Claims

1. A beverage preparation machine (1) comprising :

(i) a reservoir (2) for a fluid,

(ii) a brewing head (3) adapted for receiving at least one ingredient capsule,

(iii) a pump for pumping a predetermined volume of said fluid from said reservoir to said brewing head, such that said fluid can be injected into said capsule to mix with said ingredient under pressure and produce a predetermined volume of beverage,

(iv) a heating element for optionally heating said fluid pumped from said reservoir before it enters the capsule,

(v) an electronic control board able to receive commands from a control panel (5) of the machine, and actuate operation of the pump, heating element, control panel, and/or brewing head,

said control panel (5) compris**ing** in combination:

- a rotating wheel (6) which is linked to the control board such that by rotating and/or pressing the wheel, a beverage preparation parameter is set in said control board, and

- illuminated or coloured means (7), at least a portion of which has the shape of a schematic cup (9), which is linked to said control board such that the state of said beverage preparation parameter within said control board is represented on said means (7) ~~characterized in that~~ said beverage preparation parameter comprising~~es~~ a volume **V** to be pumped from the reservoir, to be represented on the illuminated or coloured means as a fraction of said schematic cup total volume~~.~~, characterized in that:

each fraction of the volume range that can be selected manually with the wheel, is displayed on the illuminated or coloured means as a corresponding illuminated or coloured fraction of the cup representation, such that for each additional volume fraction that is selected by rotating the wheel, one corresponding additional fraction of the cup is illuminated or coloured on the illuminated respectively coloured means.

~~**2.** A beverage preparation machine according to claim 1, wherein each fraction of the volume range that can be selected manually with the wheel, is displayed on the illuminated means as a corresponding illuminated fraction of the cup representation, such that for each additional volume fraction that is selected by rotating the wheel, one corresponding additional fraction of the cup is illuminated on the illuminated means.~~

~~**3.**~~**2.** A beverage preparation machine according to claim ~~2~~1, wherein the number of fractions for a full selectable volume range is at least 3, ~~preferably at least 4, more preferably at least 5, and most preferably at least 7~~ but not higher than 30.

~~**4.**~~**3.** A beverage preparation machine according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said volume **V** corresponds to a volume of prepared beverage, which is comprised between 10 and 400 ml, preferably between 30 and 300 ml.

~~**5.**~~**4.** A beverage preparation machine according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said wheel comprises a press-button degree of liberty, so that a consumer can press it as a push button.

~~**6.**~~**5.** A beverage preparation machine according to claim ~~5~~4, wherein said wheel is the only command button for the machine, serving as:

(i) a rotating selector, for selecting at least one beverage preparation parameter, and

(ii) a press-button selector, for validating or cancelling each of said beverage preparation parameter, and to start a brewing cycle.

~~**7.**~~**6.** A beverage preparation machine according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said panel further comprises at least one selector for pumping fluid from the reservoir either: directly into the capsule, or via said heating element such that said fluid entering said capsule is hot.

~~**8.**~~**7.** A beverage preparation machine according to claim ~~7~~6, wherein said selector comprises one push-button for pumping water at room temperature, and another push-button for pumping water to be heated.

~~9.~~8. A beverage preparation machine according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said illuminated means comprises a plurality of superimposed retro-illuminated LED lamps having the shape of: bars, dots, and/or being frustoconical, said LED lamps being disposed such as to represent a cup shape.

~~10.~~9. A beverage preparation machine according to any one of the preceding claims 1 to 7, wherein said illuminated means comprises a black and white or colour LCD, OLED, or AMOLED screen.

~~11.~~10. A beverage preparation machine according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said rotating wheel comprises rotation blocking means to prevent said wheel to rotate more than half a rotation, preferably more than a quarter of a rotation.

~~12.~~11. A beverage preparation machine according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said wheel is illuminated.

~~13.~~12. A beverage preparation machine according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said wheel protrudes from the surface of the machine.

13. A beverage preparation machine according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said wheel (6) is a finger-sensitive track-pad.