

[54] **SAMPLE COLLECTOR**

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Related U.S. Application Data

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[51] **Int. Cl.²**..... **B65B 3/04; F25D 3/02**

[58] **Field of Search**..... **23/253, 259; 73/421 B, 73/431; 62/371, 459, 463, 464; 141/13, 130, 231, 235, 236, 248, 250, 279, 284, 286, 340, 387, 388, 98; 166/264; 206/DIG. 803, 4; 220/4 C, 4 D, 20, 55 T, 9 R, 10, 13; 222/70, 144.5, 168, 168.5, 330; 294/67 DC, 82 R**

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

To separate each of a plurality of samples of a fluid from a body of the fluid and deposit each sample into a different one of a plurality of bottles, the downwardly extending outlet of a funnel, being offset from a vertical axis of rotation of the funnel, orbits step-by-step in a circle around the vertical axis above a distributing plate as the funnel rotates to guide fluid into each of a plurality of separated inlets in the distributing plate as the fluid is pumped from the body of the fluid through intake and funnel hoses and into the large, circular upwardly extending inlet of the funnel, with the outlet of the funnel hose being positioned at a fixed location lying along an imaginary circle the downward projection of which lies within the inlet of the funnel. To guide the samples from the funnel outlet into separate bottles, the distributing plate includes a circle of inlets beneath the orbit of the funnel outlet to receive the samples and two concentric circles of outlets, with each outlet: (1) communicating with a different inlet through a passageway, which passageway extends in a different direction from the inlet than the two adjacent passageways, so that the the inlets are all in one central circle between the two circles of outlets; and (2) being positioned over the open end of a different bottle, with the bottles forming two circles of circumferentially-spaced bottles.

13 Claims, 5 Drawing Figures

