CLAIMS

1. A spike for use in dispensing a liquid from a bag, the spike comprising:

a hollow shaft comprising two ends and an elongated body therebetweeen, said body including an outer surface;

a tip arranged at a first of said two ends, said tip being capable of penetrating the outer surface of a bag containing fluid; and

at least one rib, each of said at least one rib being arranged on an external surface of said body so as to circumscribe said body at a point between said two ends.

2. The spike of claim 1 wherein said body is generally cylindrical.

3. The spike of claim 1 wherein said tip is generally conical.

4. The spike of claim 3 wherein said tip comprises at least one opening.

5. The spike of claim 1 further comprising a spigot at a second of said two ends.

6. A liquid dispensing system, the system comprising:

a spike, the spike comprising:

a hollow shaft comprising two ends and an elongated body therebetweeen, said body including an outer surface;

a tip including at least one opening arranged at a first of said two ends; and

at least one rib, each of said at least one rib being arranged on an external surface of said body so as to circumscribe said body at a point between said two ends; and

a flexible bag comprising:

an outer wall; and

a fluid contained therein said outer wall;

wherein said spike is positioned through said outer wall such that said tip and at least one of said at least one rib is within said fluid.

7. A method for dispensing liquid, the method comprising:

providing a spike, the spike comprising:

a hollow shaft comprising two ends and an elongated body therebetweeen, said body including an outer surface;

a tip including at least one opening arranged at a first of said two ends;

a spigot arranged at a second of said two ends; and

a plurality of ribs, each of said ribs being arranged on an external surface of said body so as to circumscribe said body at a point between said two ends; and

providing a flexible bag comprising:

an outer wall; and

a fluid contained therein said outer wall;

spiking said bag by forcing said spike through said outer wall such that said tip and at least one of said plurality of ribs is within said fluid; and

dispensing said fluid by opening said spigot.

CLAIMS

1. An invention not claimed in any divisional application.