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(54) **Cooking plate**

(57) A cooking plate is described provided with at least four burners (2-5) that are arranged according to

the vertexes of a trapeze (100) whose greater base (101) is in turn located in proximity of the front side (7) of the cooking plate (1).

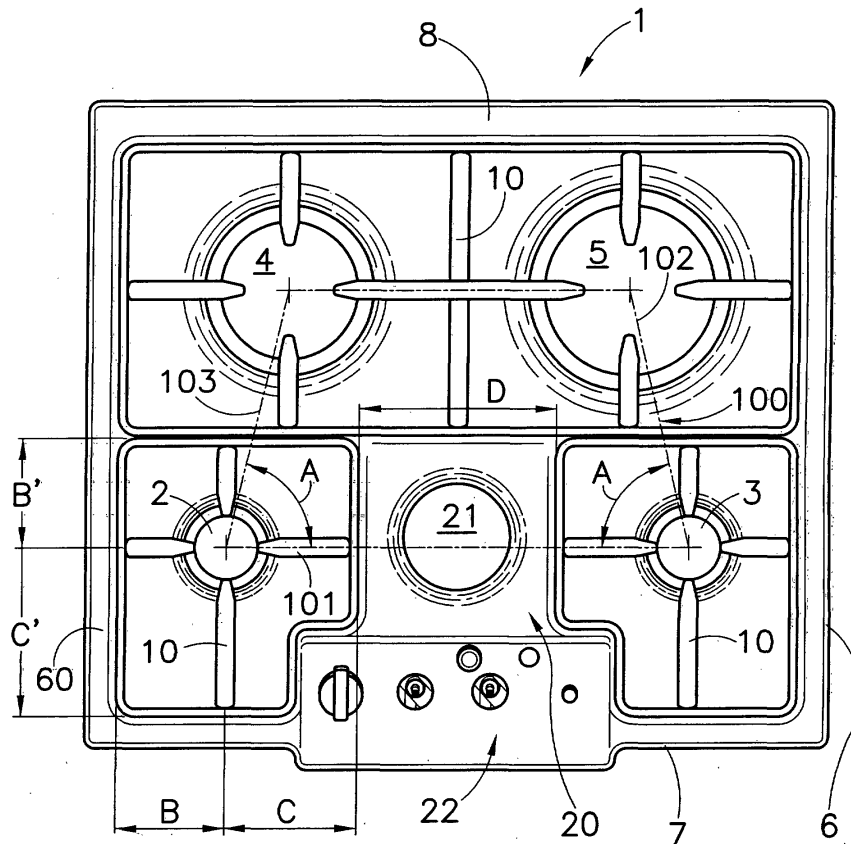


FIG. 1

Description

[0001] The present invention concerns a cooking plate. Cooking plates currently existing generally have a rectangular shape and they usually comprise three, four or five burners.

[0002] The burners generally have a standard arrangement and, in the case of cooking plates with four burners, they are located at the four corners of the quadrilateral that delimits the cooking plate. In the case of cooking plate with five burners, the fifth burner is generally located at the centre, whereas in the case of cooking plate with three burners, the three burners are arranged as a triangle with the base facing the back side of the cooking plate.

[0003] With such an arrangement of the burners cooking plates do not have any surfaces free and devoted to laying cooking utensils or other and, in modern kitchens of small houses, this requires to provide additional lateral working surfaces, for instance belonging to pieces of furniture that are located laterally to the one in which the cooking plate is located.

[0004] This arrangement has another inconvenience that is the difficult accessibility of the back burners in the case the cooking utensils are already positioned on the front ones. That could cause burns or scalds to the user due to the accidental spilling of the cooking utensils on the front burners when one wants to light a back burner.

[0005] In view of the state of the art described, scope of the present invention is to present a cooking plate with an easy use.

[0006] According to the present invention, such scope is attained by means of a cooking plate provided with at least four burners, characterised in that said at least four burners are arranged according to the vertexes of a trapeze whose greater base is in turn arranged in proximity of the front side of the cooking plate.

[0007] Owing to the present invention it is possible to provide a cooking plate that allows to approach all the burners of the plate in a simple and easy way.

[0008] The characteristics and the advantages of the present invention will become evident from the detailed description of an embodiment thereof, that is illustrated as a non-limiting example in the enclosed drawing of Figure 1 that is a top view of a cooking plate according to the invention.

[0009] With reference to Figure 1 a cooking plate 1 according to the invention that has a four burners 2-5 arranged according to the vertexes of a trapeze, preferably an isosceles trapeze 100 is shown. In particular in said isosceles trapeze 100 the angles A comprised between the greater base 101 and the respective sides 102, 103 are both comprised between 75° and 77°. The burners 2-5 generally have different sizes, also meant as power, so as to adapt to the various sizes of the utensil that is positioned on them.

[0010] The smaller burners 2 and 3 are arranged along the base 101 of the trapeze, in proximity of the

front side 7 of the cooking plate 1, that is the side that in the arrangement of the cooking plate 1 on a cabinet is nearest the user during the normal operations of cooking of foods. The burners 2 and 3 are also arranged in a way adjacent to the sides 6 and 60 of the cooking plate 1.

[0011] The larger burners 4 and 5 are arranged in proximity of the back side 8 of the cooking plate 1, opposite to the front side 7.

[0012] All the burners 2-5 are provided with grids 10 with different sizes for the arrangement of the utensils on the burners.

[0013] The arrangement of the burners 2-5 allows an ergonomic and safe use of the utensils without any diametrical superimposition of the same.

[0014] The aforesaid trapeze geometry of the burners 2-5 allows to obtain a zone 20 between the two small burners 2 and 3 that can be used in various ways as for instance a working surface for utensils such as cutlery, etc. As an alternative in the zone 20 an electric plate 21 can be inserted, as shown in Figure 1, to be used especially for slow cooking of food or in order to keep warm foods that have already been cooked.

[0015] The cooking plate 1 comprises the control devices 22 of the burners arranged between the base 101 of the trapeze 100 and the front side 7 of the cooking plate 1, as shown in Figure 1. This front arrangement of the controls 22 allows an easy use on behalf of the user as compared with cooking plates in which the controls are located laterally to the burners. In addition the arrangement of the controls 22 distant from the heat sources prevents their overheating.

[0016] In order to allow to position the burners 2 and 3 as far as possible from the controls and to gain the space D' for the electric plate 21 it is necessary that the distance C' between the centre of the burners 2 and 3 and the fore ends of the relative grid is greater than the distance B' between the same centre and the back end of the grid. The same is true for the distances C and B.

Claims

1. Cooking plate provided with at least four burners (2-5), **characterised in that** said at least four burners (2-5) are arranged according to the vertexes of a trapeze (100) whose greater base (101) is in turn located in proximity of the front side (7) of the cooking plate (1).
2. Cooking plate according to claim 1, **characterised in that** said trapeze (100) is an isosceles trapeze.
3. Cooking plate according to claim 2, **characterised in that** the angles (A) formed by the base (101) and the sides (102, 103) of the isosceles trapeze (100) are comprised between 75° and 77°.

4. Cooking plate according to claim 1 or 2, **characterised in that** said the four burners (2-5) have different sizes and the two smaller burners (2, 3) lay on said base (101) of the trapeze (100). 5
5. Cooking plate according to claim 4, **characterised in that** it comprises an electric plate (21) arranged between said two smaller burners (21, 3). 10
6. Cooking plate according to claim 4, **characterised in that** it comprises a zone (20) suitable to the support of utensils and arranged between said two smaller burners (2, 3). 15
7. Cooking plate according to claim 4, **characterised in that** it comprises a control device (22) for the burners (2-5) arranged between said base (101) of the trapeze (100) and the front side (7) of said cooking plate (1). 20
8. Cooking plate according to claim 5, **characterised in that** distance (C') between the said centre of the smaller burners (2, the 3) and the fore ends of the relative grid (10) is greater than the distance (B ') between the same centre and the back end of the grid. 25
9. Cooking plate according to claim 4, **characterised in that** the distance (c) between the said centre of the smaller burners (2, 3) and the side of the relative grid (10) that is closer to said electric plate (21) is greater than the distance (b) between the same centre and the opposite side of the grid. 30

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 02 07 9982

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
X	US 3 252 407 A (BUERKI CHRISTIAN E) 24 May 1966 (1966-05-24) * column 2, line 11 - line 22; figure 1 * ---	1,5,7	F24C15/10
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			F24C
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
THE HAGUE	23 July 2003	Vanheusden, J	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 02 07 9982

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

23-07-2003

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EPO FORM P0459

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82