A further possible object is to provide such a system, method and computer program, which permit the creation of a large variety of drinks variants.

At least one of these objects is achieved by a system, a method and a computer program according to the respective patent claims.

The **method** for operation of a drinks preparation machine serves for creating a total product from a first part-product and at least a second part-product and a third part-product. It comprises at least the following steps:

- detecting, at an operating appliance which is separate from the drinks preparation machine, a user input for specifying a first quantity share and at least a second quantity share and a third quantity share, wherein a graphic representation of the quantity shares is represented, each with a share display per quantity share, wherein a size of the share display is essentially proportional to the respective quantity share, and the size of at least one of the share displays and thus of the respective quantity share can be adapted in accordance with a user input;
- transmitting information which represents the user input via a communication link from the operating appliance to the drinks preparation machine; and
- producing the total product as a combination of a first part-product and of at least the second part-product and of the third part-product, with a quantity of the first part product which corresponds to the first quantity share and with a quantity of the second part product which corresponds to the second quantity share and with a quantity of the third part-product which corresponds to the third quantity share.

The method can further comprise the step of:

- creating the total product as a combination of a first part-product and of at least a second part-product, with a quantity of the first part product which corresponds to the first quantity share and with a quantity of the second part-product which corresponds to the second quantity share.

A user can therefore set the quantity shares of the part-products to the total product, whereupon the drinks preparation machine automatically carries out the preparation. A combination of part-products which with regard to the quantity can be specified by the user can therefore be created without the user himself having to control the quantities, for example by way of monitoring the filling level of a receptacle or manually switching a valve or a pump on and off.

Herein, the total product additionally comprises a third part-product, the user input specifies a third quantity share and the total product comprises the combination with the third part-product according to the third quantity share.

A user can therefore set the quantity shares of the part-products to the total product, whereupon the drinks preparation machine automatically carries out the preparation. A combination of part-products which with regard to the quantity can be specified by the user can therefore be created without the user himself having to control the quantities, for example by way of monitoring the filling level of a receptacle and manually switching a valve or a pump on and off.

A very large variability of the total product can be realised thanks to be possibility of varying the shares of three part-products.

In the step of detecting the user input, a graphic representation of the quantity shares is represented, each with a share display per quantity share, wherein a size of the share display is

As described, the valve unit can be arranged in the supplementary unit, or however in another part of the drinks preparation machine, in particular in the basic unit. In this case, the supplementary unit is supplied with an already adjusted variable airflow.

The **computer program** is envisaged for being implemented on an operating appliance for operating a drinks preparation machine for creating a total product from at least three part-products, the operating appliance being separate from the drinks preparation machine. On being implemented on the operating appliance, the computer program carries out the following steps:

- representing a first quantity share and at least a second quantity share and a third quantity share, by way of displaying a graphic representation of the quantity shares, each with a share display per quantity share, on a screen of the operating appliance, wherein a size of the share display is essentially proportional to the respective quantity share;
- detecting user inputs for adapting the size of at least one of the share displays; and
- adapting the size of this share display and thus of the respective quantity share in accordance with the user inputs;
- transferring information which represents the user input and in particular the detected quantity shares, via a communication connection from the operating appliance to the drinks preparation machine.

For detecting the user input, the representation of adaptable preparation parameters can firstly display stored initial values (or default values) which are then possibly adapted by the user.

In embodiments, further steps of the method described here are carried out on implementing the computer program.

The computer program for implementation on an operating appliance for operating a drinks preparation machine can be loaded into an internal memory of a digital data processing unit of the operating appliance and comprises computer program code means which when they are implemented in the digital data processing unit of the operating appliance bring this to carry out the steps of the method described above, said steps being envisaged for the operating appliance. A computer program product comprises a data carrier, or a computer-readable medium, on which the computer program code means are stored.

Further preferred embodiments are to be derived from the dependent patent claims. Herein, features of the method claims where appropriate can be correspondingly combined with the system claims and computer program claims and vice versa.

PATENT CLAIMS

1. A method for operation of a drinks preparation machine, for producing a total product from a first part-product and at least a second part-product and a third part-product, comprising the steps:

- detecting, at an operating appliance which is separate from the drinks preparation machine, a user input for specifying a first quantity share and at least a second quantity share and a third quantity share, wherein a graphic representation of the quantity shares is represented, each with a share display per quantity share, wherein a size of the share display is essentially proportional to the respective quantity share, and the size of at least one of the share displays and thus of the respective quantity share can be adapted in accordance with a user input;
- transmitting information which represents the user input via a communication link from the operating appliance to the drinks preparation machine; and
- producing the total product as a combination of a first part-product and of at least the second part-product and of the third part-product, with a quantity of the first part product which corresponds to the first quantity share and with a quantity of the second part-product which corresponds to the second quantity share and with a quantity of the third part-product which corresponds to the third quantity share.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the share displays are sections, adjacent to one another, of a linear representation of the shares on a touch-sensitive screen and the size of the share displays is adaptable by the user by way of manipulating the representation by way of contacting the touch-sensitive screen.

3. A method according to claim 2, wherein adjustment symbols are represented at boundaries between the sections, and the size of the share displays is adaptable by the user by way of displacing the adjustment symbols.

4. A method according to claim 2 or 3, wherein the share displays are part of a pictorial representation of shares of the part-products to the total product, said shares being layered over one another, and in particular each comprise a symbolic representation of the respective part-product whilst using colour and/or structure of the part-product.

5. A method according to one of the preceding claims, wherein a sum of all quantity shares is limited to a total quantity on adapting one of the quantity shares.

6. A method according to one of the preceding claims, wherein the second part-product is milk and the third part-product is milk froth, and a second quantity share corresponding to a quantity of milk is limited to the bottom to a lower value which is a function of the third quantity share, said third quantity share corresponding to a quantity of milk froth.

7. A method according to one of the preceding claims, wherein a first quantity share can only either assume the value zero or a value which lies above a minimum value of the first quantity share, in particular wherein the first part-product which corresponds to the first quantity share is coffee.

8. A method according to one of the preceding claims, with the step:

- detecting a user input for specifying a receptacle size or total quantity of the total product.

9. A method according to one of the preceding claims, with the step:

- detecting a user input for specifying a temperature selection for at least one of the part-products.

10. A **system,** comprising a drinks preparation machine for producing a total product from at least three part-products, and

- input means for detecting a user input for specifying a first quantity share and at least a second quantity share and a third quantity share;
- preparation units for creating the total product as a combination of a first part-product and of at least a second part-product and of a third part-product, with a quantity of the first part product which corresponds to the first quantity share and with a quantity of the second part product which corresponds to the second quantity share and with a quantity of the third part product which corresponds to the third quantity share;

wherein the input means are formed on an operating appliance which is separate from the drinks preparation machine.

11. A system according to claim 10, wherein the operating appliance is a mobile telephone or smartphone or other type of portable computer.

12. A system according to claim 10 or claim 11, wherein the operating appliance is designed for carrying out the steps which are mentioned in one or more of the claims 2 to 7.

13. A system according to one of the claims 10 to 12, wherein the system comprises a supplementary unit which is designed for feeding milk as the second part-product, optionally amid the heating of the milk, as well as for forming and feeding milk froth as the third part-product to the total product, whereby a quantity share of milk froth can be specified.

14. A **computer program** for implementation on an operating appliance for operating a drinks preparation machine for creating a total product from at least three part-products, the operating appliance being separate from the drinks preparation machine, wherein on being implemented on the operating appliance, the computer program carries out the following steps:

- representing a first quantity share and at least a second quantity share and a third quantity share by way of displaying a graphic representation of the quantity shares, each with a share display per quantity share, on a screen of the operating appliance, wherein a size of the share display is essentially proportional to the respective quantity share;
- detecting user inputs for adapting the size of at least one of the share displays; and
- adapting the size of this share display and thus of the respective quantity share in accordance with the user inputs;
- transferring information which represents the user input and in particular the detected quantity shares, via a communication connection from the operating appliance to the drinks preparation machine.