

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

1,961,411

KINDLING BRIQUETTE

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No Drawing. Application December 1, 1932,
Serial No. 645,315

1 Claim. (Cl. 44—25)

Our invention relates to briquettes for starting fires.

The object of our invention is to produce a briquette which will burn very readily when lighted by a match and may be used for starting fires in materials which ignite and burn somewhat slowly.

Another object of the invention is to produce a briquette of this character which is non-explosive and not dangerous to handle or store.

In carrying our invention into practice, the following formula may be employed:

	Percent
Sawdust and wood shavings	50
Spanish moss	20
Rosin	20
Strainer's dross	10

After thorough tests, we have found the foregoing ingredients in substantially the proportions stated and when properly prepared, form briquettes very effective for the purpose described, and capable of being manufactured at very low cost.

In the manufacture of these briquettes, the sawdust, shavings, Spanish moss and strainer's dross are thoroughly mixed in substantially the proportions stated; and the mixture is then added to and thoroughly mixed with the proper percentage of rosin, which has been heated to a temperature between 160 and 170 degrees F. This final mixture is then separated into units of the desired size, molded into any desired shape, and allowed to cool into condition adapted for storage and use.

The briquettes will be found very useful in starting fires in stoves, camp fires, furnaces, fireplaces, or any other place where difficulty might be experienced in starting a blaze.

In these briquettes, the rosin is used mainly as a binder. Sawdust and shavings, of course, burn very readily when thoroughly dried or parched; and may be replaced by linter's cotton. Dry Spanish moss is also very inflammable, and obtainable in most of the Southern States, at extremely low cost. Strainer's dross is a mixture of

raw rosin, pine tree straw, pine tree bark and small chips. This dross consists of the residue strained off from the raw gum collected from pine trees preparatory to distillation into spirits of turpentine and extraction of rosin. Pitch or tar may be substituted for rosin as a binder in the manufacture of these briquettes.

The percentage of ingredients may be varied somewhat, according to various climatic conditions prevailing in localities where briquettes of this type may be used. For example, strainer's dross, when used in excess in some climates would produce a rather sticky briquette. This is particularly true in Southern States, such as Florida, Alabama, Louisiana, etc. The finished product, therefore, in Southern States would require a somewhat greater percentage of rosin and a lesser percentage of strainer's dross than would be required for briquettes intended for use in Northern States, such as Maine and Vermont, and in Canada. It must, therefore, be understood that while in general the proportions given in the formula set out hereinbefore are preferred, they may be varied somewhat to agree with the conditions required by the localities in which the briquettes are intended to be used. In any case, the percentage of strainer's dross and rosin may be relatively varied to accord with the localities in which the briquettes are intended to be used, and to make the briquettes convenient for storage and handling.

Ordinarily, these briquettes will be produced in a size corresponding to that of a small bar of soap so that they may be convenient to handle and to store. However, the invention is not to be considered as limited to any particular size or shape.

What we claim is:

A kindling briquette of the character specified including as ingredients, in the substantial proportions: sawdust and wood shavings, fifty percent; Spanish moss, twenty percent; strainer's dross, ten percent; and rosin, twenty percent.

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