CLAIMS

1. Arrangement (1) for vertically introducing an elongate, flexible element, such as a drainage element, in particular a drainage ribbon, into a subsoil (100), comprising a king post (7) and an elongate hollow mandrel (20) that is slideably guided along the king post (7) in its longitudinal direction between a retracted position in which the mandrel (20) extends above the subsoil (100) and an extended position in which the mandrel (20) penetrates the subsoil (100), wherein the elongate, flexible element is fed through the hollow mandrel (20), characterized in that the mandrel (20) comprises a permanent section (22) and respective replacement section (23) at the end of the mandrel (20), wherein the permanent section (22) comprises a first elongate and hollow mandrel profile (21) and a mandrel drive (30), and wherein the replacement section (23) comprises a second elongate and hollow mandrel profile (25) that is attached to the end of the first mandrel profile (21), a bottom face (26) at the bottom end of the second mandrel profile (25), a push bar (54) that is slideably guided inside the second mandrel profile (25) in its elongate direction between a retracted position with respect to the bottom face (26) and an extended position in which it projects downwards from the bottom face (26), and a spring (64) that biases the push bar (54) towards its extended position, wherein the mandrel drive (30) comprises an hydraulic drive cylinder (45) that is mounted to the first mandrel profile (21), and a drive cable (40) that extends through the hollow mandrel (20) and that is at one end operatively connected with the hydraulic drive cylinder (45) and that is at the opposite end operatively connected with the push bar (54) by means of a releasable coupling (65).

2. Arrangement (1) according to claim 1, wherein the second mandrel profile (25) is attached to the end of the first mandrel profile (21) by means of a weld (24).

3. Arrangement (1) according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the drive cable (40) and the elongate, flexible element extend parallel and adjacent to each other inside the hollow mandrel (20).

4. Arrangement (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the replacement section (23) comprises a first guide body (52) inside the second mandrel profile (25) behind the bottom face (26), wherein the first guide body (52) is provided with a hole (53) through which the push bar (54) slideably extends.

5. Arrangement (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the replacement section (23) comprises a second guide body (58) inside the second mandrel profile (25) spaced apart from the bottom face (26), wherein the second guide body (58) is provided with two holes (57) through which two parallel slide rods (56) extend that are connected to the push bar (54), and two push springs (64) that extend around the slide rods (56) and that are biased between the second guide body (58) and the push bar (54).

6. Arrangement (1) according to claim 5, wherein the drive cable (40) extends between the slide rods (56).

7. Arrangement (1) according to claim 5 or 6, wherein the releasable coupling (65) is located between the slide rods (56).

8. Arrangement (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the replacement part (23) comprises a cylindrical steel rod (55) that is transversely attached to the push bar (54), wherein the replacement part (23) comprises semicircular recesses (28) that merge into the bottom face (26) and that receives the cylindrical rod (55) in the retracted position of the push bar (54).

9. Arrangement (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, comprising a steel guide profile (10) along the king post (7) in which the mandrel (20) is slideably confined, wherein the guide profile (10) comprises an elongate slot (12) along its length and wherein the mandrel drive (30) comprises a drive flange (31) that projects from the first mandrel profile (21) and through the elongate slot (12), wherein the hydraulic drive cylinder (45) is mounted to the drive flange (31) and extends outside the guide profile (10).

10. Arrangement (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the replacement section (23) has a length that is less than one-fourth, preferably less than one-fifth of the entire length of the mandrel (20).

11. Method for operating an arrangement (1) for vertically introducing an elongate, flexible element, such as a drainage element, in particular a drainage ribbon, into a subsoil (100), wherein the arrangement (1) comprises a king post (7) and an elongate hollow mandrel (20) that is slideably guided along the king post (7) in its longitudinal direction between a retracted position in which the mandrel (20) extends above the subsoil (100) and an extended position in which the mandrel (20) penetrates the subsoil (100), wherein the elongate, flexible element is fed through the hollow mandrel (20), characterized in that the mandrel (20) comprises a permanent section (22) and respective replacement section (23) at the end of the mandrel (20), wherein the permanent section (22) comprises a first elongate and hollow mandrel profile (21) and a mandrel drive (30), and wherein the replacement section (23) comprises a second elongate and hollow mandrel profile (25) that is attached to the end of the first mandrel profile (21), a bottom face (26) at the bottom end of the second mandrel profile (25), a push bar (54) that is slideably guided inside the second mandrel profile (25) in its elongate direction between a retracted position with respect to the bottom face (26) and an extended position in which it projects downwards from the bottom face (26), and a spring (64) that biases the push bar (54) towards its extended position, wherein the mandrel drive (30) comprises an hydraulic drive cylinder (45) that is mounted to the first mandrel profile (21), and a drive cable (40) that extends through the hollow mandrel (20) and that is at one end operatively connected with the hydraulic drive cylinder (45) and that is at the opposite end operatively connected with the push bar (54) by means of a releasable coupling (65),

wherein the method comprises vertically introducing a series of elongate, flexible elements into the subsoil (100) by penetrating the subsoil (100) with the mandrel (20) and retracting it while leaving the introduced elongate, flexible element behind, wherein after introducing the series of elongate, flexible elements the replacement section (23) is separated from the permanent section (22) and the releasable coupling (65) is released, and another replacement section (23) is installed by operatively connecting the drive cable (40) with the push bar (54) by means of the releasable coupling (65) and by attaching the replacement section (23) to the permanent section (22).

12. Method according to claim 11, wherein the replacement section (23) is separated from the permanent section (22) by cutting and is attached to the permanent section (22) by welding.

13. Method according to claim 11 or 12, wherein the releasable coupling (65) is released by hand or by means of a hand tool.

14. Method according to any one of the claims 11-13, wherein during the replacement of the replacement section (23) the king post (7) is kept vertically upright and the drive cable (40) remains extending through the permanent section (22) of the hollow mandrel (20).