

### Roof Water Inlet

The invention relates to a roof water inlet having a water collection trough, which has an edge to be arranged in the plane of a roof and a bottom arranged with spacing from said edge with an opening, said opening leading to a drainage pipe mounted down at the bottom, and having a plate which is arranged above the said opening in the bottom, the edge of said plate extending beyond said opening.

Roof water inlets of this type have been disclosed by US-A-1,791,512, DE-A-1,948,214 and DE-A-2,650,361. These each have a plate above the mouth of the drain, which plate is intended to prevent air being sucked in and thus to bring about a closed flow in the drainage pipe. A closed flow allows pipes to be filled completely. Compared to roof drainage without closed flow, this allows smaller tube dimensions, fewer roof water inlets for a given roof area and thus also requires less space and less expenditure for assembly.

In the known roof water inlets, the difficulty is now that the capacity is greatly dependent on the quantity of water and, in particular, a desirable, smooth and continuous drainage is not guaranteed in every case. In these roof water inlets, one problem continues to be the risk of blockage, for example due to foliage, which has entered the water collection trough.

The invention is based on the object of providing a roof water inlet of the type mentioned, which works more smoothly and continuously with less risk of blockage and

has an improved capacity over the entire water quantity range.

In the roof water inlet according to the generic type, the object is achieved in that two plates are arranged spaced apart, a lower plate being arranged in the water collection trough and an upper plate being arranged above the edge of the water collection trough, and the edge of said upper plate projecting beyond the edge of the water collection trough in such a way that, to form a closed flow in the drainage pipe, the water to be conducted away is accelerated ahead of the edge of the water collection trough and, after a two-fold deflection by about  $90^\circ$  in each case, ahead of the opening in the bottom. Compared to the known roof water inlets, in the water inlet according to the invention the acceleration route is considerably longer. By means of a suitable arrangement of the two plates, it is possible to reduce the passage cross-section for the water in stages, seen in the direction of flow, and thus to achieve a higher flow velocity in the drainage pipe and thus a higher drainage capacity. The higher water velocity and the multiple deflection of the water bring about improved self-cleaning of the water collection trough. The longer acceleration route additionally guarantees a smoother and more continuous flow. With a comparatively small quantity of water, a closed flow is guaranteed at least by the lower plate. Tests have shown that, with an internal pipe cross-section of 50 mm, a drainage capacity of about 12 litres per second can be achieved. A closed flow is thus guaranteed with small and large quantities of water and, with large quantities of water, the capacity is considerably higher than in the case of inlets of similar size having only one plate. A considerable advantage of the invention is also seen in the fact that, owing to the higher capacity, fewer different roof water inlets have to be produced and kept in store in respect of the different national regulations.

Since, in the roof water inlet according to the invention, two plates are provided, arranged spaced apart, it is possible to fix the lower plate on the upper plate so that the lower plate can then be held freely on its underside and consequently requires no fixing means here, which in turn reduces the risk of blockage and results in a smoother flow. Additionally, it is possible to design the two plates and, if appropriate, a foliage trap and a gravel ring as a unit and to fix it releasably on the water collection trough. According to a further development of the invention, the two plates can additionally be connected to one another by a central pipe, it being possible for said pipe to serve as an overflow at the same time.

Further advantageous features emerge from the dependent patent claims, the description and the drawing.

An exemplary embodiment of the invention is explained in greater detail with reference to the drawing in which:

Fig. 1 shows a vertical section through an installed roof water inlet according to the invention,

Figs. 2 and 3 each show a section through one half of the roof water inlet according to the invention to illustrate the flow conditions, and

Fig. 4 shows a section through the separated parts of the roof water inlet according to the invention.

Fig. 1 shows a section of a region of a roof 1 with a horizontal roof plane 1a in which a roof water inlet 10 according to the invention is installed, any roof insulation as well as sealing means and fixing means not being shown here since these are known per se. As additionally shown in Fig. 4, the roof water inlet 10 is composed of a water collection trough 3, a gravel ring 8 and an upper unit 9. These parts, 3, 8 and 9 are produced separately from a suitable plastic material and are preferably releasably connected to one another. To clean the roof

water inlet, the unit 9 and the gravel ring 8 can be removed from the water collection trough 3.

The water collection trough 3 has a collar 3c which extends radially outwards, is arranged in the roof plane 1a, and is moulded onto an inner edge 3d on an approximately vertical wall 3e. Said wall 3e is, in turn, moulded onto a bottom 3a in which a circular opening 3b is cut out in the middle, said opening leading into a drainage pipe 2. The upper end of the drainage pipe 2 is welded onto a nozzle 3f of the water collection trough or is tightly connected thereto in another manner. Water flowing from the roof plane 1a into the water collection trough 3 is thus led through the opening 3b into the drainage pipe 2.

Moulded onto the upper side of the collar 3c in a distributed manner are a plurality of holders 3g which project upwards and into each of which a tooth 8c of a web 8a of the gravel ring 8 is engaged. The gravel ring 8 thus has a plurality of webs 8a which are distributed over its circumference and are each fixed releasably to the water collection trough 3 by a catch connection. The gravel ring 8 additionally has a plurality of webs 8e which are moulded onto a ring 8d which rests and is supported on the roof plane 1a adjacent to the outer edge of the collar 3c. The ring 8d particularly prevents lateral displacement of the gravel ring 8 in relation to the water collection trough 3. Moulded onto the webs 8a and 8e at the upper end in each case is a circumferential ring 8b which connects said webs to one another and has an outwardly projecting catch edge 8f on which the unit 9 is engaged. The webs 8a and 8e are arranged with suitable spacing from one another and allow the passage of water to the water collection trough 3, but prevent the passage of gravel which is usually present on the roof plane 1a.

The unit 9 is inserted as a whole in the gravel ring 8

and is fixed by engagement with at least one catch arm 7d on the ring 8b of the gravel ring 8. The arm 7d can be pivoted slightly at its upper end to release the catch connection. The unit 9 has an overflow pipe 6 in the centre, onto the upper end of which overflow pipe there are [sic] moulded a foliage trap 7 with vertical passage openings 7b, webs 7a and a circumferential ring 7c resting on the gravel ring 8. The said catch arm 7d is fixed on said foliage trap 7. A closed and circular plate 5, extending horizontally outwards, is moulded onto the outside of the overflow pipe 6 below the foliage trap 7. Said plate 5 is arranged with spacing from the collar 3c and extends, as can be seen, beyond the edge 3d of the water collection trough 3. A lower plate 4 is fixed on an inner wall 6c of the overflow pipe 6 below the plate 5 and below an outlet opening 6b in the overflow pipe 6. Said plate 4 is additionally connected, via vertically and radially extending walls 6c to the upper plate 5 [lacuna] to the outside of the overflow pipe 6. As can be seen, the plate 4 is located slightly below the edge 3d and is greater than the opening 3b in the water collection trough 3.

The functioning of the roof water inlet according to the invention is explained in greater detail below with reference to Figs. 2 and 3.

Fig. 2 shows a diagram of the flow pattern of a quantity of rain water 11, to be conducted away from the roof 1, with an overflow height h which is lower than the spacing of the upper plate 5 from the collar 3c. In the region of the collar 3c, the flow runs horizontally and radially in the direction of the arrow 12a and, here, is essentially unaffected by the upper plate 5. At the edge 3d, the water 11 is deflected according to arrow 12b downwards by about 90° and passes between the wall 3e and the outer edge of the lower plate 4 into the water collection trough 3. After a further deflection at the bottom 3a, the water 11 passes under the lower plate 4 and finally

via the opening 3b into the drainage pipe 2. At the edge of the opening 3b, the water is again deflected from an approximately horizontal direction of flow according to arrow 12c by about 90° into a vertical direction of flow according to arrow 12d. In the region of the plate 4, the water 11 is accelerated by the narrowing passage and passes as a closed flow into the drainage pipe 2, the plate 4 preventing air being sucked in.

Fig 3. shows a diagram of the flow conditions with a quantity of water 11 with an overflow height H which is higher than the spacing of the plate 5 from the collar 3c. In this case, the water 11 is already accelerated in the region of the collar 3c and passes, after a deflection by about 90°, through the annular opening 13, formed by the plate 4 and the wall 3e, under the plate 4 and finally into the drainage pipe 2. The water 11 is thus accelerated in the region of the collar 3c and also in the region of the plate 4. Since this is a closed flow, according to Fig. 3 the cross-section  $Q_3$  of the drainage pipe 2 is smaller than the cross-section  $Q_2$  of the annular opening 3b, and the latter is in turn smaller than the cross-section  $Q_1$  of the opening between the upper plate 5 and the collar 3c. On its path in the drainage pipe 2, the water is thus accelerated at three passage openings, becoming smaller in stages, and thus finally has a particularly high velocity in the drainage pipe 2.

If the opening between the plate 5 and the collar 3c is blocked by foliage, for example, in the case of a rising overflow height the water can pass into the overflow pipe through an upper opening 61 therein and finally through the lower opening 6b above the plate 4 radially outwards and into the collection trough 3. In the trough 3, said water is accelerated by the plate 4, as explained with reference to Fig. 2 and likewise passes as a closed flow into the drainage pipe 2.

In the case of inspection, the unit 9 can be removed as

a whole from the gravel ring 8 in a very simple manner by pivoting the catch arm 7d. The water collection trough 3 is then immediately easily accessible from above. The gravel ring 8 can likewise be removed from the water collection trough 3 by pivoting the webs 8a. Fitting it together then takes place in the reverse order, the gravel ring 8 and the unit 9 than each being engaged automatically when fitted on. An inspection can consequently be carried out in a very quick and simple manner.



Patent Claims

1. Roof water inlet having a water collection trough (3), which has an edge (3d) arranged in the plane (1a) of a roof (1) and a bottom (3a) arranged with spacing from said edge (3d) with an opening (3b), said opening (3b) leading to a drainage pipe (2) mounted down at the bottom (3a), and having a plate (4,5) which is arranged above the said opening (3b) in the bottom (3a), the edge of said plate (4,5) extending beyond said opening (3b), characterized in that two plates (4,5) are arranged spaced apart, a lower plate (4) being arranged in the water collection trough (3) and an upper plate (5) being arranged above the edge (3d) of the water collection trough (3), and the edge of said upper plate (5) projecting beyond the edge (3d) of the water collection trough (3) in such a way that, to form a closed flow in the drainage pipe (2), the water (11) to be led away is accelerated ahead of the edge (3d) of the water collection trough (3) and, after a two-fold deflection of about 90° in each case, ahead of the opening (3b) in the bottom (3a).

2. Roof water inlet according to Claim 1, characterized in that the passage cross-section ( $Q_1$ ) for the water (11) to be conducted away is greater ahead of the edge (3d) of the water collection trough (3) than the passage cross-section ( $Q_2$ ) between the edge of the lower plate (4) and the vertical wall (3e) of the water collection trough (3), and said cross-section is in turn greater than the cross-section ( $Q_3$ ) of the drainage pipe (2) in the region of the opening (3b) in the bottom (3a).

3. Roof water inlet according to Claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the upper and/or lower plate (5,4) are or is fixed releasably on the water collection trough (3).

4. Roof water inlet according to one of Claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the water collection trough (3) has fixing means (3d) by means of which the two plates (4,5) are fixed releasably on the water collection trough (3).





5. Roof water inlet according to Claim 4, characterized in that the connection means (3d,8c) mentioned form a catch connection.
6. Roof water inlet according to one of Claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the upper and the lower plate (4,5) are connected to one another.
7. Roof water inlet according to one of Claims 1 to 6, characterized in that an overflow duct (6a,6b) is provided, which leads approximately centrally through the upper plate (5).
8. Roof water inlet according to Claim 7, characterized in that the overflow duct (6a,6b) is open radially outwards above the lower plate (4) in such a way that water entering through the overflow duct is led radially outwards on the upper side of the upper [sic] plate (4) into the water collection trough (3) and under said plate (4).
9. Roof water inlet according to Claim 8, characterized in that both plates (4,5) are fixed on a centrally arranged overflow pipe (6).
10. Roof water inlet according to one of Claims 1 to 9, characterized by a foliage trap (7) which is connected at least to the upper plate (5).
11. Roof water inlet according to Claim 10, characterized in that the two plates (4,5) form a unit (9) with the foliage trap (7).
12. Roof water inlet according to one of Claims 1 to 11, characterized by a gravel ring (8) which is fixed releasably on the water collection trough (3) and on which, in turn, the two plates (4,5) are fastened.
13. Roof water inlet according to Claim 12, characterized in that the gravel ring (8) is fixed releasably on the water collection trough (3) by means of a catch connection (3d,8c).
14. Roof water inlet according to Claim 12 or 13, characterized in that the gravel ring (8) connects the two plates (4,5) and/or the foliage trap (7) to the water collection trough (3).
15. Roof water inlet according to one of Claims 1 to

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14, characterized by a unit (9) comprising the two plates (4,5), a foliage trap (7) and an overflow pipe (6).