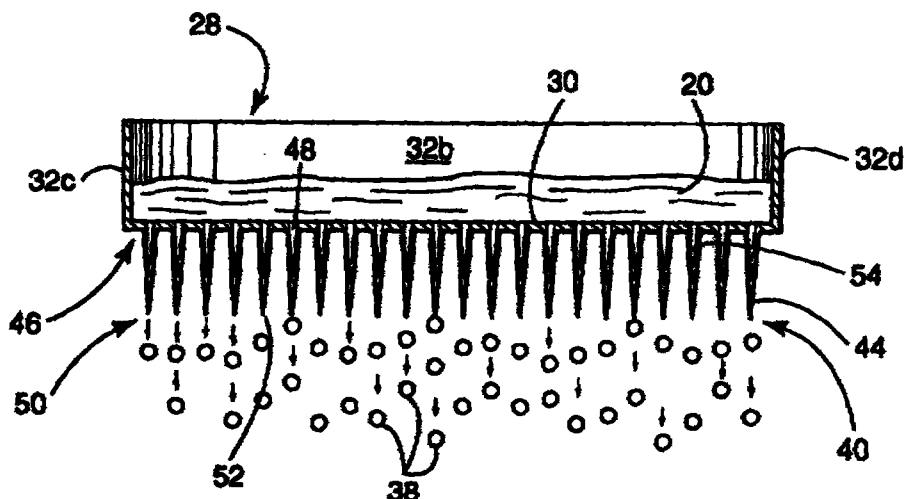
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(54) Title: DROPPER ASSEMBLY FOR LIQUID FEED AND METHOD OF FEEDING LIQUID COMPOSITION TO A FREEZING CHAMBER**(57) Abstract**

A dropper assembly (10) for feeding liquid composition (20) to a freezing chamber (12) comprises a tray (28) having a plurality of feed elements (40) that are designed to provide regulated discharge of the liquid composition (20) from the tray (28) and to feed the liquid composition (20) into the freezing chamber (12) in uniformly sized droplets (38). The feed elements (40) each comprise a projection (44) that is downwardly disposed in relation to the tray (28). The tray (28) has a bottom wall (30) with a plurality of orifices (42), each orifice (42) associated with a corresponding projection (44). The projection (44) has an inlet opening (48) associated with the corresponding orifice (42) in the tray (28) and an outlet opening (52) where droplets (38) are formed and released. The dimension of the inlet opening (48) is greater than the dimension of the outlet opening (52). The narrowing taper of the flow channel (54) that extends from the inlet opening (48) to the outlet opening (52) promotes regulated accumulation of liquid composition (20) to facilitate regulated discharge and formation of uniformly sized droplets (38). An inventive method is also provided for feeding liquid composition (20) to a freezing chamber (12) to form uniformly sized beads (18) of frozen product. The inventive method utilizes the novel dropper assembly (10).