R. G. CRUSON.

FRUIT GATHERER.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 24, 1913.

1,143,512. Patented June 15, 1915.

Fig. 1.

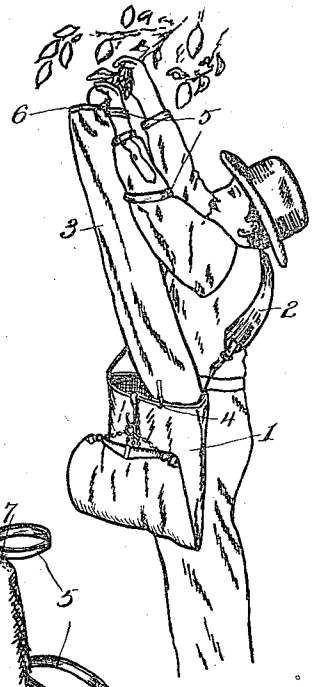


Fig. 2.

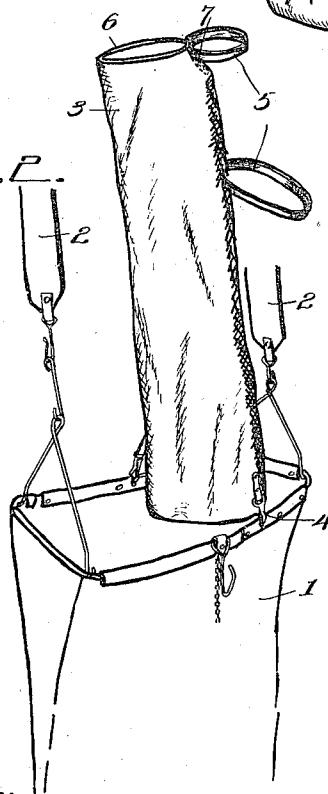
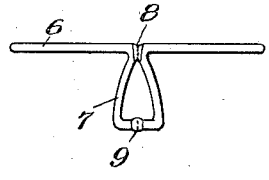


Fig. 3.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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FRUIT-GATHERER.

1,143,512. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 15, 1915.

Application filed September 24, 1913. Serial No. 791,612.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT G. CRUSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fillmore, in the county of Ventura and State of California, have invented new and useful Improvements in Fruit-Gatherers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to fruit gatherers and it consists in the novel features hereinafter described and claimed.

An object of the invention is to provide in combination with a sack adapted to hold picked fruit a chute adapted to be connected with the sack and supported at points along its length upon the arm of an operator and having at its receiving end a ring adapted to hold the end of the chute open and in a position approximately at a right angle to the palm of the hand of the operator.

With this object in view the device includes primarily a flexible chute of canvas or other suitable material having at one end means for connecting the same with a fruit sack. The said chute is provided at its other end with a metallic ring having at one side a lug disposed approximately at a right angle to the plane in which the ring lies. This lug is adapted to bear against the palm of the hand of an operator and hold the ring approximately at a right angle to the palm of the hand so that the fruit may be readily dropped through the ring into the chute after it has been severed from the stem of the plant.

In the accompanying drawing: Figure 1 is a perspective view, showing the gatherer applied to an operator. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the upper portion of the gatherer. Fig. 3 is a detailed view in edge elevation of a ring used in the gatherer.

As illustrated in the accompanying drawing the gatherer comprises a sack 1 which may be of usual pattern and which is adapted to be suspended or hung from the shoulders of an operator by means of a strap 2. A chute 3 is provided at one end with a series of snap hooks 4 which are adapted to be engaged with the upper edge portion of the sack 1 when the same is in position upon the body of an operator. This chute 3 is provided at points along its length with loops 5 through which the hand and arm of an operator may be passed in order that the chute may be disposed along the arm of the operator. When the chute is in position the fingers only of the operator are passed through the outermost loop 5 and consequently the said loop lodges in the crotch of the hand between the thumb and the palm. A ring 6 is sewed or otherwise secured in the upper or outer end of the chute 3 and the said ring is provided with a depending lug 7 which is disposed approximately at a right angle to the plane in which the body portion of the said ring lies. The ring 6 and the lug 7 is preferably formed of a single piece of wire as clearly illustrated in the drawings. When the sack is in position upon the body of an operator and the chute 3 and loops 5 are properly adjusted the lug 7 will bear against the wrist or palm of the hand of the operator and consequently the body portion of the ring 6 is held approximately at a right angle to the palm of the hand. Thus as the fruit is picked or cut from the stems of the plant the fingers of the hand to which the chute 5 is applied may be used for directing the fruit into the ring 6 and the fruit may gravitate along the chute 3 into the sack 1. Thus it will be seen that a simple means is provided for directing the fruit from the stems of the plant into the sack and in doing so it is not necessary for an operator to lower the hand from an elevated position down to the sack in order to introduce the fruit into the same.

The ring 6 is preferably constructed by bringing the portions of the wire together and soldering them at the point 8 whereby the body portion of the ring is formed and the lug 7 is extended down by the extremities which are each turned at their ends and soldered together as at 9. Thus a relatively broad lug 7 is provided which has ample bearing against the wrist or palm of the hand to efficiently support the ring 6 at the desired position.

Having described the invention what is claimed is:—

In a fruit gatherer a chute and a relatively rigid ring located around the receiving end of the chute and having at one side a lug disposed approximately at a right angle to the plane in which the body portion of the said ring lies and a loop mounted on the chute at the side of the ring and adjacent the lug and adapted to receive a hand.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ROBERT G. CRUSON.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM M. CHADSEY,
MILFORD MCCAWLEY.