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COOLING UNIT FOR RABBIT HUTCHES

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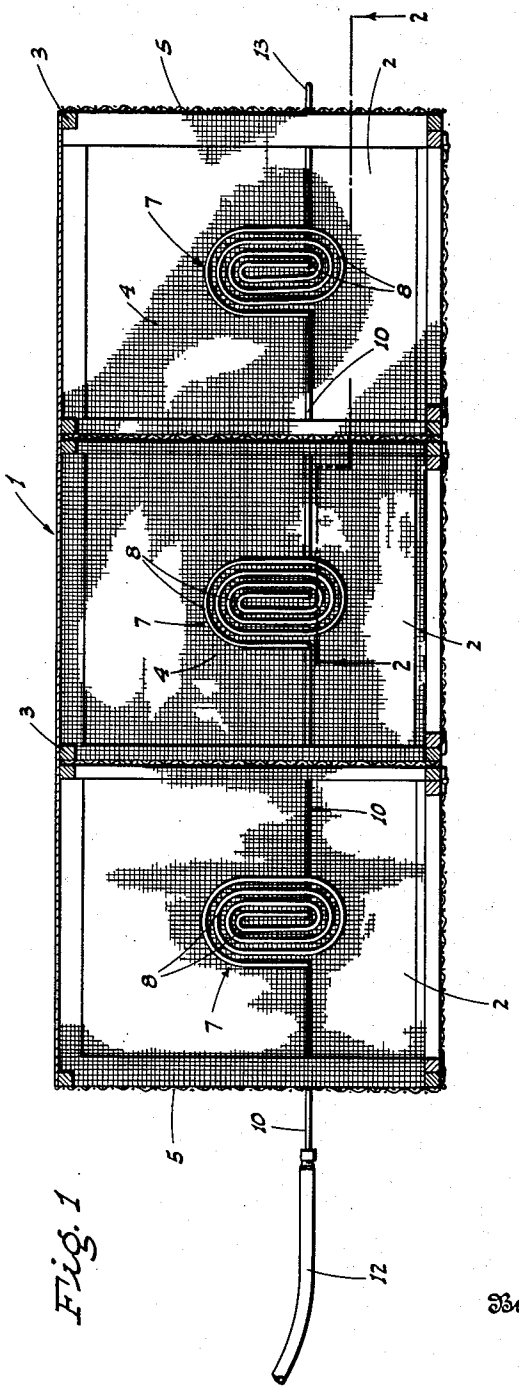


Fig. 1

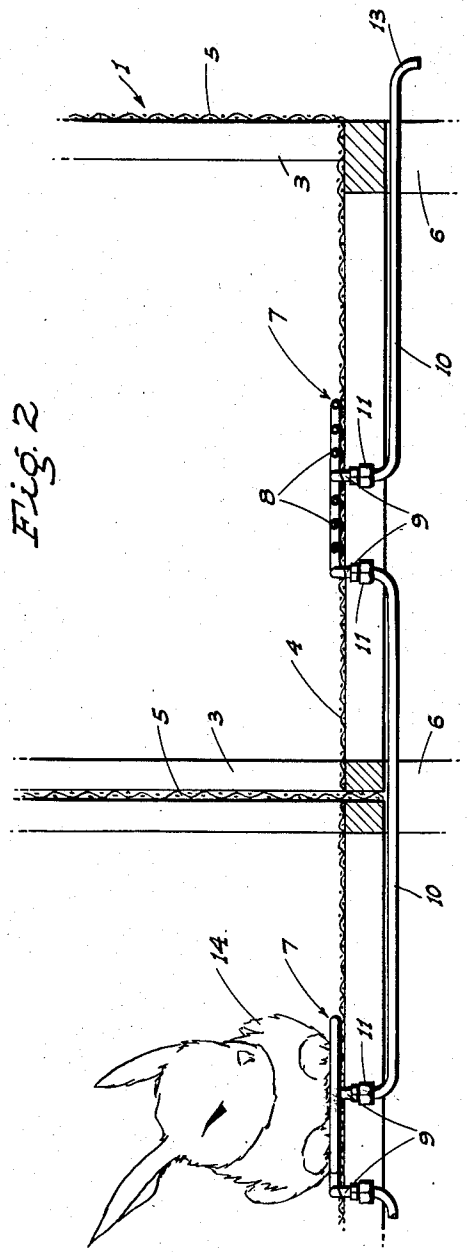


Fig. 2

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COOLING UNIT FOR RABBIT HUTCHES

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1 Claim. (Cl. 119—15)

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This invention is directed to an improvement in rabbit hutches; the same being employed to confine rabbits above the ground for best care and breeding purposes.

When the weather is hot, rabbits—especially does—in hutches suffer from the heat and frequently illness or death may occur.

It is therefore the major object of this invention to provide each rabbit hutch with a novel cooling unit which permits the rabbit to obtain relief from hot weather.

Another object of the invention is to provide a cooling unit, for a rabbit hutch, as in the preceding paragraph, which comprises a horizontally disposed tubular coil supported on the screen floor of the hutch; cool water flowing through the coil thus forming a reduced-temperature pallet or bed for the rabbit.

A further object of the invention is to arrange the coil in connection with the screen floor of the hutch in a novel manner which prevents displacement of the coil.

It is also an object of the invention to provide a cooling unit for rabbit hutches which is designed for ease and economy of manufacture, and convenience of installation.

Still another object of the invention is to provide a practical and reliable cooling unit for rabbit hutches, and one which will be exceedingly effective for the purpose for which it is designed.

These objects are accomplished by means of such structure and relative arrangement of parts as will fully appear by a perusal of the following specification and claim.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a sectional plan view of a multiple hutch structure wherein each hutch is provided with a cooling unit.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional elevation on line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Referring now more particularly to the characters of reference on the drawings, the numeral 1 indicates a multiple hutch structure generally, which structure includes a number of hutches 2 in side by side relation.

Each hutch 2 includes, on a frame 3, a screen floor 4 and screen walls 5; the hutch being supported some distance above ground by legs 6.

In this type of above-ground hutch, rabbits—especially does—are subject to suffering, if not illness and death, when the weather is hot, unless an adequate means is provided to protect them.

To this end the present invention provides, in

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each hutch 2, a reduced-temperature bed or pallet in the form of a horizontal coil 7 seated on the screen floor 4 generally in the central area thereof.

Each coil 7 is formed from relatively small-diameter, metallic tubing, with the separate loops 8 disposed in spaced but relatively close relation.

The opposite ends of each coil 7 are formed as down-turned tips 9 which project through the mesh of the screen floor 4, terminating therebelow; such arrangement of the tips 9 effectively preventing lateral displacement of the coil 7 on said screen floor 4.

The coils 7 in the respective hutches 2 are connected in series by pipes 10; the related ends of said pipes being coupled to the down-turned tips 9 below the screen floors 4 by fittings 11.

The series-connected pipes 10 and coils 7 have a constant flow of cool water therethrough supplied by a water hose 12 coupled to the free end of one of the outermost pipes 10. The water after passing through such system discharges from the free end of the other outermost pipe 10, as at 13.

With cool water, or other liquid coolant, flowing through the coils 7, the same provide—in each hutch 2—a reduced-temperature bed or pallet, and the rabbits, as at 14, seek such bed and rest upon the same. As a consequence each rabbit, as it rests upon the coils 7, is relieved and maintained sufficiently cool to prevent panting, illness, or death from heat.

The coils 7 are each of elongated or oval form in plan, which provides a bed or pallet upon which a rabbit may rest full length; the loops 8 of each coil being relatively close together in order to provide an adequate supporting surface for the rabbit.

Although the cooling units are here shown as being used in screen-floor hutches, they may also be installed in wood-floor hutches, since it is only necessary to drill two holes in each floor for the depending intake and outlet coil terminals 9.

From the foregoing description it will be readily seen that there has been produced such a device as substantially fulfills the objects of the invention as set forth herein.

While this specification sets forth in detail the present and preferred construction of the device, still in practice such deviations therefrom may be resorted to as do not form a departure from the spirit of the invention, as defined by the appended claim.

Having thus described the invention, the following is claimed as new and useful, and upon which Letters Patent are desired:

A rabbit cooling device for the floor of a rabbit hutch comprising an exposed horizontal rigid tubular coil formed with a plurality of turns, the coil being supported directly on the floor and of sufficient overall area to support a seated rabbit, and means to flow a cooling medium through the coil from below the floor; the turns of the coil being on substantially a common level so as to flatly rest on the floor and to form a flat seat for the rabbit and said turns being relatively close together.

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