CLAIMS

1. A method for making flexible pouch packages (1) for liquid foodstuffs, each package (1) having a dimple (9) for straw insertion, the method comprising

providing a web (30) of a flexible, plastic packaging material g

converting the web (30) of the flexible, plastic packaging material into packages (1), characterized in that

providing the web (30) of the flexible, plastic packaging material comprises feeding the web (30) of packaging material through a first nip (52) defined by a first pair (51) of rotating rollers,

cyclically engaging the web (30) from a first side (31) by a protrusion (55) supported by a first roller (53) of said first pair (51) of rotating rollers for forming a succession of dimples (9) in the web (30) of packaging material, and

engaging the web (30) from a second side (32) opposite to the first side (31) by an elastic surface member (58) supported by a second roller (54) of said first pair (51) of rotating rollers for provision of a resilient abutment for the first roller (53) such that a portion of the web (30) passing through the first nip (52) is clamped between the first roller (53) and the elastic surface member (58) of the second roller (54) while the protrusion (55) engages the web (30).

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein providing the web (30) of the flexible, plastic packaging material further comprises feeding the web (30) to a second nip (62) defined by a second pair (61) of rotating rollers and cyclically engaging the web (30) from the first side (31) by a knife member (65) supported by a first roller (63) of said second pair (61) of rotating rollers for providing a succession of cuts (10) in a top layer of the web (30) at locations corresponding to the locations of the succession of dimples (9).

3. Apparatus for providing a web (30) of a flexible, plastic packaging material with dimples (9) forming indentations for straw insertion, which web (30) of the flexible, plastic packaging material is convertible into flexible pouch packages (1), the apparatus comprising

a first pair (51) of rotatable rollers defining a first nip (52),

a first roller (53) of said first pair (51) of rotatable rollers comprising a protrusion (55) arranged for cyclical engagement from a first side (31) with the web (30) being fed through the first nip (52) for forming a succession of dimples (9) in the web (30) of packaging material, and

a second roller (54) of said first pair (51) of rotatable rollers comprises an elastic surface member (58) forming a resilient abutment for the first roller (53),

wherein the first and second roller (53, 54) of the first pair (51) of rotatable rollers are arranged such that a portion of the web (30) being fed through the first nip (52) is clamped between the first roller (53) and the elastic surface member (58) of the second roller (54) while the protrusion (54) engages the web (30).

4. The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the protrusion (55) comprises a semi spherical top portion (56) arranged for engagement with the web (30) for forming a dimple (9).

5. The apparatus according to claim 3 or 4, wherein the elastic surface member (58) is provided with a recession (60) for reception of the protrusion (55) of the first roller (53) when the protrusion (55) passes the first nip (52).

6. The apparatus according to any one of claims 3-5, further comprising a second pair (61) of rotatable rollers defining a second nip (62), a first roller (63) of said second pair (61) of rotatable rollers comprising a knife member (65) arranged for cyclical engagement from the first side (31) with the web (30) being fed through the second nip (62) for forming a succession of cuts (10) in a top layer of the web (30) at locations corresponding to the locations of the succession of dimples (9).

7. A flexible pouch package for liquid foodstuff, comprising a side wall (2) being provided with a dimple (9) for facilitating insertion of a straw (20), wherein a cut (10) is arranged in a top layer of the side wall (2) at a location corresponding to the location of the dimple (9).