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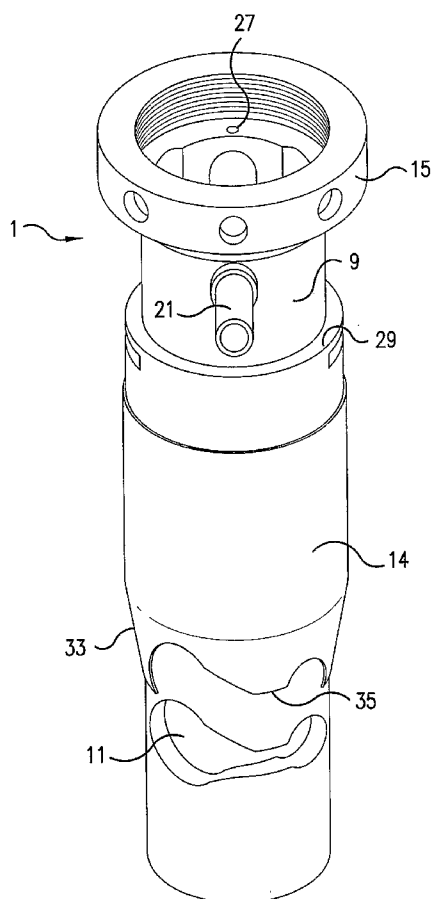
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(54) Title: CUTTER ASSEMBLY FOR EXTRUDING SHAPED FOOD PIECES



(57) Abstract: A cutter assembly (1) for an extruder includes an elongated extrusion member (9) having an opened feed end (12). The opened feed (12) end is attachable in fluid communication with a first manifold of the extruder. A filling tube (20) extends through the elongated extrusion member (9), which is attachable to a second manifold of the extruder. An extrusion die (11) is formed in the elongated extrusion member (9). The extrusion die (11) is shaped to the general shape of a natural food piece. A cutter member (14) is reciprocally slidable on the extrusion wall (10) and has cutting surface (35) shaped to the general shape of the extrusion die (11) for cutting extrudate to a desired length as the extrudate exits the die (11).



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