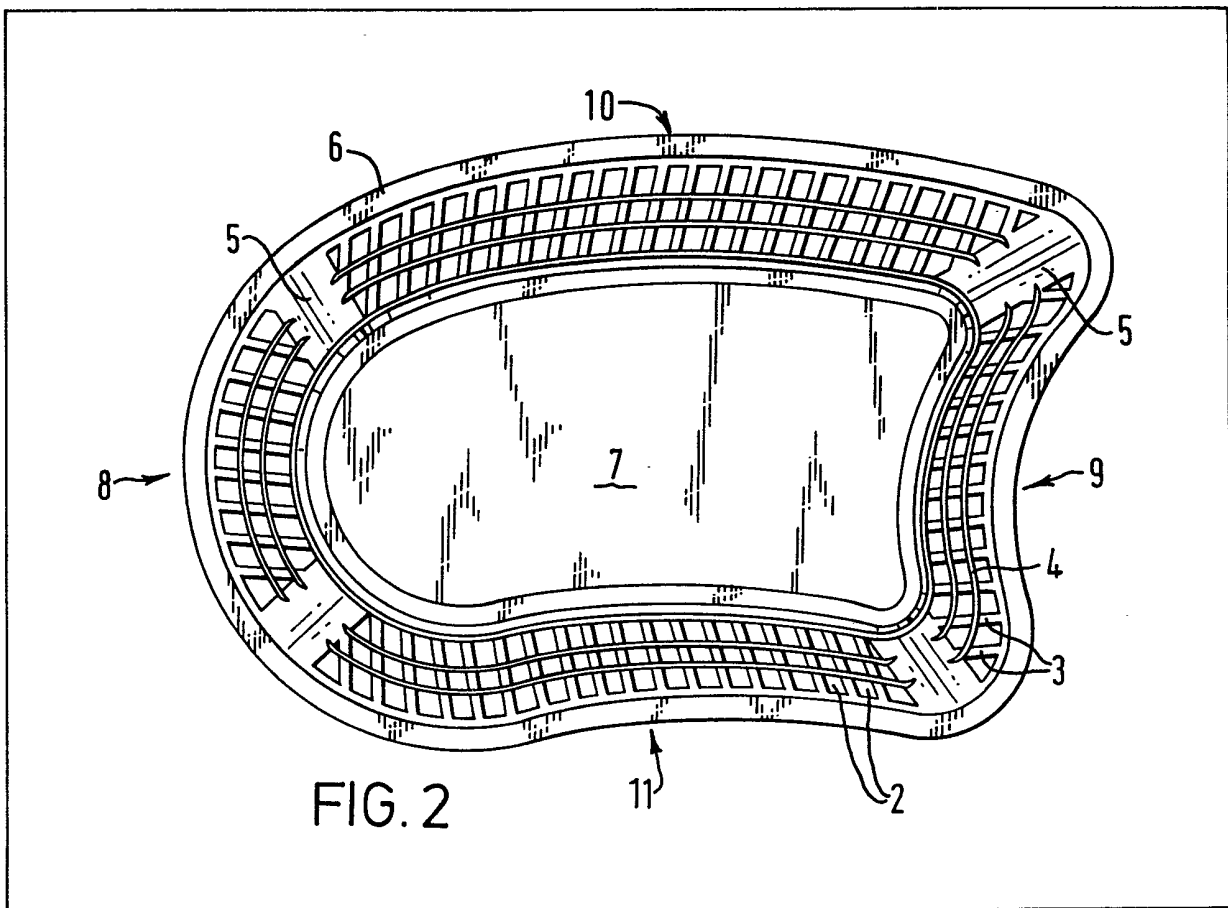


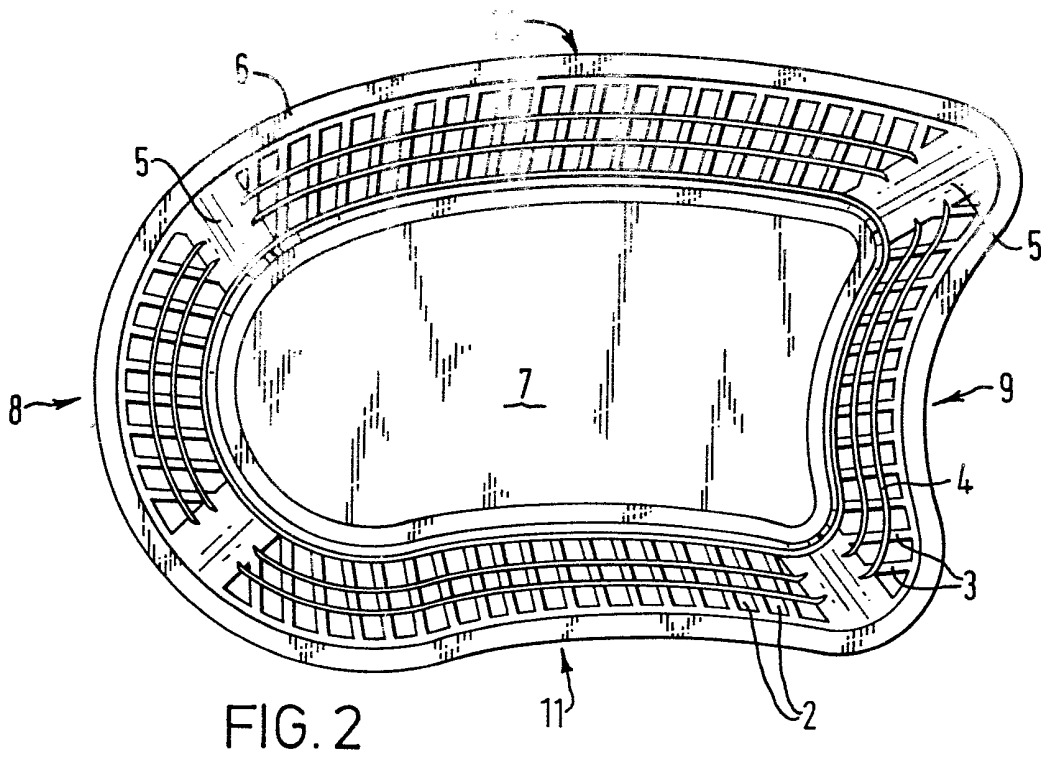
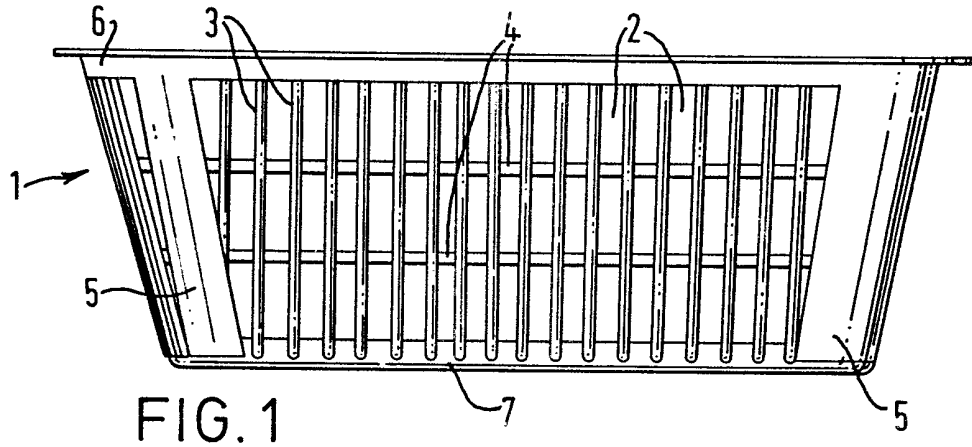
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(54) Plant containers

(57) An aquatic plant container for immersion in a fish pond or the like and which is elongate and open topped in shape, the walls of the container being perforated or otherwise formed with apertures, one end of the container being convexly curved and the other end of the container being concavely curved, and one side of the container being convexly curved while the opposite side of the container is concavely curved, the radius of curvature of the convex end of the container approximating that of the concave end of the container and the radius of curvature of the convex side of the container approximating that of the concave side of the container.





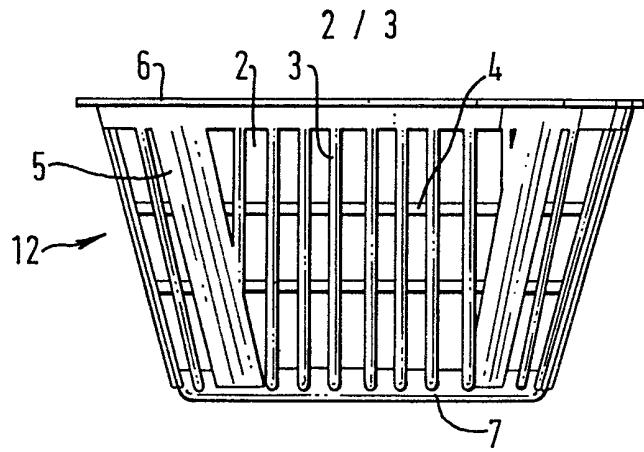


FIG. 3

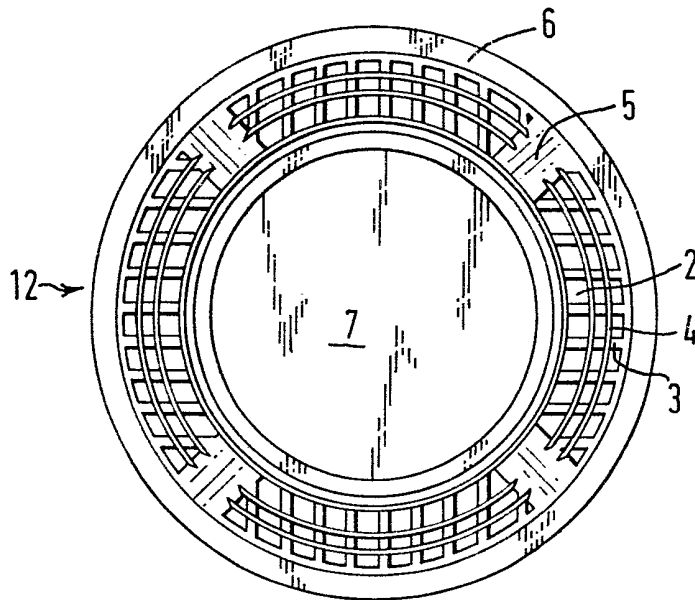


FIG. 4

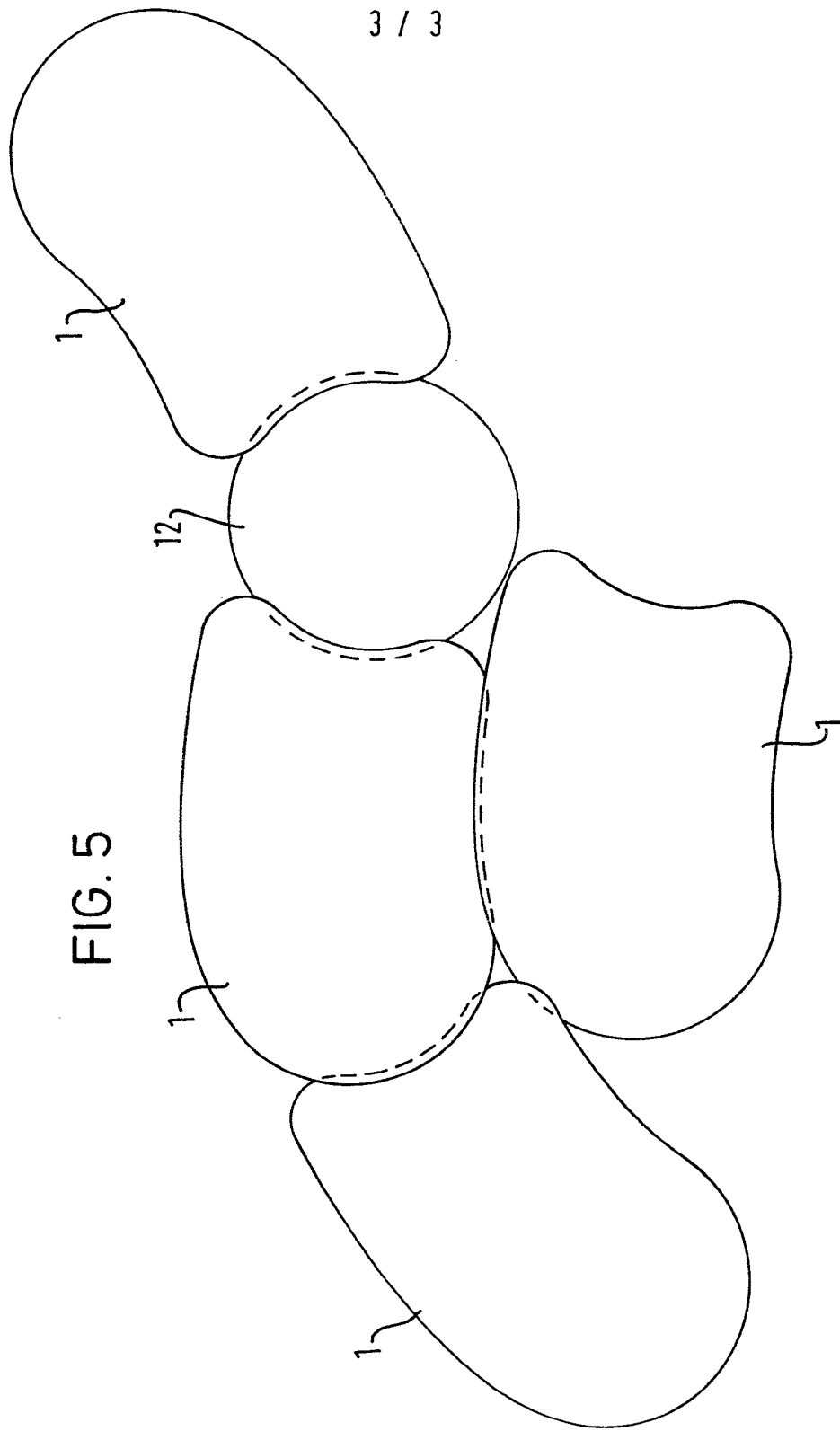


FIG. 5

SPECIFICATION

Plant containers

5 The invention relates to containers and more particularly but not exclusively to plant containers of the kind used to hold aquatic plants in fish ponds. It is known to provide a container for aquatic plants in fish ponds and such containers are normally of a plastics material and are of a basket-like construction so that the water can flow through the container. A disadvantage of known containers of this type is that they are of regular shape, e.g. square or rectangular, which is aesthetically discordant especially since fish ponds are usually of irregular shape, e.g. curved. Some known containers are circular in cross section but this hinders the creation of beds of aquatic plants since the containers will not stack closely one against the other without the formation of large gaps.

20 It is an object of the invention to provide a container which overcomes or at least mitigates against the above stated disadvantage, and which permits the formation of curved beds of plants.

According to the invention there is provided a container which in plan view is of irregular shape and which is capable of being butted end to end with similar containers to provide surface to surface engagement. Preferably one end of the container is convexly curved and the other end of the container is concavely curved whereby two or more similar containers can be joined end to end without the formation of gaps between the containers. Preferably the arrangement is such that one container can be rotated relative to the next container.

35 Preferably one side of the container is convexly curved and the opposite side of the container is concavely curved so that similar containers can be butted side by side with the minimum of gaps between the containers.

40 In a preferred form of the invention intended as an aquatic plant container for a fish pond or the like the container is in the form of an elongate open topped receptacle of plastics or the like, the walls of the container being perforated or otherwise formed with apertures. The radius of curvature of the convex end of the container preferably matches that of the concave end of the container and the radius of curvature of the convex side of the container preferably matches that of the concave side of the container. In this way the containers can be stacked end to end and side by side with the minimum of wasted space.

The invention is diagrammatically illustrated by way of example in the accompanying drawings in which:

55 Figure 1 is a side view of a container for aquatic plants;

Figure 2 is a plan view of the container shown in Figure 1;

60 Figure 3 is a side view of a generally circular sectioned container for aquatic plants for use in association with the container shown in Figures 1 and 2;

Figure 4 is a plan view of the container shown in Figure 3; and

65 Figure 5 is a plan view of an assembly of the containers shown in Figures 1 to 4.

In the drawings and referring more particularly to Figures 1 and 2 there is shown an elongate open topped container 1 for aquatic plants made from plastics or the like. As indicated diagrammatically in Figure 1 the side and end walls of the container are basket-like in that they are formed as a series of upright bars 3 intersected by horizontal bars 4 to define substantially rectangular perforations 2 to allow water to penetrate the container freely. To strengthen the container, solid columns 5 are placed at positions approximating to the corners of the container, the columns extending from the upper periphery 6 of the container to the base 7 thereof.

80 As appears more clearly in Figure 2 one end 8 of the container is convexly curved while the opposite end 9 is concavely curved, the radius of curvature of the two ends being the same. Similarly one side 10 of the container is convexly curved and the other side 11 of the container is concavely curved and here again the radius of curvature of one side is the same as that of the other side.

The construction of the circular plastics aquatic plant container 12 of Figures 3 and 4 is generally similar to that described above and the corresponding reference numerals apply. The radius of curvature of the container 12 is the same as that of the ends 8 and 9 of the container of Figures 1 and 2, for the reason appearing below.

95 By shaping the containers 1 and 12 in the way described above they can be fitted together as indicated in the plan view of Figure 5 to form larger beds of plants. Thus the containers can be fitted together both side by side and end to end and the direction of curvature of the bed can be reversed by employing the circular section container 12 of Figures 3 and 4.

CLAIMS

1. A container which in plan view is of irregular shape and which is capable of being butted end to end with similar containers to provide surface to surface engagement.

2. A container according to claim 1, wherein one end of the container is convexly curved and the other end of the container is concavely curved.

3. A container according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein one side of the container is convexly curved and the opposite side of the container is concavely curved.

4. An aquatic plant container for immersion in a fish pond or the like and which is elongate and open topped in shape, the walls of the container being perforated or otherwise formed with apertures, one end of the container being convexly curved and the other end of the container being concavely curved, and one side of the container being convexly curved while the opposite side of the container is concavely curved, the radius of curvature of the convex end of the container approximating that of the concave end

of the container and the radius of curvature of the convex side of the container approximating that of the concave side of the container.

5. An aquatic plant container substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to, and as illustrated in, the accompanying drawings.

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