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ABSTRACT:

A cutting insert 1 with a first cutting blade arrangement 2 for a foodstuff chopping apparatus 10 is disclosed. The apparatus 10 has a pressing punch 13 for pushing material to be chopped through the cutting insert 1. The first cutting blade arrangement 2 is arranged in a first region 3 of the cutting insert 1. A second region 5, which is different from the first region 3, has a second cutting blade arrangement 4. The first cutting blade arrangement 2 and/or the second cutting blade arrangement 4 have a plurality of cutting blades which are arranged one above another in different planes.

FIGURE 2 FOR PUBLICATION
CUTTING INSERT FOR A FOODSTUFF CHOPPING APPARATUS

Field

5 The disclosure relates to a cutting insert with a first cutting blade arrangement for a foodstuff chopping apparatus which has a pressing punch for pushing material to be chopped through the cutting insert.

10 Background

DE 102009023167 A1 discloses an apparatus for cutting food, such as fruit and vegetables, with a cutting part having a plurality of cutters and with an actuating part, which cutting part and actuating part are mounted pivotably in relation to each other. In order to cut the material to be cut, the actuating part is pivoted against the cutting part. The actuating part has a punch which pushes the material to be cut through the cutting part. In the process, the cutters plunge into corresponding depressions of the punch. The cutting part has a cutting frame holding cutters.

US 1,263,151 discloses an apparatus in which, depending on cutting requirements, one cutting insert from a multiplicity of different stored cutting inserts is placed into a chopping apparatus.

The reference to prior art in the background above is not and should not be taken as an acknowledgment or any form of suggestion that the referenced prior art forms part of the common general knowledge in Australia or in any other country.

35 Summary of disclosure

It would be beneficial if a cutting insert of this general type could be devised which is usable...
with greater versatility and which in particular reduces
the number of cutting inserts that need to be kept for various cutting requirements.

According to one aspect of the disclosure there is provided a cutting insert with a first cutting blade arrangement for a foodstuff chopping apparatus which has a pressing punch for pushing material to be chopped through the cutting insert, the first cutting blade arrangement is arranged in a first region of the cutting insert, and a second region, which is different from the first region, has a second cutting blade arrangement, wherein the first cutting blade arrangement and/or the second cutting blade arrangement have a plurality of cutting blades which are arranged one above another in different planes.

The first cutting blade arrangement may have a different blade spacing and/or a different blade orientation and/or a different blade pattern and/or different blade types from the second cutting blade arrangement.

The first cutting blade arrangement and the second cutting blade arrangement may be arranged in a common frame.

The first cutting blade arrangement and the second cutting blade arrangement may be arranged spaced apart from each other in a common frame.

The first cutting blade arrangement and the second cutting blade arrangement may be separated from each other by an intermediate web.

The cutting insert may be formed symmetrically, in particular mirror-symmetrically, apart from differences in the cutting blade arrangements.

The cutting insert may have at least one handle and/or a handle region.
The first cutting blade arrangement and/or the second cutting blade arrangement may have cutting blades which are arranged in a grid-shaped manner or are arranged in a star-shaped manner or are arranged crosswise.

The first cutting blade arrangement and/or the second cutting blade arrangement may have cutting blades with a serrated edge.

The cutting insert may have connecting elements, in particular latching projections and/or latching recesses, which are designed and intended to interact with mating connecting elements of a foodstuff chopping apparatus.

The disclosure extends to a set of different cutting inserts as defined in any one of the preceding clauses in the summary section.

The disclosure extends to foodstuff chopping apparatus with a cutting insert as defined in any one of the preceding clauses or with a set of interchangeable cutting inserts as defined in any one of the preceding clauses in the summary section.

The foodstuff chopping apparatus may include a pressing punch for pushing material to be chopped through the cutting insert.

The pressing punch may be arranged on a pivotably mounted pressing lever. Further the pressing punch may be arranged removably on a pivotably mounted pressing lever.

The foodstuff chopping apparatus may include a further pressing punch.

The further pressing punch may be arranged on a pivotably mounted pressing lever. Further the further pressing punch
may be arranged removably on a pivotably mounted pressing lever.

The pressing punch and the further pressing punch may be arranged together on a pivotably mounted pressing lever.

Alternatively either the first cutting blade arrangement or the second cutting blade arrangement may be positionable and/or fixable in the operative region, in particular a pivoting region, of the pressing punch.

The cutting insert may be insertable into the foodstuff chopping apparatus alternatively in a first position or in a second position, which is different from the first position.

In the first position, the first cutting blade arrangement may be positioned in the operative region, in particular a pivoting region, of the pressing punch, and, in the second position, the second cutting blade arrangement may be positioned therein.

In the first position, the second cutting blade arrangement may be positioned in the operative region, in particular a pivoting region, of the further pressing punch, and, in the second position, the first cutting blade arrangement may be positioned therein.

The first position may differ from the second position by a cutting insert rotated by 180 degrees, in particular in the cutting blade plane.

The first position and the second position may be distinguished by the same position of the cutting insert, but differ by an orientation which differs by 180 degrees.

The foodstuff chopping apparatus may have a receptacle into which the cutting insert is inserted, preferably so as to
be removable again, and/or into which the cutting insert is insertable, preferably so as to be removable again.

The cutting insert may be insertable, alternatively with a first orientation or with a second orientation, into the receptacle.

The cutting insert may have connecting elements, in particular latching projections and/or latching recesses, which, for the, preferably re-releasable, fixing of the cutting insert to the foodstuff chopping apparatus, interact with mating connecting elements of the foodstuff chopping apparatus.

The foodstuff chopping apparatus may be designed as a cover which is placeable onto a vessel, preferably completely covering the vessel opening, and/or is fixable on a vessel, preferably completely covering the vessel opening.

The disclosure also extends to an item of kitchen equipment with a foodstuff chopping apparatus as defined in any one of the preceding clauses in the summary and a vessel, in particular a dish, onto which the foodstuff chopping apparatus is placeable in the manner of a cover.

The cutting insert according to the disclosure has the quite particular advantage that alternatively either the first cutting blade arrangement or the second cutting blade arrangement can be positioned and used in a working position within a foodstuff chopping apparatus. As is explained in more detail below, this can take place, for example, by the cutting insert being fixable in different positions and/or at different locations on or in a foodstuff chopping apparatus.

Alternatively or in addition, provision can also be made for both the first cutting blade arrangement and the second
cutting blade arrangement to be used at the same time – for example with two separate pressing punches.

In a particular embodiment of the cutting insert according to the disclosure, it is provided that the first cutting blade arrangement differs from the second cutting blade arrangement. The difference can reside, for example, in a different blade spacing and/or in a different blade orientation and/or in a different blade pattern and/or by the use of different blade types.

For example, the first cutting blade arrangement can have cutting blades with a straight cutting edge, while the second cutting blade arrangement has cutting blades with a serrated edge.

Provision can also be made, for example, for the first cutting blade arrangement exclusively to have cutting blades arranged parallel to each other, while the second cutting blade arrangement has cutting blades which intersect in the manner of a chessboard.

Alternatively or in addition, provision can also be made, for example, for the first cutting blade arrangement to have cutting blades arranged in a star-shaped manner, while the second cutting blade arrangement is provided with cutting blades which are parallel or are arranged in a diamond-shaped manner.

In another embodiment, the cutting blade arrangements do not differ. This embodiment has the advantage of an overall extended service life because, first of all, the first cutting blade arrangement can be used in a working position and, subsequently, for example if the cutting blades of the first cutting blade arrangement are damaged, the second cutting blade arrangement can be positioned in the working position instead of the first cutting blade arrangement.
In a particularly advantageous and stable embodiment, the first cutting blade arrangement and the second cutting blade arrangement are arranged in a common frame. In particular, provision can be made for the first cutting blade arrangement and the second cutting blade arrangement to be arranged spaced apart from each other in a common frame. In a particularly advantageous manner, an intermediate web can be present between the cutting blade arrangements. Said intermediate web can be designed in particular to stabilize and to reinforce the entire cutting insert - optionally together with a common frame of the cutting blade arrangements.

A very particularly advantageous embodiment of the cutting insert according to the disclosure is formed symmetrically, in particular mirror symmetrically, apart from possible differences between the different cutting blade arrangements. Such an embodiment has the very particular advantage that the selection of the cutting blade arrangement to be used can be determined by simple selection of the position, in particular the rotational position, of the cutting insert. In particular, provision can advantageously be made in this context for the cutting insert to be formed symmetrically with respect to a mirror plane which is perpendicular to the plane in which the cutting blades are arranged.

In order to be able easily and precisely to handle the cutting insert, in a particular embodiment, at least one handle and/or a handle region are/is provided. Such a handle can advantageously be designed in such a manner that the cutting attachment can be positioned easily and safely in a foodstuff chopping apparatus and can be removed again easily and safely. In particular, provision can be made to provide a plurality of handles and/or handle regions which can be used independently of one another depending on the position and/or orientation of the cutting insert in a foodstuff chopping apparatus.
In a particular embodiment, it is provided that the first cutting blade arrangement and/or the second cutting blade arrangement have a plurality of cutting blades arranged above one another, preferably differently, in different planes. Such an embodiment has the particular advantage that particularly exotically shaped foodstuff portions can be produced. In particular, a particularly precise cutting grid can thereby also be made available.

In a particularly safely and rapidly insertable embodiment of the cutting insert according to the invention, it is provided that the latter has connecting elements, in particular latching projections and/or latching recesses, which are designed and intended to interact with mating connecting elements of a foodstuff chopping apparatus. The cutting insert according to the invention can thereby advantageously be safely positioned in a foodstuff chopping apparatus by means of a simple latching action.

The connecting elements and the mating connecting elements are preferably designed and positioned in such a manner that the cutting insert is fixable in different positions and/or in different orientations in the foodstuff chopping apparatus. In particular, provision can be made for the connecting elements and/or the mating connecting elements to in each case be arranged symmetrically, in particular mirror-symmetrically, with respect to one another. Such an embodiment advantageously permits the connecting elements, which, in a first position and/or orientation, engage in first mating connecting elements, in a mirror-symmetrical position to engage in second mating connecting elements arranged mirror-symmetrically, and vice versa. The effect thereby advantageously achieved is that dedicated connecting elements and/or mating connecting elements do not have to be provided for each possible position and/or orientation. On the contrary, in an advantageous manner according to the invention, the same connecting elements
and the same mating connecting elements are used for different positions and/or orientations of the cutting insert within the foodstuff chopping apparatus.

5 A set which can consist of a plurality of different cutting inserts according to the disclosure is particularly advantageous. Such a set is usable in a particularly flexible manner for a multiplicity of different cutting requirements. A foodstuff chopping apparatus which is made available to the user with a cutting insert according to the disclosure and/or with a set of interchangeable cutting inserts according to the disclosure is particularly advantageous.

15 Such a foodstuff chopping apparatus can advantageously have a pressing punch for pushing material to be chopped through the respective cutting insert - in particular through the cutting blade arrangement located in a working position.

20 The pressing punch can advantageously be arranged, for example, on a pivotably mounted pressing lever.

In a particular embodiment, the pressing punch is arranged removably on a pivotably mounted pressing lever.

25 The pressing punch can advantageously have a multiplicity of slots into which the cutting blades plunge during the cutting operation. In particular, provision can be made for the pressing punch to have slots which permit the use of a multiplicity of differently arranged cutting blade arrangements. It does not have to be provided in this connection that, in each cutting blade arrangement, cutting blades also always plunge into all of the slots of the pressing punch.

30 In an advantageous embodiment of a foodstuff chopping apparatus according to the disclosure, a further pressing punch is provided in addition to the pressing punch. The
further pressing punch can advantageously also be arranged, in particular removably, on a pivotably mounted pressing lever.

5 In a particular embodiment, the pressing punch and the further pressing punch are arranged together on a pivotably mounted pressing lever. This embodiment makes it possible simultaneously to use two cutting blade arrangements of a cutting insert according to the disclosure. Accordingly, such a foodstuff chopping apparatus has two working regions which differ from each other. Such a foodstuff chopping apparatus can be reset in a simple and flexible manner at any time by removal of one of the two pressing punches.

10 As already mentioned, in an advantageous embodiment of the foodstuff chopping apparatus according to the disclosure, alternatively either the first cutting blade arrangement or the second cutting blade arrangement can be positioned or fixed in an operative region, in particular a pivoting region, of the pressing punch.

20 In particular, it can be provided that, depending on cutting requirements, the cutting insert is insertable into the foodstuff chopping apparatus alternatively in a first position or in a second position, which is different from the first position.

25 In this case, it can advantageously be provided that in the first position, the first cutting blade arrangement is positionable in the operative region, in particular the pivoting region, of the pressing punch, and, in the second position, the second cutting blade arrangement is positionable therein depending on cutting requirements. Alternatively or in addition, it can be provided that in the first position, the second cutting blade arrangement is positionable in the operative region, in particular the pivoting region, of the further pressing punch, and, in the
second position, the first cutting blade arrangement is positionable therein.

In a very particularly advantageous embodiment, which is simple to operate, of the foodstuff chopping apparatus according to the disclosure, it is provided that the first position differs from the second position by a cutting insert rotated by 180°, in particular in the cutting blade plane, i.e. in particular with respect to an imaginary axis of rotation which is perpendicular to the cutting blade plane. Alternatively or in addition, it can be provided that the first position and the second position are distinguished by the same position of the cutting insert, but differ by an orientation which differs by 180°.

An advantageous embodiment of the foodstuff chopping apparatus has a receptacle into which the cutting insert according to the disclosure is inserted and/or is insertable, preferably so as to be removable again.

In particular, it can be provided that the cutting insert is insertable alternatively with a first orientation or with a second orientation into the receptacle. The required cutting blade arrangement depending on cutting requirements can thereby be brought very simply, rapidly and reliably into the working position and positioned there.

The foodstuff chopping apparatus according to the disclosure can advantageously be designed as a cover which is placeable onto a vessel, preferably completely covering the vessel opening, and/or is fixable on a vessel, preferably completely covering the vessel opening. An item of kitchen equipment with such a foodstuff chopping apparatus, which is placeable in the manner of a cover onto a vessel, in particular onto a dish, and/or is fastenable thereto, is of particular advantage in this context.
Detailed Description

Further advantages, features and possibilities of use of the present disclosure emerge from the description below of an exemplary embodiment with reference to the drawings. All of the features described and/or illustrated graphically here form the subject matter of the present disclosure by themselves or in any expedient combination, irrespective of the summary of said features in the claims or the dependency references of the latter.

Fig. 1 shows a cutting insert according to the disclosure, and

Fig. 2 shows a foodstuff chopping apparatus according to the disclosure with a cutting insert according to the disclosure.

Fig. 1 shows a cutting insert 1 according to the disclosure with a first cutting blade arrangement 2, which is arranged in a first region 3, and with a second cutting blade arrangement 4, which is arranged in a second region 5. The first cutting blade arrangement 2 and the second cutting blade arrangement 4 are held together in a frame 6 and are separated from each other by a stabilizing intermediate web 7.

The cutting insert 1 has a handle 8 on both of the narrow sides. Furthermore, connecting elements 9 are provided, said connecting elements being designed to interact with mating connecting elements of a foodstuff chopping apparatus.

Fig. 2 shows a foodstuff chopping apparatus 10 according to the disclosure with a cutting insert 1 according to the disclosure. The foodstuff chopping apparatus 10 is designed in the manner of a cover and is placeable in a latchable manner onto a vessel 11. The foodstuff chopping apparatus
has a pivotably mounted pressing lever 12 with a pressing punch 13.

In the position shown, a first cutting blade arrangement 2 of the cutting insert 1 is located in the pivoting region of the pressing punch 13 and therefore in the working position. The cutting insert 1 has a second cutting blade arrangement 4 which, by rotation of the cutting insert 1 by 180° in the cutting plane, can be brought into the working position, i.e. into the pivoting region of the pressing punch 13. The first cutting blade arrangement 2 and the second cutting blade arrangement 4 have cutting blades with a different blade spacing and with a different blade pattern.
List of Reference Numbers used in the description

1  Cutting insert
2  First cutting blade arrangement
5 3  First region
4  Second cutting blade arrangement
5  Second region
6  Frame
7  Intermediate web
10 8  Handles
9  Connecting elements
10  Foodstuff chopping apparatus
11  Vessel
12  Pressing lever
15 13  Pressing punch
CLAIMS:

1. A cutting insert with a first cutting blade arrangement for a foodstuff chopping apparatus which has a pressing punch for pushing material to be chopped through the cutting insert, the first cutting blade arrangement is arranged in a first region of the cutting insert, and a second region, which is different from the first region, has a second cutting blade arrangement, and the first cutting blade arrangement and/or the second cutting blade arrangement have a plurality of cutting blades which are arranged one above another in different planes, wherein
   the first cutting blade arrangement and the second cutting blade arrangement are arranged spaced apart from each other in a common frame, and/or
   the first cutting blade arrangement and the second cutting blade arrangement are separated from each other by an intermediate web.

2. The cutting insert as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first cutting blade arrangement has a different blade spacing and/or a different blade orientation and/or a different blade pattern and/or different blade types from the second cutting blade arrangement.

3. The cutting insert as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the first cutting blade arrangement and the second cutting blade arrangement are arranged in a common frame.

4. The cutting insert as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the cutting insert is formed symmetrically, in particular mirror-symmetrically, apart from differences in the cutting blade arrangements, and/or the cutting insert has at least
one handle and/or a handle region, and/or the cutting insert has connecting elements, in particular latching projections and/or latching recesses, which are designed and intended to interact with mating connecting elements of a foodstuff chopping apparatus.

5. The cutting insert as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein:
   a. the first cutting blade arrangement and/or the second cutting blade arrangement have cutting blades which are arranged in a grid-shaped manner or are arranged in a star-shaped manner or are arranged crosswise,
   b. and/or the first cutting blade arrangement and/or the second cutting blade arrangement have cutting blades with a serrated edge.

6. A foodstuff chopping apparatus with a cutting insert or a set of interchangeable cutting inserts as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5.

7. The foodstuff chopping apparatus as claimed in claim 6, wherein a pressing punch is provided for pushing material to be chopped through the cutting insert.

8. The foodstuff chopping apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein the pressing punch is arranged on a pivotably mounted pressing lever, and/or the pressing punch is arranged removably on a pivotably mounted pressing lever.

9. The foodstuff chopping apparatus as claimed in claim 7 or claim 8, wherein a further pressing punch is provided, and/or the further pressing punch is arranged on a pivotably mounted pressing lever, and/or the further pressing punch is arranged removably on a pivotably mounted pressing lever.
10. The foodstuff chopping apparatus as claimed in claim 9, wherein the pressing punch and the further pressing punch are arranged together on a pivotably mounted pressing lever.

11. The foodstuff chopping apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 6 to 10, wherein either the first cutting blade arrangement or alternatively the second cutting blade arrangement is positionable and/or fixable in the operative region, in particular a pivoting region, of the pressing punch.

12. The foodstuff chopping apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 6 to 11, wherein the cutting insert is insertable into the foodstuff chopping apparatus in a first position or alternatively in a second position, which is different from the first position.

13. The foodstuff chopping apparatus as claimed in claim 12, wherein, in the first position, the first cutting blade arrangement is positioned in the operative region, in particular a pivoting region, of the pressing punch, and, in the second position, the second cutting blade arrangement is positioned therein.

14. The foodstuff chopping apparatus as claimed in claim 12 or claim 13, wherein, in the first position, the second cutting blade arrangement is positioned in the operative region, in particular a pivoting region, of the further pressing punch, and, in the second position, the first cutting blade arrangement is positioned therein.

15. The foodstuff chopping apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 12 to 14, wherein the first position differs from the second position by a cutting insert rotated
by 180 degrees, in particular in the cutting blade plane.

16. The foodstuff chopping apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 12 to 15, wherein the first position and the second position are distinguished by the same position of the cutting insert, but differ by an orientation which differs by 180 degrees.

17. The foodstuff chopping apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 6 to 16, wherein the foodstuff chopping apparatus has a receptacle into which the cutting insert is inserted, preferably so as to be removable again, and/or into which the cutting insert is insertable, preferably so as to be removable again, and the cutting insert is insertable alternatively with a first orientation or with a second orientation into the receptacle.

18. The foodstuff chopping apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 6 to 17, wherein the cutting insert has connecting elements, in particular latching projections and/or latching recesses, which, for the, preferably re-releasable, fixing of the cutting insert on the foodstuff chopping apparatus, interact with mating connecting elements of the foodstuff chopping apparatus.

19. The foodstuff chopping apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 6 to 18, wherein the foodstuff chopping apparatus is designed as a cover which is placeable onto a vessel, preferably completely covering the vessel opening, and/or is fixable on a vessel, preferably completely covering the vessel opening.

20. An item of kitchen equipment with a foodstuff chopping apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 6 to 19, and with a vessel, in particular a dish, onto which the
foodstuff chopping apparatus is placeable in the manner of a cover.