April 13, 1926. 1,580,228

J. W. WRIGHT

PEA SHELLER

Filed Feb. 20, 1925

Fig. 1.

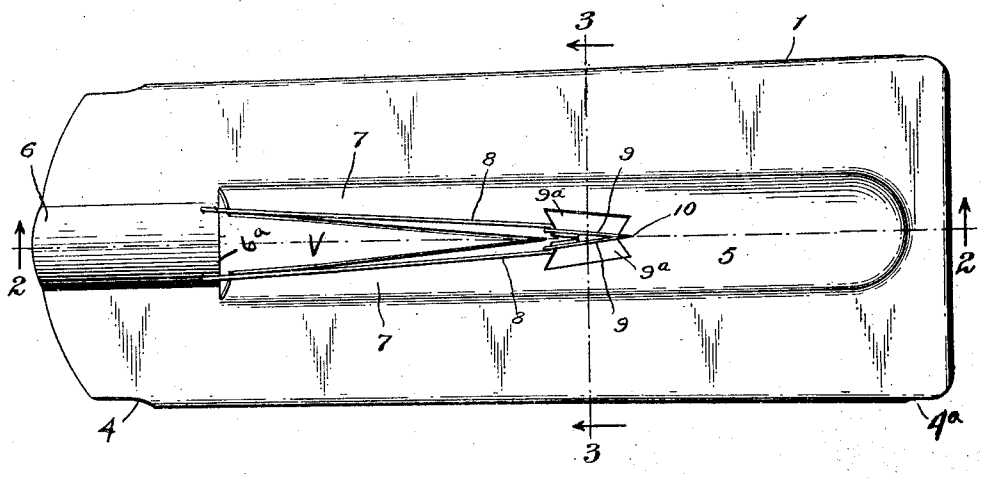


Fig. 2.

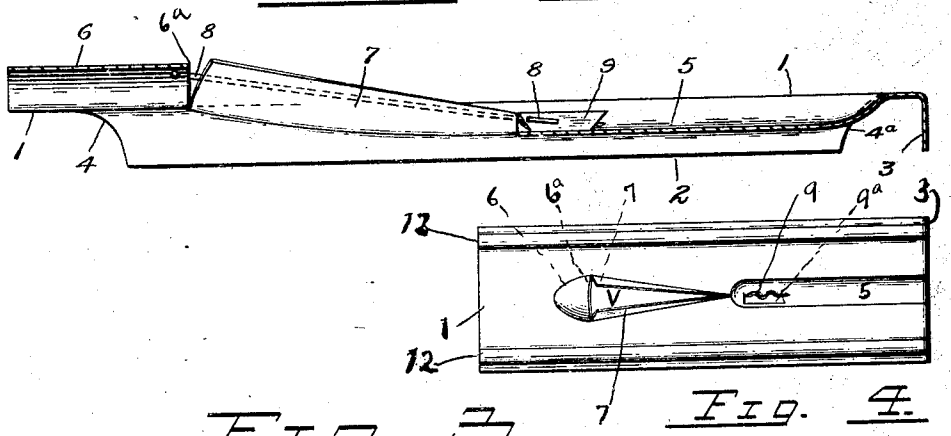
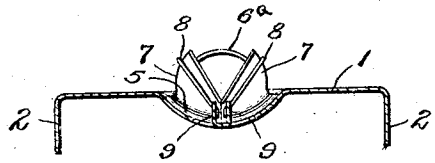


Fig. 4.

Fig. 3.



INVENTOR

John W. Wright

BY

Mason Newcomb & Lawrence.

ATTORNEYS

Patented Apr. 13, 1926. 1,580,228

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN W. WRIGHT, OF PUYALLUP, WASHINGTON, ASSIGNOR TO WRIGHT PEA SHELLER COMPANY, OF SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, A CORPORATION OF WASHINGTON.

PEA SHELLER.

Application filed February 20, 1925. Serial No. 10,567.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. WRIGHT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Puyallup, in the county of King and State of Washington, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Pea Shellers; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to pea shellers, and more particularly to a utensil for splitting pea pods and for removing the peas from the split pods.

The object of the invention is to provide a simple and cheaply constructed utensil for the use of housewives, whereby the green pea pods may be quickly opened and the peas extracted therefrom.

In the ordinary method of shelling peas by hand, much time is required to separate the two sides of the pods and remove the peas by the fingers, and by the use of my invention the operator simply slides the pod along in a groove on the upper face of the utensil, and the pod is opened and the peas removed and fall directly into the vessel that may be used as a support for the utensil.

The invention consists in the novel arrangement, construction, and combination of parts as hereinafter more particularly described and claimed.

I have illustrated my invention by means of the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 represents a top plan of the utensil.

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal cross section taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a transverse cross section taken on line 3—3 of Fig 1.

Fig. 4 is another embodiment in simplified form.

Like numerals on the different figures represent like parts.

In accordance with this invention, a flat, rectangular shaped sheet or plate of metal 1 is provided, with the sides 2, 2 turned down to give rigidity and permit it to be supported by its two ends. The front end is also bent down to form a hook or guard 3, and the two downwardly turned sides or edges are cut out at each end, as 4 and 4^a, to provide spaces to enable the user to rest or support the plate upon the opposite sides of a pail or suitable vessel to collect the peas.

A depression or groove 5 is pressed down into the central face of the plate, and of suitable width to receive any ordinary pea pod that may be placed lengthwise in the groove near the front end thereof, and adjoining the back end of the groove is a convex guide 6 formed by compression of a corresponding groove in the lower side of the plate, the front end of the guide 6 forming an abutment 6^a for removing all peas from the opened pod.

The center of the groove 5 is split backwardly from the abutment to about midway, and adjoining the abutment this groove is cut across, and the two edges are bent upward to form converging guides 7, 7, with the two former adjoining edges separated to form an elongated V opening through the plate, and sloping from near the abutment 6^a inwardly and downwardly and converging at a point approximately central in the groove 5.

A short distance in front of the last named converging point, there is cut out on three sides thereof two sections 9, 9 (each longer on their outside edges), from the bottom of the groove 5 and the two cut outs 9 are pressed upward with their front ends adjoining each other to form a sharp point 10, as a point of a knife, and the two sides of the parts 9 forming a knife blade slightly increasing in width as the blades 9 extend backward toward the abutment. Suitable guide wires as 8, 8 may be attached respectively to the rear ends of the blades 9 and extended therefrom along and outside of the guide edges 7, 7 and are suitably connected or attached to the outer walls of the abutment member. These wires however are not necessary for all sorts of pods, as the functions of the wires may be sufficiently performed by the guides or diverging sides 7, 7, and it may be also sufficient at times to provide one central knife blade in lieu of and between the presently located two blades 9, 9.

In use the operator pushes a pea pod along the groove 5 and against the blades 9, whereby the lower side of the pod is split and thereafter separated by the guides 7 until the peas are removed by the abutment 6^a, as the pod shell passes over the abutment member.

In Fig. 4 is shown a simpler embodiment or form of the sheller, and one which can

be readily formed with one operation of suitable dies, and can thus be constructed very cheaply for general distribution.

In this plan the stiffening reinforcement is given by suitable parallel flutes or corrugations 12, 12 along the sides of the plate 1, so that the device may be placed over any suitable dish by the operator. The knife 9 is formed from the same plate and pressed upward from the position 9^a, and is preferably bent into several loops as shown, whereby the sides of the pea pod are pressed apart, and will thus readily extend over the respective side guides 7, 7 as the slit pod is pressed forward. The cutting point of the knives in both forms are preferably extended back to form a hook for penetrating through the lower shell of the pods, and tend to hold the pods down into the guide groove 5 and down and over the guides 7.

The abutment is also of shorter design, and by not extending to the end of the plate it leaves the latter with more rigidity.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is:

1. In a pea sheller, a plate, a cutting member upstanding from the plate, diverging guides extending from a point near the cutting member leaving a V-shaped opening between the same, and an abutment between the guides at the opposite end thereof, and a guide groove in the plate extending back from the cutting member.

2. A pea sheller comprising a supporting plate, with a groove guide depressed in the top face thereof, a cutting member upstanding in the groove, an upraised abutment at the rear end of the groove, and converging guides extending from the upper sides of the abutment downward and inward to a point contiguous to the rear end of the cutting member, with an open space between the converging guides sufficient to permit peas to fall therethrough when passing thereover after the pea pods have been opened while moved along the groove and over the cutting member.

3. A utensil for cutting open pea pods and removing the peas therefrom comprising a flat plate member having a depressed groove for guiding the line of travel of pea pods, a cutting member upraised from the bottom of the groove for slitting the lower sides of the pods, an abutment at one end of the groove, and diverging guides from the cutting member to the abutment, the guides so adjusted as to press open and apart the slit pods and a space between the guides for the passage of the peas therethrough, and the abutment so adjusted as to remove any peas from the pods that have not been dislodged therefrom before the abutment is reached.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

JOHN W. WRIGHT.