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2,847,805

METHOD FOR PACKAGING CUT TREES

Filed May 4, 1956

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

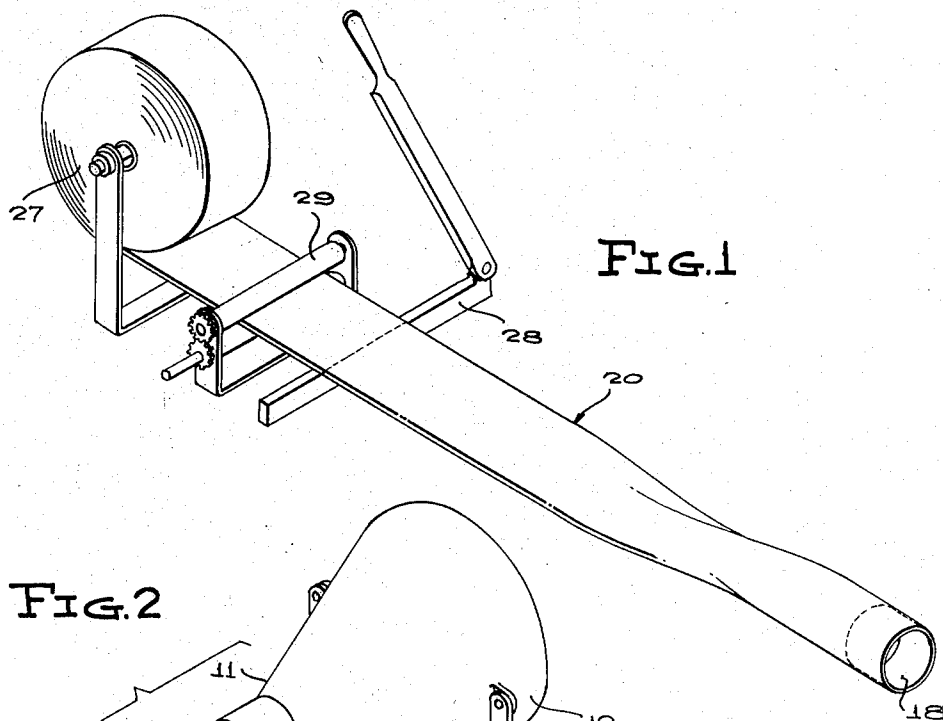


FIG. 2

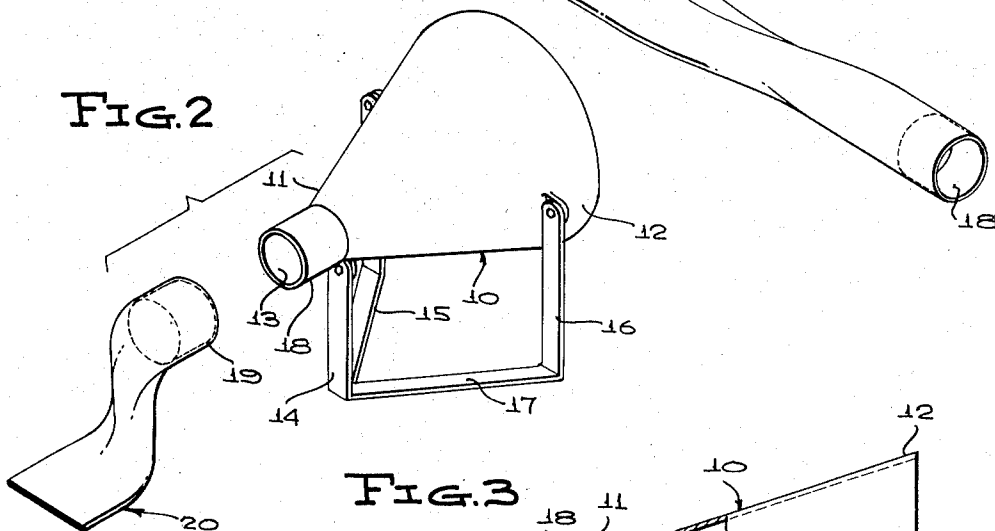


FIG. 3

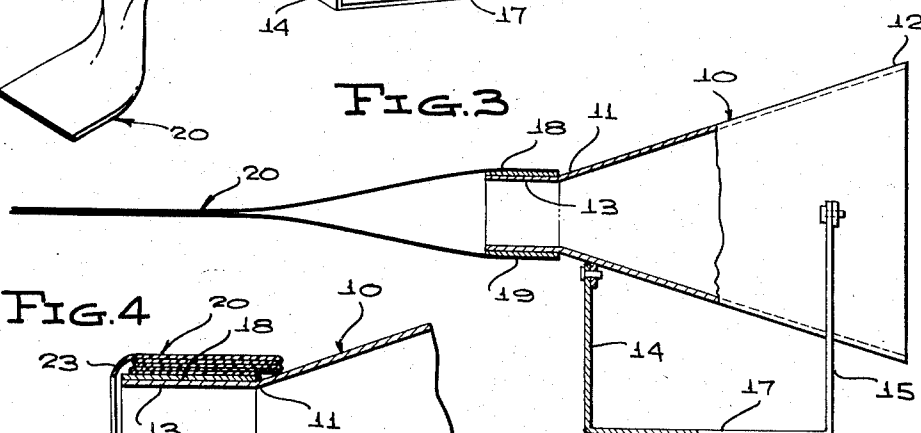
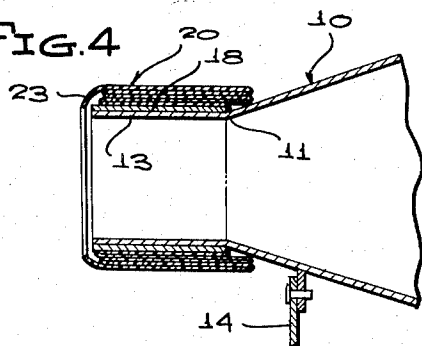


FIG. 4



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FIG. 5

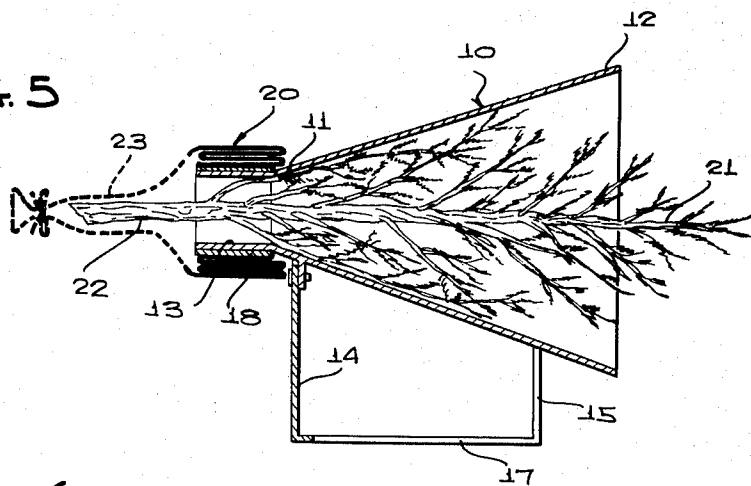


FIG. 6

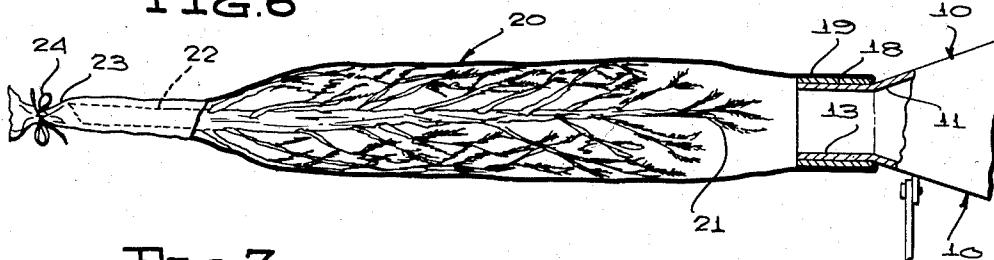


FIG. 7

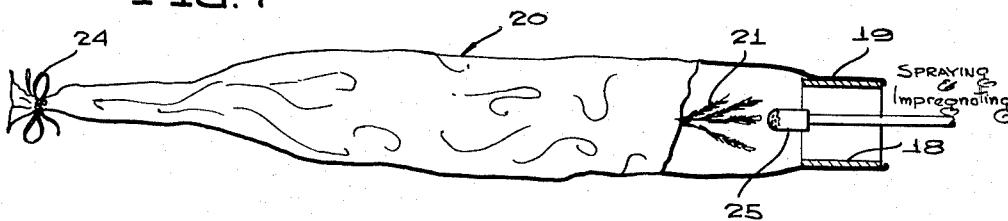
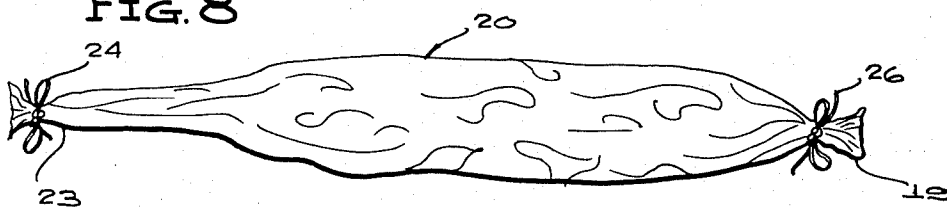


FIG. 8



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METHOD FOR PACKAGING CUT TREES

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3 Claims. (Cl. 53—24)

The present invention relates to method for packaging cut trees for transport, storage, and sale.

An object of the present invention is to provide a method for packaging cut trees, which enables the tree in its entirety to be encased in a protective casing.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a method for packaging cut trees in which the cut tree is housed in a protective casing without damage to its branches and foliage.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a method for packaging cut trees which is simple, efficient in action, and uses a minimum of equipment.

These and other objects and advantages of the present invention will be fully apparent from the following description when taken in conjunction with the annexed drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the reel and feed assembly containing a supply of the flexible casing for use in carrying out the packaging method of the present invention;

Figure 2 is an exploded perspective view of the tree inserting member employed in carrying out the packaging method of the present invention with an end of a cut length of casing in position for mounting on said member;

Figure 3 is an elevational view of the assembly of Figure 2, with parts in section and broken away, but with the end of the casing mounted in position on the tree inserting member;

Figure 4 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view showing the cut length of casing in fully mounted position on the tree inserting member; and

Figures 5 to 8 illustrate the steps of the packaging method of the present invention.

In carrying out the method for packaging a cut tree having a trunk stub projected from the lower end, according to the present invention, there is provided an open ended tunnel 10 having a small end 11 and a large end 12. A hollow extension 13 projects axially from the small end 11 of the tunnel 10. The tunnel 10 is mounted upon the upper ends of legs 14, 15 and 16, which are formed integrally with and rise from the apex and ends of the arms of a V-shaped base 17.

Next a rigid forming element 18 is attached to the portion 19 adjacent one end of an open ended flexible casing 20 which has been cut to a length completely housing a tree 21 and the trunk stub 22 which projects from the lower end of the tree 21.

The next step comprises placing the forming element 18 in such a position that it removably embraces the extension 13 and arranging the part of the casing 20 between the attached portion 19 and the other end so that it lies in superimposed folds upon the attached portion 19 with the portion 23 of the casing 20 adjacent the other end exteriorly of the extension 13 and in the position for ready grasping by the hand of an individual.

The tree 21 is now inserted into the large end 12 of the tunnel 10 so that the trunk stub 22 faces toward the

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small end 11. The tree 21 is next pushed through the tunnel 10 until the stub of the trunk 22 projects beyond the extension 13, as shown in Figure 5. The portion 23 of the casing 20 is now pulled over and beyond the projecting trunk stub 22 to the dotted line position shown in Figure 5 and a short length of string 24 is used to tie the end of the portion 23 exteriorly of and adjacent to the end of the trunk stub 22.

The part of the casing 21 which surrounds the trunk stub 22 is then grasped by constricting it into engagement with the trunk stub 22 to simultaneously effect grasping of the trunk stub therethrough. A pulling force is then applied to the thus grasped casing part and trunk stub until the tree 21 is fully withdrawn from the tunnel 10 and the extension 13.

If it is now desired an insecticide may be sprayed through the nozzle 25 of a spray apparatus with the nozzle 25 projecting through the rigid forming element, as shown in Figure 7.

The next step comprises removing the rigid forming element 18 from the casing 20, severing the part of the casing 20 adjacent the extension 13 and, with another short length of string 26 tying the severed part of the casing 20 as shown in Figure 8.

The casing 20 is preferably fabricated of an impervious material such as plastic, resin-coated fiber glass, or the like, but it may also be constructed of any flexible material such as knitted or woven cotton, linen, or burlap. The casing 20 may be provided in roll form as shown in Figure 1 and indicated by the reference numeral 27 and means is provided for cutting the casing 20 to suitable lengths, the means including a knife apparatus 28 and a delivering apparatus 29 consisting of a pair of rollers drivably connected to a source of power, the latter not being shown.

It will be seen therefore that the present invention provides a neat and efficient package enclosing a tree, the packaging, according to the present invention, providing for efficient packing and storing of trees and bushes and permitting their preservation for greater lengths of time than at present when trees are cut and stored in piles or bundles.

What is claimed is:

1. The method for packaging a tree having a trunk stub projecting from the lower end which comprises providing an open ended tunnel having one end smaller than the other end with a hollow extension projecting axially from the smaller end, removably attaching to said extension the portion adjacent one end of an open ended flexible casing cut to a length to completely house said tree and trunk stub, arranging the part of said casing between said attached portion and the other end so that it lies in superimposed folds upon said attached portion with the portion adjacent the other end of the casing exteriorly of said extension and in position for ready grasping by a hand of an individual, inserting said tree into the larger end of said tunnel so that the trunk stub faces toward the smaller end, causing the thus inserted tree to be pushed through the tunnel until the trunk stub projects beyond the extension and the portion adjacent the other end of said casing, pulling the portion adjacent the other end of said casing over and beyond the projecting trunk stub and tying said other end casing portion, grasping the part of said casing which surrounds the trunk stub and constricting it into gripping engagement with the trunk stub to simultaneously effect grasping of the trunk stub therethrough, applying a pulling force to the thus grasped casing part and trunk stub until the tree has been fully withdrawn from said tunnel and said extension, detaching the portion adjacent one end of said casing from said extension, and tying said one end casing portion.

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2. The method for packaging a tree having a trunk stub projecting from the lower end which comprises providing an open ended tunnel having one end smaller than the other end with a hollow extension projecting axially from the smaller end, attaching a rigid forming element to the portion adjacent one end of an open ended flexible casing cut to a length to completely house said tree and trunk stub, causing said forming element to removably embrace said extension, arranging the part of said casing between said attached portion and the other end so that it lies in superimposed folds upon said attached portion with the portion adjacent the other end of the casing exteriorly of said extension and in position for ready grasping by a hand of an individual, inserting said tree into the larger end of said tunnel so that the trunk stub faces toward the smaller end, causing the thus inserted tree to be pushed through the tunnel until the trunk stub projects beyond the extension and the portion adjacent the other end of said casing, pulling the portion adjacent the other end of said casing over and beyond the projecting trunk stub and tying said other end casing portion, grasping the part of said casing which surrounds the trunk stub and constricting it into gripping engagement with the trunk stub to simultaneously effect grasping of the trunk stub therethrough, applying a pulling force to the thus grasped casing part and trunk stub until the tree has been fully withdrawn from said tunnel and said extension, removing said forming element from said extension, severing the part of said casing adjacent said extension, and tying said severed part.

3. The method for packaging a tree having a trunk stub projecting from the lower end which comprises providing an open ended tunnel having one end smaller than the other end with a hollow extension projecting axially

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from the smaller end, attaching a rigid forming element to the portion adjacent one end of an open ended flexible casing cut to a length to completely house said tree and trunk stub, causing said forming element to removably embrace said extension, arranging the part of said casing between said attached portion and the other end so that it lies in superimposed folds upon said attached portion with the portion adjacent the other end of the casing exteriorly of said extension and in position for ready grasping by a hand of an individual, inserting said tree into the larger end of said tunnel so that the trunk stub faces toward the smaller end, causing the thus inserted tree to be pushed through the tunnel until the trunk stub projects beyond the extension and the portion adjacent the other end of said casing, pulling the portion adjacent the other end of said casing over and beyond the projecting trunk stub and tying said other end casing portion, grasping the part of said casing which surrounds the trunk stub and constricting it into gripping engagement with the trunk stub to simultaneously effect grasping of the trunk stub therethrough, applying a pulling force to the thus grasped casing part and trunk stub until the tree has been fully withdrawn from said tunnel and said extension, removing said forming element from said extension, injecting an insecticide into said casing through said extension, severing the part of said casing adjacent said extension, and tying said severed part.

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