March 5, 1940. H. M. CARLETON 2,192,514

MARKING TAG

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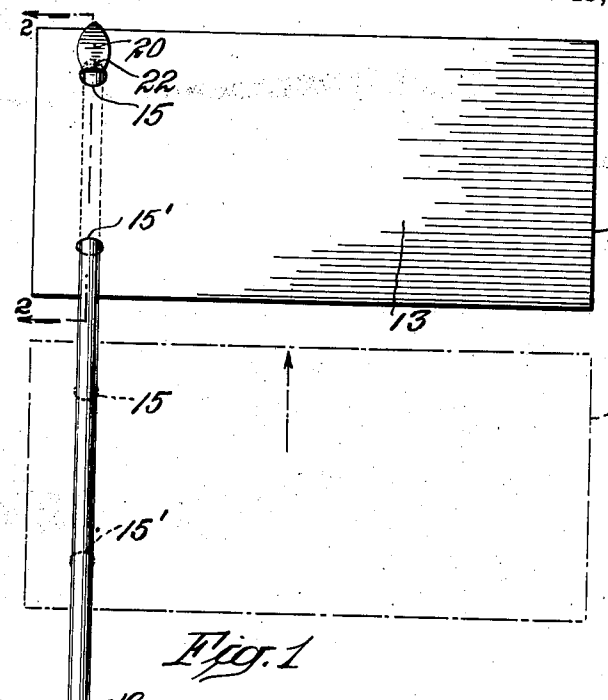


Fig. 1

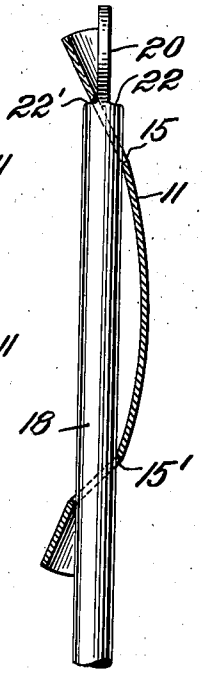


Fig. 2.

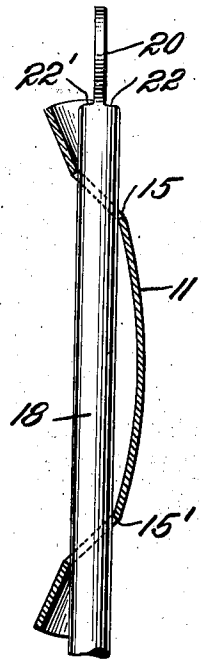
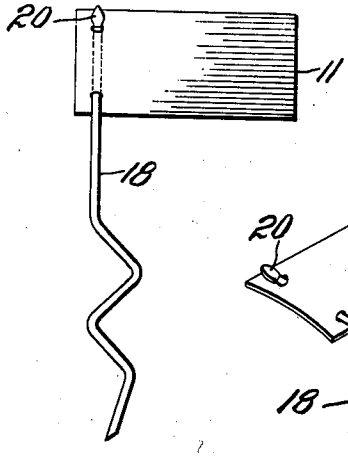


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.



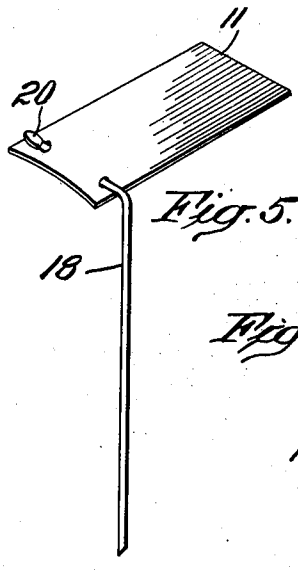


Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.

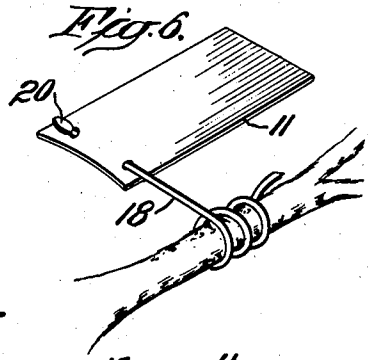
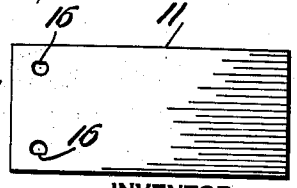


Fig. 7.



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MARKING TAG

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5 Claims. (Cl. 40—2)

The present invention relates to marking tags, for example to markers such as garden labels, or the like.

An object of the invention is to provide a marking tag having a relatively flat marking surface that can be written on with pencil, the writing being readily removable by means of an ordinary pencil eraser but remaining perfectly legible though left outdoors and subjected to the weather, for example in a garden over a long period of time.

Another object is to provide such a marker of bendable, resilient material such that it can be readily distorted to the extent that will hereinafter appear, within its elastic limit so that it has pronounced tendency to return to its normal flat shape.

A further object is to provide for the writing surface member a normally-rigid but readily-bendable wire support preferably of non-resilient, non-corrodible material, so formed and shaped that it cooperates with the writing surface portion of the marker as to position the marker on its support and hold it there against accidental displacement in either direction along the wire and also against turning on the wire.

Still further objects and advantages of the invention will appear from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing illustrating a preferred embodiment of the invention and in which:

Fig. 1 is a front elevation showing the two parts of the marker in assembled relation;

Fig. 2 is a vertical section taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a similar view of the same parts but showing them in the position they occupy just before the writing portion of the marker reaches its final position at the upper end of the wire;

Fig. 4 is a front elevation on a smaller scale showing the wire support with a few slight bends in it;

Fig. 5 shows the marker of Fig. 1 with a different type of bend in the wire support;

Fig. 6 illustrates how the wire support of the marker may be bent around a shrub or tree branch; and

Fig. 7 is a front elevation of the writing surface portion of the marker in which the openings for the wire are defined in part by straight edges.

Referring in detail to the drawing, the writing surface portion 11 of the marker may conveniently be a normally-flat, rectangularly-shaped piece of sheet material having a writing surface 13 suitable for marking with an ordinary pencil. Specifically, it may be formed of any suitable cellulose ester plastic material having a sufficiently mat surface and sufficiently resilient to exert pressure of the wire support to grip the wire support frictionally, as indicated in Fig. 2, tending to straighten itself out when in final assembled position on the wire.

As shown in Fig. 1, the writing portion of the marker is provided near one end with two openings 15, 15' through which the wire support 18 may be inserted, the parts being frictionally-slidable with respect to each other until the marking portion of the tag reaches the head end of the wire.

The drawing shows two such openings provided for this purpose and in the form shown in Fig. 1 each opening 15, 15' is circular and sufficiently greater in diameter than the wire itself to allow the writing portion of the marker to occupy the position of Fig. 3 as it is being slid along the wire and the position of Fig. 2 when it reaches the head end of the wire.

At its head end the wire is flattened as at 20, the width of this flattened portion being greater than the diameter of the openings 15, 15' so that the flattened end 20 acts as an end stop for the writing portion of the marker at the head end of the wire.

In the operation of flattening the head end of the wire for the purpose described, a pair of flattened shoulders 22, 22' are formed on the wire just below the flattened head. These serve as abutment shoulders on the wire body to position the writing portion of the marker at the head end of the wire and prevent it from sliding down the wire to the position of Fig. 3 after it has once reached the position shown in Fig. 2. The tendency of the writing portion of the marker to return to its flat condition from the distorted position of Fig. 3 causes it to snap over one of the shoulders 22, 22' until the edge of the upper opening 15 contacts the base of the enlarged flattened head 20.

From the position of Fig. 2 the writing portion of the marker can readily be slid down the wire and the wire removed from it by intentionally distorting the portion 11; but in the absence of such distortion the abutment shoulder prevents the marking portion 11 from sliding down the wire 18.

The flattened head end of the wire being wider than the opening 15, and being preferably flat as shown, cooperates with the upper surface of the marking portion 11 just above the opening 15, as indicated in Fig. 1, to resist rotation of the

writing portion 11 on the wire 18, the flattened head end 20 being wide enough to cause increased distortion of the upper part of the writing portion 11 if the writing portion is rotated on a wire.

The wire 18 is preferably formed of non-corrodible material readily bendable and having substantially no resistance, such, for example, as half hard aluminum wire. Such wire is readily bendable into any desired shape such as that shown in Fig. 4, for example, or in Fig. 5 where the upper part of the wire is bent over to present more readily to view the written designation on the writing surface portion. In Fig. 6 the wire is shown as wrapped around a twig, branch or shrub.

In Fig. 7 the holes provided in the writing portion to receive the wire support are shown as having flattened edges 16 to conform more nearly with the flat or relatively flat shoulders 22, 22'.

It will be noted that the lower end of the wire 18 can be readily inserted through the holes provided for it and that the construction is such that it is immaterial which end of the marking portion 11 is at the top or whether the shoulder 22 or the shoulder 22' is at one side or the other of the marking surface. It will also be understood that the writing surface portion 11 preferably has both faces identical so that either may be used for writing.

What is claimed is:

1. A marking tag comprising a relatively flat resilient member having a marking surface and having openings to receive a wire support, and a wire support passing through said openings and having a head adjacent and a shoulder within one of said openings, said head having a width greater than the diameter of the opening and cooperating with the shoulder to position the resilient marking member on the wire.

2. A marking tag comprising a relatively flat resilient member having a marking surface and having openings to receive a wire support, and a wire support passing through said openings and having a flattened end adjacent one of them providing a shoulder on the wire body for abutment with the edge of said opening, the flattened wire end being wider than its adjacent opening and cooperating with said shoulder to position the resilient marking member on the wire.

3. A marking tag comprising a relatively flat resilient member having a marking surface and having openings to receive a wire support, and a wire support passing through said openings and having a flattened head end wider than either opening and having opposite faces substantially aligning with the marking surface, said flattened head end providing abutment shoulders on the wire body cooperating with an opening edge to hold the resilient marking member at the head end of the wire.

4. A marking tag comprising a relatively flat resilient member having a marking surface and having openings to receive a wire support, and a wire support passing through said openings and having a flattened head end wider than either opening and having opposite faces substantially aligning with the marking surface, said flattened head end providing abutment shoulders on the wire body cooperating with an opening edge to hold the resilient marking member at the head end of the wire, each of said openings having a substantially straight edge defining it for such shoulder abutment.

5. A marking tag comprising a relatively flat resilient member having a marking surface and having openings to receive a wire support, and a wire support passing through said openings thereby distorting and being frictionally gripped by said resilient member and having a flattened head end wider than either opening and having opposite faces substantially aligning with the marking surface, the resilient marking member engaging said head with yielding pressure and thereby resisting rotational movement of said member on the wire, said flattened head end providing abutment shoulders on the wire body cooperating with an opening edge to hold the resilient marking member at the head end of the wire.

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