C. M. RODGERS AND A. W. WENGER.

FISH LURE.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 31, 1921. RENEWED MAY 20, 1922.

1,421,991. Patented July 4, 1922.

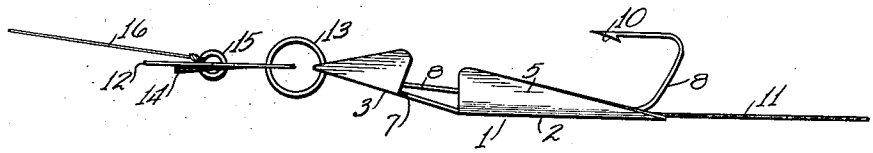



Fig. 1.

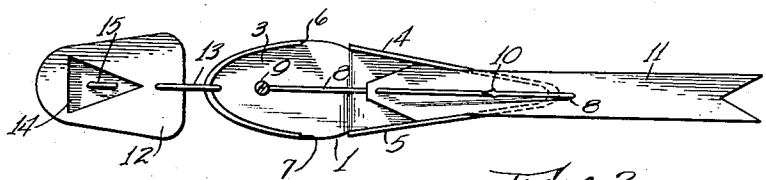



Fig. 2.

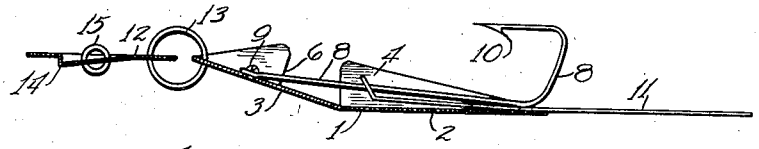



Fig. 3.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CLAUDE M. RODGERS AND ARTHUR W. WENGER, OF WARSAW, INDIANA.

## FISH LURE.

1,421,991. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 4, 1922.

Application filed May 31, 1921, Serial No. 473,596. Renewed May 20, 1922. Serial No. 562,528.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, CLAUDE M. RODGERS and ARTHUR W. WENGER, citizens of the United States, and residents of Warsaw, in the county of Kosciusko and State of Indiana, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Fish Lure, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

Our invention relates to artificial lures or baits for use in casting or trolling for fish and particularly for game fish, and it consists in the combinations, constructions, and arrangements herein described and claimed.

An object of our invention is to provide an artificial lure that can be adjusted to move at various distances beneath the surface of the water.

A further object of our invention is to provide a device of the character described that is constructed to move with a wiggling motion when drawn through the water and to thereby more effectively attract the attention of the fish.

A further object of our invention is to provide a lure having a hook detachably connected thereto with a barbed portion extending upward.

A further object of our invention is to provide an artificial lure having a body portion provided with means for releasably and detachably clamping a flexible trailer thereto and for holding the trailer close to the hook.

Other objects and advantages will appear in the following specification, and the novel features of the invention will be particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

Our invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, forming part of this application, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the device,

Figure 2 is a plan view of the same, and

Figure 3 is a central longitudinal section through the device.

In carrying out our invention, we provide a body portion 1 consisting of a plate having a flat sectional horizontal rear portion 2 and an inclined flat sectioned forward portion 3. The body portion is preferably made out of metal, such as tin, aluminium, brass, or the like, and is wider at a point somewhat nearer to the front end thereof than at its ends, whereby the body portion is rounded at its front end and the side edges thereof taper to a point at the rear. The body portion 1 is formed with upstanding sides 4 and 5 which are joined or merged into one another at the front and rear. The sides 4 and 5 are cut away at 6 and 7 respectively, and each slopes oppositely from an intermediate point toward the front and rear ends of the body portion. In practice, we prefer to form the body portion 1 of a single piece of metal which is stamped and bent to provide the parts which have been described. A hook 8 is secured at one end by a screw 9 to the inclined forward portion 3 so that the barbed portion 10 thereof is positioned in the same vertical plane as the shank and above the plane of the horizontal portion 2. The hook 8 is formed of a material having spring qualities and will clamp a flexible trailer 11 which is threaded thereon between itself and the horizontal portion 2 so that a portion of the trailer will be positioned at the rear of the horizontal portion 2.

A depth-controlling plate or "spoon" 12 is connected by a link, which may be a ring 13, to the body portion 1 at the front end of the latter. The depth-controlling plate 12 has the form best seen in Figure 2, being fashioned with an intermediate triangular depressed portion 14. The apex of the triangular depressed portion 14 is positioned at the rear. The depressed portion 14 is deepest at its front end and is inclined toward the rear so that the apex thereof lies in the plane of the main portion of the depth-controlling plate. A link 15 is arranged to pass transversely through the center of the depressed triangular portion 14 in substantial alinement with the ring 13 and with the shank of the hook 8. A line 16 may be attached to the portion of the link 15 disposed above the upper side of the depressed portion 14 or to the portion of the link 15 projected below the lower side of the same.

From the foregoing description of the various parts of the device, the operation thereof may be readily understood. When the line 16, which is used in drawing the device when the latter has been cast or is being trolled, is secured to the upper portion of the ring 15, the forward end of the non-rotating depth-controlling plate 12 will be relatively depressed and consequently the body portion 1 will remain beneath the surface of the water through which it is being drawn. When the line 16 is attached to the

lower portion of the ring 15, the forward end of the depth-controlling plate 12 will be elevated and the body portion 2 will remain adjacent to or at the surface of the water through which it is drawn. As the device is drawn through the water, the stress placed thereon varies and the body portion 1 will move with a wiggling motion, thereby tending to attract fish. This motion is occasioned not only by variations in the stress placed thereon when the line is being reeled in, but also by the impact of currents of water against the upstanding side walls 4 and 5. As the body portion 1 is drawn through the water, the currents passing through the cut away portions of the side walls strike the flexible trailer member 11 and impart an oscillatory movement to the trailer.

The trailer, which is commonly called a "pork rind", may be detached from the body portion 1 at will and various materials may be used therefor successively in order to adapt the device for use in luring various kinds of fish. Another advantage gained when our improved device is employed, is due to the fact that the hook 8 is detachably secured to the body portion 1 and may be replaced as desired. The device is simple in its construction and is thoroughly effective for the purpose intended.

We claim:

1. A fish lure comprising a plate having upstanding sides cut away at opposite points intermediate its length, a hook carried by the plate, and stabilizing means flexibly connected to the plate at one end thereof and adapted for connection with a fishing line.

2. A fish lure comprising a plate having upstanding sides cut away at opposite points intermediate its length, said plate being bent intermediately along a transverse line to provide a horizontal rear portion and an inclined forward portion, a hook carried by the plate, and means connecting with the plate at its forward end for attaching the latter to a fishing line.

3. A fish lure comprising a plate having upstanding sides cut away at opposite points intermediate its length, said plate being bent intermediately along a transverse line to provide a horizontal rear portion and an inclined forward portion and being formed with its greatest width slightly in advance of the transverse median line thereof, a hook, means for detachably securing the hook to the plate with the barbed portion of the hook upward, and means connecting with the plate at its front end for attaching the latter to a fishing line.

4. A fish lure comprising a plate having upstanding sides cut away at opposite points intermediate its length, a hook secured to the plate with the barbed portion upward and with the shank engaging the plate in position to clamp a flexible trailer between itself and the plate, and a spoon having a flexible connection with the plate at the forward end of the latter and being adapted for connection with a fishing line.

5. A fish lure comprising a plate having upstanding sides cut away at opposite points intermediate its length, said sides having their greatest height intermediately and sloping therefrom oppositely toward the front and rear, a hook secured to the plate with the barbed portion upward and with the shank engaging the plate in position to clamp a flexible trailer between itself and the plate, and a spoon having a flexible connection with the plate at the forward end of the latter and being adapted for connection with a fishing line.

6. A fish lure comprising a plate having upstanding sides cut away at opposite points intermediate its length, a hook secured to the plate with the barbed portion upward and with the shank engaging the plate in position to clamp a flexible trailer between itself and the plate, and a spoon having a flexible connection with the plate at the forward end of the latter, and being adapted at both its upper and lower sides for connection with a fishing line, whereby the plate may be guided to different depths when drawn through the water.

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