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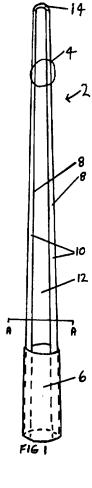
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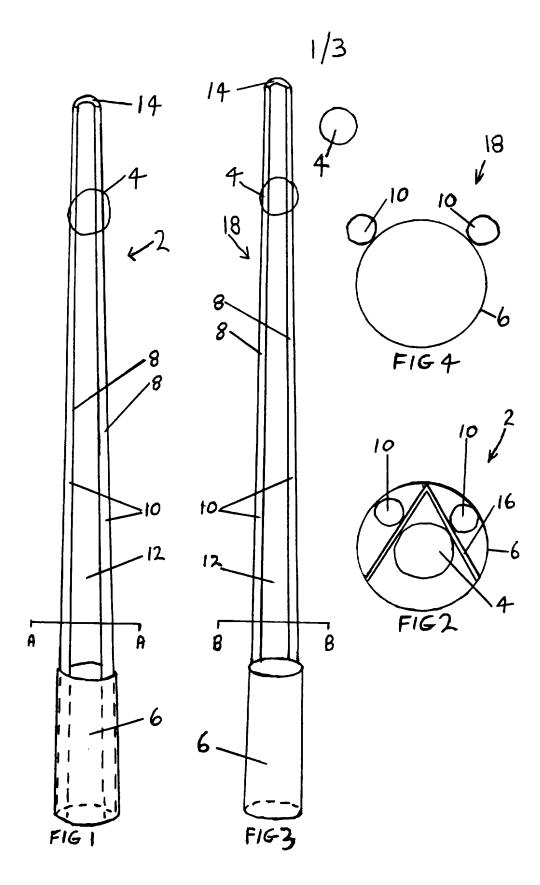
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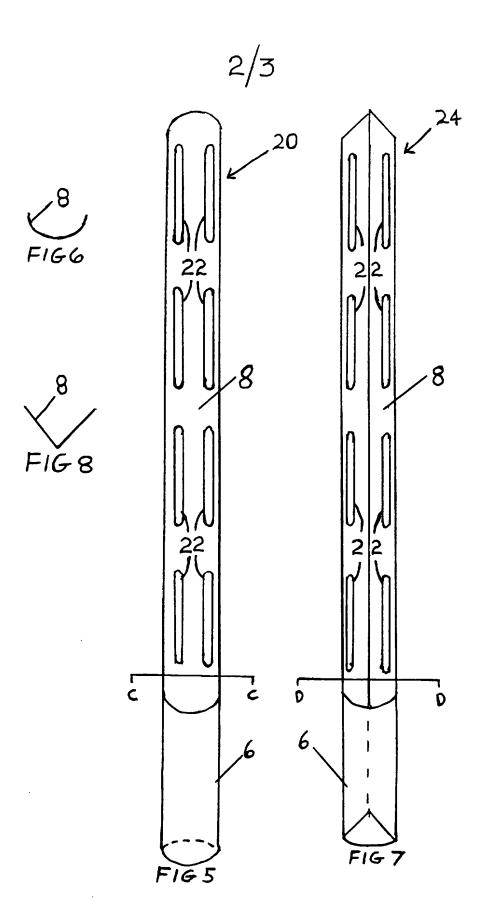
(54) Abstract Title

A bait throwing stick

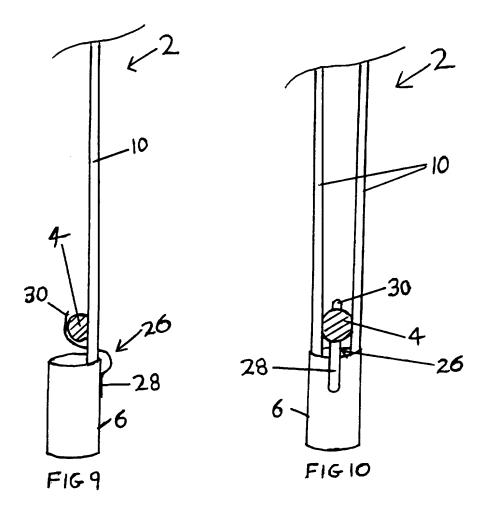
(57) A bait throwing stick (2) for throwing bait in the form of boilies (4), which bait throwing stick (2) comprises a handle portion (6) and a track portion (8) along which the boilies (4) travel when they are being thrown, the track portion (8) being such that it is a non-tubular track portion (8) which is of such a construction that the boilies (4) do not fall off the track portion (8) as they are being thrown, and the track portion (8) being such that it has at least one aperture (12) for reducing wind resistance of the track portion (8) as the boilies (4) are being thrown.







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A BAIT THROWING STICK

This invention relates to a bait throwing stick and, more especially, this invention relates to a bait throwing stick for throwing bait in the form of boilies.

Bait in the form of boilies is well known. The boilies are balls of bait which are widely used by anglers angling for carp. The boilies are available in different sizes for being thrown at varying distances from the angler in order to attract carp.

Known bait throwing sticks comprise a handle portion and a track portion along which the boilies travel when they are being thrown. The track portion was originally straight but more modern bait throwing sticks have curved tracked portions. Irrespective of whether the track portion is straight or curved, it is formed of a tube which receives the boilies. During use of the bait throwing stick, the handle portion is gripped and the bait throwing stick is usually swept through the air with a circular motion at the end of an arm of the angler. The boilie thus travels along the tube and is thrown out from the end of the tube remote from the handle portion. Depending upon the velocity of the sweeping motion, the boilie can be thrown from the tube at varying speeds for enabling

the boilie to be thrown at varying distances from the angler, with the distances increasing with the velocity of movement of the tube.

An angler may wish to use a bait throwing stick to throw out a large number of boilies, for example from 500 - 1000 boilies. The boilies are usually thrown separately and so the bait throwing stick is used continuously for quite a long time. The known bait throwing sticks are difficult to swing fast, for throwing the boilies a long distance from the angler. This is firstly because the bait throwing sticks are heavy and secondly because they exhibit too much air resistance as they are being swept through the air. As an angler gets tired after throwing a lot of the boilies, these problems of weight and air resistance become increasingly noticeable.

It is an aim of the present invention to reduce the above mentioned problems.

Accordingly, in one non-limiting embodiment, the present invention provides a bait throwing stick for throwing bait in the form of boilies, which bait throwing stick comprises a handle portion and a track portion along which the boilies travel when they are being thrown, the track portion being such that it is a non-tubular track portion which is of such a construction that the boilies do not fall off the

track portion as they are being thrown, and the track portion being such that it has at least one aperture for reducing wind resistance of the track portion as the boilies are being thrown.

The bait throwing stick of the present invention is such that the track portion can be produced to be lighter and to offer less air resistance than the tubular track portions in the known bait throwing sticks. This enables the bait throwing stick of the present invention to be moved faster through the air than with known bait throwing sticks so that the boilies can be thrown farther than with known bait throwing sticks if desired. It also enables the bait throwing stick of the present invention to be used for longer periods of time with less angler fatigue than occurs with known bait throwing sticks.

The bait throwing stick may be one in which the track portion is two rods which are spaced apart such that they form a longitudinal slot which forms the aperture for reducing the wind resistance.

Preferably, the two rods extend towards each other from their ends at the handle portion.

If desired, there may be more than two of the rods. Thus, for example, there may be three or four of the rods.

The rods may extend into the handle portion. In this case, the handle portion preferably includes an auxiliary guide device. The auxiliary guide device may be, for example, a V-shaped auxiliary guide device. Other types of auxiliary guide device may be employed.

In an alternative embodiment of the invention, the rods extend along the outside of the handle portion.

If desired, the bait throwing stick may be one in which the track portion is U-shaped in cross section, and in which the track portion has a plurality of the apertures for reducing the wind resistance. In this case, the apertures may be slots, and the track portion preferably extends into the handle.

If desired, the bait throwing stick may be one in which the track portion is V-shaped in cross section, and in which the track portion has a plurality of the apertures for reducing the wind resistance. In this case, the apertures are preferably slots, and the track portion preferably extends into the handle.

The bait throwing stick may include retaining means for retaining the boilies in position prior to throwing the boilies.

The retaining means is preferably a clip for receiving a boilie. Other types of retaining means may be employed.

The bait throwing stick may be made of any suitable and appropriate materials. Light materials are preferred in order to keep the weight of the bait throwing stick to the minimum. Thus, for example, the bait throwing stick may be made of aluminium, a plastics material, glass fibre or carbon fibre. The bait throwing stick may be moulded. The bait throwing stick may be moulded. The bait throwing stick may be made in one piece or in several pieces which are subsequently connected together. Especially when the track portion is made of the rods, then the track portion can be arranged to flex to give a whip action during use of the bait throwing stick in order to help throw the boilies farther and faster through the air.

Embodiments of the invention will now be described solely by way of example and with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 shows a first bait throwing stick;

Figure 2 is a section on the line A-A shown in Figure 1;

Figure 3 shows a second bait throwing stick;

Figure 4 is a section on the line B-B shown in Figure 3;

Figure 5 shows a third bait throwing stick;

Figure 6 is a section on the line C-C shown in Figure 5;

Figure 7 shows a fourth bait throwing stick;

Figure 8 is a section on the line D-D shown in Figure 7; and

Figures 9 and 10 are side and rear views respectively of part of the first bait throwing stick of Figures 1 and 2, and show an additional modification.

Referring to Figures 1 and 2, there is shown a bait throwing stick 2 for throwing bait in the form of boilies 4. The bait throwing device 2 comprises a handle portion 6 and a track portion 8. The boilies 4 travel along the track portion 8 from the handle portion 6 end of the bait throwing stick 2.

The track portion 8 is formed of two rods 10 which are spaced apart such that they define a longitudinally extending slot 12. The rods 10 are joined at their ends remote from the handle portion 6 by a curved portion 14 as shown. The curved portion 14 maintains the rods 10 together and stops them spreading apart during use of the bait throwing stick 2.

The rods 10 form a track portion 8 which is a non-circular track portion 8 and which is of such a

construction that the boilies 4 do not fall off the track portion 8 as they are being thrown.

The slot 12 forms a single aperture which reduces wind resistance of the track portion 8 as the boilies being thrown. More specifically, the throwing stick 2 is used such that the handle portion 6 is gripped by an angler and then the angler sweeps his or her arm in a circular motion. The circular motion will usually be an overarm circular motion but it may be a sideways circular motion if desired. boilies 4 are normally initially placed one at a time at the handle portion 6 end of the track portion 8. As the bait throwing stick 2 is swept in its circular motion, the boilie 4 slides and rolls along the length of the track portion 8 and then gets thrown off the end of the track portion 8 remote from the handle portion 6. The rods 10 tend to whip and this increases the velocity with which the boilies 4 are individually thrown from the air throwing stick 2.

As shown in Figure 2, the rods 10 are of circular cross section and they extend into the handle portion 6, the handle portion 6 being in the form of a short tube.

A V-shaped auxiliary guide device 16 is provided in the handle portion 6. A boilie 4 to be thrown can thus be located in the auxiliary guide device 10 in the handle portion 6 at the start of a bait throwing action. The auxiliary guide device 16 guides the boilie 4 out of the handle portion 6 and on to the rods 10.

Referring now to Figures 2 - 10, there are shown other examples of bait throwing sticks. Similar parts as in Figures 1 and 2 have been given the same reference numerals for ease of comparison and understanding.

In Figures 3 and 4, there is shown a second bait throwing stick 18 in which the rods 10 extend along the outside of the handle portion 6 as can best be appreciated from Figure 4. In this case, the bait 4 can simply be placed in the handle portion 6 and the handle portion 6, as can be seen from Figure 4, does not have the auxiliary guide device 16.

Figures 5 and 6 show a third bait throwing stick 20 in which the track portion 8 is of a U-shape as best shown in Figure 6. The track portion 8 is provided with a plurality of apertures in the form of slots 22 for reducing the wind resistance.

Figures 7 and 8 show a fourth bait throwing stick 24 which is like the bait throwing stick 20 shown in Figures 5 and 6 except that in Figures 7 and 8, the track portion 8 is V-shaped.

In the bait throwing sticks 20 and 24, the track portions 8 extend into the handle portions 6.

Figures 9 and 10 are side and rear views of part of the bait throwing stick 2 of Figures 1 and 2, and they show an additional modification in the form of a clip 26 for retaining the boilies 4. The clip 26 thus forms retaining means for retaining the boilies 4. The clip 26 has a part 28 which engages the handle portion 6, and a part 30 which receives a boilie 4.

It is to be appreciated that the embodiments of the invention described above with reference to the accompanying drawings have been given by way of example only and that modifications may be effected. Thus, for example, there may be more or less of the slots 22 than illustrated. Also, apertures of a shape other than slots may be employed so that the apertures may be in the form of circular holes. The rods 10 may have a cross sectional shape other than circular. One or more restraining means in the form of clips may be employed across the track portions 8 to stop the track portions 8 tending to move apart as the boilies are thrown. The handle portion 6 and the curved portion 14 may be moulded items, for example from any suitable plastics material. The V-shaped auxiliary guide device 16 may be replaced by a tube which locates in the handle portion 6.

CLAIMS

- 1. A bait throwing stick for throwing bait in the form of boilies, which bait throwing stick comprises a handle portion and a track portion along which the boilies travel when they are being thrown, the track portion being such that it is a non-tubular track portion which is of such a construction that the boilies do not fall off the track portion as they are being thrown, and the track portion being such that it has at least one aperture for reducing wind resistance of the track portion as the boilies are being thrown.
- 2. A bait throwing stick according to claim 1 in which the track portion is two rods which are such that they form a longitudinal slot which forms the aperture for reducing the wind resistance.
- 3. A bait throwing stick according to claim 2 in which the two rods extend towards each other from their ends at the handle portion.
- 4. A bait throwing stick according to claim 2 or claim 3 in which there are more than two of the rods.

- 5. A bait throwing stick according to any one of the preceding claims in which the rods extend into the handle portion.
- 6. A bait throwing stick according to claim 5 in which the handle portion includes an auxiliary guide device.
- 7. A bait throwing stick according to claim 6 in which the auxiliary guide device is a V-shaped auxiliary guide device.
- 8. A bait throwing stick according to any one of claims 1 4 in which the rods extend along the outside of the handle portion.
- 9. A bait throwing stick according to claim 1 in which the track portion is U-shaped in cross section, and in which the track portion has a plurality of the apertures for reducing the wind resistance.
- 10. A bait throwing stick according to claim 9 in which the apertures are slots.

- 11. A bait throwing stick according to claim 9 or claim 10 in which the track portion extends into the handle.
- 12. A bait throwing stick according to claim 1 in which the track portion is V-shaped in cross section, and in which the track portion has a plurality of the apertures for reducing the wind resistance.
- 13. A bait throwing stick according to claim 12 in which the apertures are slots.
- 14. A bait throwing stick according to claim 12 or claim 13 in which the track portion extends into the handle.
- 15. A bait throwing stick according to any one of the preceding claims and including retaining means for retaining the boilies in position prior to throwing the boilies.
- 16. A bait throwing stick according to claim 15 in which the retaining means is a clip for retaining the boilies.

17. A bait throwing stick for throwing bait in the form of boilies, substantially as herein described with reference to the accompanying drawings.







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GB 9828616.4

Claims searched: 1-17

Examiner:

R Pharoah

Date of search: 8 M

8 March 1999

Patents Act 1977 Search Report under Section 17

Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:

UK Cl (Ed.Q): A1A: AX5; A6S: S26D

Int Cl (Ed.6): A01K: 97/02; A63B: 65/00,65/12

Other: Online: W.P.I.

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage		Releva to clain	
A	GB 2195871 A	(SANSOME)	-	

- X Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step
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