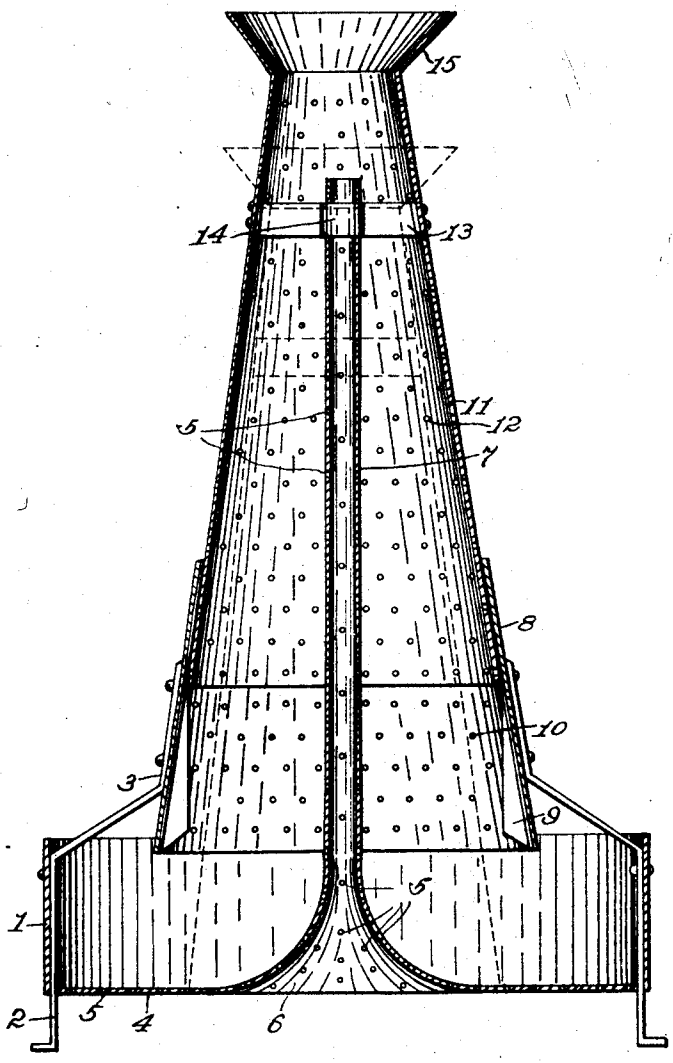
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GRAIN SPROUTER

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GRAIN SPROUTER.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY APPEL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Waterloo, in the county of Blackhawk and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Grain Sprouters, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in grain sprouters, and the object of my improvement is to supply a device of this class which is adapted to receive grain to be sprouted and to deliver it into a feeding receptacle, the device being constructed with a telescoping sectional grain container for this purpose of which one section is arranged to subside progressively as feed is removed below it to thus continuously provide a renewed supply of the sprouted grain.

This object I have accomplished by the means which are hereinafter described and claimed, and which are illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which the figure is a vertical central section of my improved device.

The numeral 1 denotes an open-top, closed-bottom receptacle supported on legs 2, the legs 2 being parts of bars which extend through the bottom of the receptacle and are secured to its inner wall, the upper parts of the bars being bent inwardly slopingly with their terminations then bent upwardly and riveted at 3 to the outer wall of a container section 8 which is positioned centrally above the bottom of the receptacle 1 and spaced therefrom.

The numeral 11 denotes the upper section of the grain container. The lower section 8 is preferably a hollow conical frustum as is also the upper section 11, the latter being fitted within the upper part of the former to telescopically slide therein from its position of extension shown in the full lines to its position of complete subsidence shown in dotted lines in said figure. In order to cause the upper section 11 to move downwardly vertically and centrally through the lower section 8, I mount a number of inwardly flanged bracket-guides 9 on the inner wall of the section 8 at its lower part.

The upper end of the upper section 11 may be marginally flared as at 15, the section 11 may have numerous wall apertures or holes 12 of small size, and the section 8 may likewise be numerously perforated with holes 10 of like size for ventilating the contents of moistened sprouting grain.

The bottom 4 of the receptacle 1 may have a hollow cone 6 with an upright prolongation or open ended tube 7 which extends through both sections 11 and 8 centrally nearly to the top of the section 11 when extended. The tube 7 and its flaring base part 6 are also provided with numerous small apertures 5 as is also the bottom 4 of said receptacle.

The numeral 13 denotes a cross-bar whose opposite ends are bent angularly and riveted to the inner walls of the upper container section 11 and contains a central sleeve 14 which loosely surrounds the upper part of the tube 7 to serve as a guide for said section in keeping it central while subsiding.

Grain to be sprouted is deposited in the flaring upper part 15 of the upper section 11 to fill the sections 11 and 8 when the section 11 is first lowered from its upper or extended position and then elevated, the grain which flows through the bottom section 8 into the receptacle 1 sustaining the pile and said movable section 11 until grain is removed, as by feeding animals or fowl, from the receptacle. As the base of the section 8 is smaller than the open top of said receptacle there is sufficient interspace for feeding purposes.

The grain is kept moistened, so that the grain will sprout, the numerous apertures in the container walls affording sufficient air circulation. An excess of moisture may drain away through the bottom of the receptacle, while the air passage through the center of the grain by way of the tube 7 aids the process.

As grain sprouted in the container subsides together with and aided by the weight of the upper section 11 when the contents of the receptacle are taken away by feeding, the grain is progressively forced from the container into the open space of the receptacle for further feeding. When the section 11 arrives at its lower position, it may be lifted and additional grain deposited therein if desired to renew the process.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

A grain sprouter, comprising in combination, an open top receptacle, an apertured tubular ventilator open at upper and lower ends with its lower end opening through and

fixedly mounted in the bottom of said receptacle, a hollow frustal body fixedly mounted centrally above said receptacle and spaced therefrom at the bottom and sides, parallel vertical guide flanges mounted on the inner wall of the frustal body, another hollow frustal body mounted telescopically within the lower frustal body first-mentioned to have its open lower end slide between and in contact with said guide flanges to guide it centrally, while subsiding, an apertured bearing member mounted across the upper inner end of the second-mentioned frustal body to slidingly fit the said tubular ventilator, and both frustal bodies and the bottom of the receptacle being numerously minutely apertured for ventilation purposes.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

HENRY APPEL.