obtain a slatted roofing device with ventilation.

Such a device is satisfactory as to the distribution of the regions of shadow and light. However, when total darkness is desired, the roofing is totally closed. It is understood by this that no passage of air is permitted between the slats to ventilate the roofing.

Such roofing has limited possibilities of use: the user cannot totally shield himself from the sun or rain whilst maintaining ventilation through the roofing.

The invention has for its object to overcome this drawback and to propose for this purpose a roofing device in which the slats have the capability of movement increase relative to known techniques.

In particular, beyond the transverse movement, the slats can be movable so as to ensure offsetting as to level and to permit passage of air through an interstitial space.

Other objects and advantages will become apparent from the description which follows.

In accordance with one aspect of the present invention there is provided a slatted roofing device, comprising a chassis receiving a lower series of slats mounted spaced apart and at least one support superposed on the chassis receiving an upper series of slats mounted spaced apart, the support being movable transversely to the longitudinal direction of the slats on the chassis to modify the lateral position of the slats of the upper series relative to those of the lower series, the slats passing from a position of total overlap when the roofing is open to a position of partial overlap when the roofing is closed, characterized by the fact that it comprises means for elevating the support relative to the chassis to permit the passage of air through the roofing even when the series of upper slats and lower slats overlap all the surface of the roofing.

This device may have the modifications set forth hereafter:

- the elevation means may comprise several carriages distributed along the transverse edges of the support, each carriage comprising at least one wheel adapted to move transversely on a rolling surface secured to the chassis, said rolling surface may comprise:

- two flat parallel regions at different elevations;

- a connecting ramp between the two flat regions, the amplitude of transverse movement of the support to the foot of the ramp being less than or equal to the width of overlap of two superposed slats, one of the lower series, the other of the upper series, when the roofing is in the closed position.

- the support comprises two transverse longitudinal beams on each of which are mounted a portion of the carriages.

- the rolling surface is constituted, for each carriage, by a profile having a flat wing mounted on the chassis and to which is connected a wedge provided with an oblique portion forming the ramp and a flat portion parallel to the flat wing to form the flat regions.

- at least one series of slats is of triangular cross-section whose base constitutes the width of the slat

- the base of the slats is prolonged, beyond the other isometric sides of the slats, by a wing coacting with sealing means.

- the lower series of slats is of triangular cross-section whose base constitutes the width of the slat and said base is incurved inwardly of the roofing to create a channel for the evacuation of water.

5 The accompanying drawings are given by way of indicative example and are not limiting. They show one embodiment according to the invention, they permit easy comprehension of the invention.

Figure 1 is a general view from above of a roofing device in a particular embodiment.

Figure 2 is a longitudinal view in cross-section of such a device.

10 Figures 3 and 4 show a particular embodiment of the elevation means.

Figures 5 to 7 show schematically different configurations of opening or closing of the present device.

Figure 1 shows generally an embodiment of the roofing device in question.

15 This device comprises a chassis 1 on which are mounted various slats constituting a series of lower slats 2 shown in Figure 2. The chassis 1 is movably mounted in a transverse direction corresponding to the perpendicular to the longitudinal direction of the slats, at least one support 3 adapted to receive a plurality of slats constituting an upper series 4 also visible in Figure 2.

20 Drive means, which can be manual or constituted by a motorization 17 according to the example of Figure 1 for one of the supports 3, ensure the transverse mobility of the support 3 relative to the chassis 1.

Guiding movement means ensure the movement of the support 3 relative to the chassis 1.

25 In particular, a support structure as shown in the mentioned document FR-A 2747707 is suitable and can be used in the present invention.

Because of the mobility of the series of upper slats 4, it is possible to vary stepwise or continuously the condition of overlap of the series of lower slats 2 and upper slats 4. The regions of shadow and light are thus modified as desired according to the wishes of the user.

In addition to this possibility, the present invention has the advantage of permitting the roof to be ventilated whilst maintaining complete protection from the sun and rain.

To this end, the device comprises means for elevating the support 3
5 relative to the chassis 1. To do this, the series of upper slats 4 is raised relative to the series of lower slats 2, which permits the creation of an interstitial space between their two respective levels.

According to a preferred embodiment, the elevation means comprise several carriages 5, for example four, distributed along the transverse edges of
10 the support 3 so as to drive the latter with an elevational movement relative to the chassis 1.

To do this, the carriages 5 comprise at least one wheel 6 adapted to move transversely over a rolling surface secured to the chassis 1.

To effect elevation, the rolling surface comprises two flat parallel regions
15 indicated respectively at 7a for the lower level region and 7b for the upper level region. Between these two zones 7a, 7b, a portion of the rolling surface is constituted by a connecting ramp 8.

As can be seen in Figures 3 and 4, the wheel 6 of the carriage 5 is adapted to traverse the rolling surface from the lower flat region 7a to the upper
20 flat region 7b and this via a transition region constituted by the ramp 8.

It is easy to see that this design combines the traverse movement of the support 4 with that of elevation.

To permit passage of air through the roofing whilst preserving complete protection from the sun and rain, it is important to adjust the degree of movement
25 of the support 3 according to the size of the blades and their overlap.

More precisely, the amplitude of transverse movement of the support 3 to the foot of the ramp 3 will be less than or equal to the width of overlap of the two superposed slats.

By this particular choice of size and amplitude of movement, there can be
30 obtained a relative position of the slats of the lower series 2 and upper series 4 as shown in Figure 6.

It will be seen that no region of the roofing is exposed to the outside and at the same time ventilation is permitted.

Preferably, the support 3 comprises two longitudinal beams on opposite sides of the ends of the slats, the beams extending transversely and each receiving half the carriages 5.

As shown in Figures 3 and 4, the rolling surface for the wheel 6 can comprise a wedge 9 adapted to constitute the flat region of upper level 7b and the ramp 8.

This wedge 9 is positioned on a wing 12 mounted on the chassis 1. In this way, the rolling surface is provided very effectively and at least cost.

Moreover, it is advantageous to provide abutments 11a, 11b to limit the amplitude of movement of the carriage 5. To this end, an abutment 11a as shown in Figure 4 permits limiting the movement of the carriage when the support is in the lower position and an abutment 11b permits limiting the movement of the carriage when the support 3 is in elevated position.

Figures 5 to 7 show different relative positions of the series of lower slats 2 and upper slats 4.

Figure 5 shows partially the roofing device in a totally closed position. Figure 6 shows an intermediate position in which ventilation is permitted whilst protection from the sun and weather is preserved. Figure 7 shows a position of substantial overlap between the slats of the upper series 4 and lower series 2 permitting a wide opening of the roofing device according to the invention, to the outside.

As shown in Figures 5 to 7, one of the series of slats and preferably both series 2, 4 have slats of triangular cross-section.

In particular, an isosceles triangular cross-section is preferred with a base 13 constituting the width of the slat and isometric sides 14 constituting the two other sides.

It is preferable that the slats carry sealing means 16. The latter can be constituted by a joint mounted in a recess formed on one of the blades and is applied by its other edge on a slat of the opposite series.

Figures 5 to 7 also show a possibility to this end.

To carry the sealing means 16, the base 13 of the slats comprises a slat 15a, 15b.

Moreover, the base 13 of the slats of the lower series 2 will preferably be
5 incurred toward the interior of the roofing so as to create a channel for evacuation of water.

The roofing device thus constituted is usable in a very practical manner.

It suffices that the user actuate manually or by motorization (for example
an electric motor reducer or a hydraulic system) the transverse movement of the
10 support 3 relative to the chassis 1.

According to the preferred embodiment of the invention, the transverse movement thus produced gives rise to a movement of elevation by the particular design of the rolling surface on which the wheels 6 of the carriages 5 are positioned.

15 According to the degree of advance of the transverse movement of the support 3 on the chassis 1, the overlapping surface of the slats can be modified as desired as well as the relative position of the series of upper slats 4 relative to the series of lower slats 2.

REFERENCES

1. chassis
2. lower series of slats
- 5 3. support
4. upper series of slats
5. carriage
6. wheel
- 7a, 7b. flat regions
- 10 8. ramp
9. wedge
10. profile
- 11a, 11b. abutment
12. wing
- 15 13. base
14. isometric sides
- 15a, 15b. wing
16. sealing means
17. motorization

CLAIMS

1. Slatted roofing device, comprising a chassis receiving a lower series of slats mounted spaced apart and at least one support superposed on the chassis receiving an upper series of slats mounted spaced apart, the support being movable transversely to the longitudinal direction of the slats on the chassis to modify the lateral position of the slats of the upper series relative to those of the lower series, the slats passing from a position of total overlap when the roofing is open to a position of partial overlap when the roofing is closed, characterized by the fact

that it comprises means for elevating the support relative to the chassis to permit the passage of air through the roofing even when the series of upper slats and lower slats overlap all the surface of the roofing.

2. Slatted roofing device according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that the elevation means comprise several carriages distributed along the transverse edges of the support, each carriage comprising at least one wheel adapted to move transversely over a rolling surface secured to the chassis, said rolling surface comprising:

- two flat parallel regions at different levels of elevation;
- a ramp connecting between the two flat regions, and that

the amplitude of transverse movement of the support up to the foot of the ramp is less than or equal to the width of overlap of two superposed slats, one of the lower series, the other of the upper series, when the roofing is in closed position.

3. Slatted roofing device according to claim 2, characterized by the fact that the support comprises two transverse longitudinal beams on each of which are mounted a portion of the carriages.

4. Slatted roofing device according to claim 2 or claim 3, characterized by the fact

that the rolling surface is constituted, for each carriage, by a profile having a flat wing mounted on the chassis and to which is connected a wedge provided with an oblique portion forming the ramp and with a flat portion parallel to the flat wing to form the flat regions.

5. Slatted roofing device according to one of claims 1 to 4, characterized by the fact

that at least one series of slats is of triangular cross-section whose base constitutes the width of the slat.

6. Slatted roofing device according to claim 5, characterized by the fact that the base of the slats is prolonged beyond the other sides of the slats by a wing coacting with sealing means.

7. Slatted roofing device according to claim 5 or claim 6, characterized by the fact

that the lower series of slats is of triangular section whose base constitutes the width of the slat and that said base is incurved toward the interior of the roofing to create a channel for the evacuation of water.