United States Patent

Grotz

[15] **3,648,933**

[45] **Mar. 14, 1972**

[54] WATERING CAN

[72] Inventor: **Edward C. Grotz,** Wilmington, Del.

[73] Assignee: **Mr. Gardener Enterprises Ltd.,** Wilmington, Del.

[22] Filed: **Mar. 4, 1971**

[21] Appl. No.: **120,958**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **239/377,** 222/481

[51] **Int. Cl.** **A01g 25/14**

[58] **Field of Search** 222/566, 478, 481; 239/376, 239/377, 525, 378

[56] **References Cited**

FOREIGN PATENTS OR APPLICATIONS

163,853	7/1955	Australia	239/377
656,056	4/1929	France	222/478
716,040	12/1931	France	239/377
397,317	2/1966	Switzerland	239/376
926,640	4/1955	Germany	239/377

Primary Examiner—M. Henson Wood, Jr.
Assistant Examiner—Edwin D. Grant
Attorney—Samuel V. Abramo

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A watering can comprising of body with two spouts, one open spout and one spout with a rosette spray head; a circular handle connecting both spouts and the lower portion of both sides of the body, the handle having a hollow section connecting the open spout with an opening in the top of the handle and means for closing the hollow connection; a mounted stirring/measuring rod; and optionally a siphon drain in the rosette spray head; provides an improved garden implement for spraying and watering which permits (a) measured mixing, in the can, of additional materials including solids, powders and other liquids; (b) solid stream or spray application of the cans contents; and optionally; (c) a no-drip rosette spray head which has a materially improved resistance to rusting in the lower section of the head caused by pooling of the spray liquid after use and the loss thereof.

5 Claims, 7 Drawing Figures

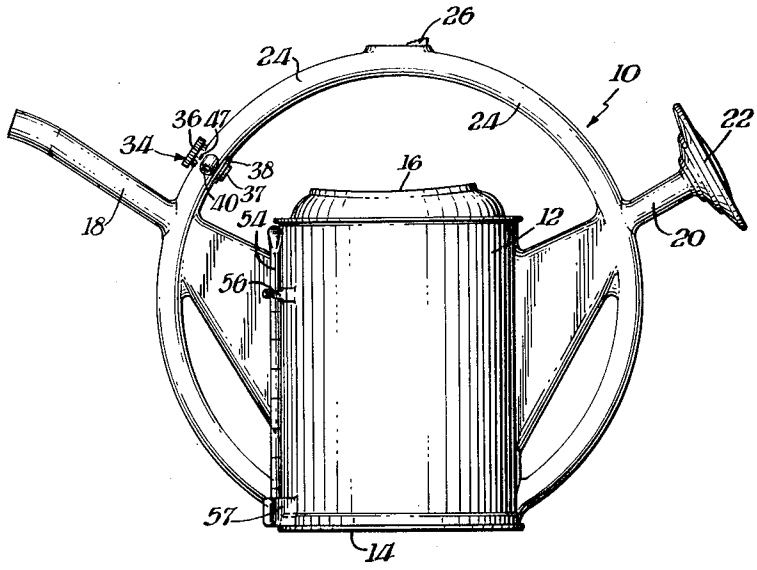


Fig. 2.

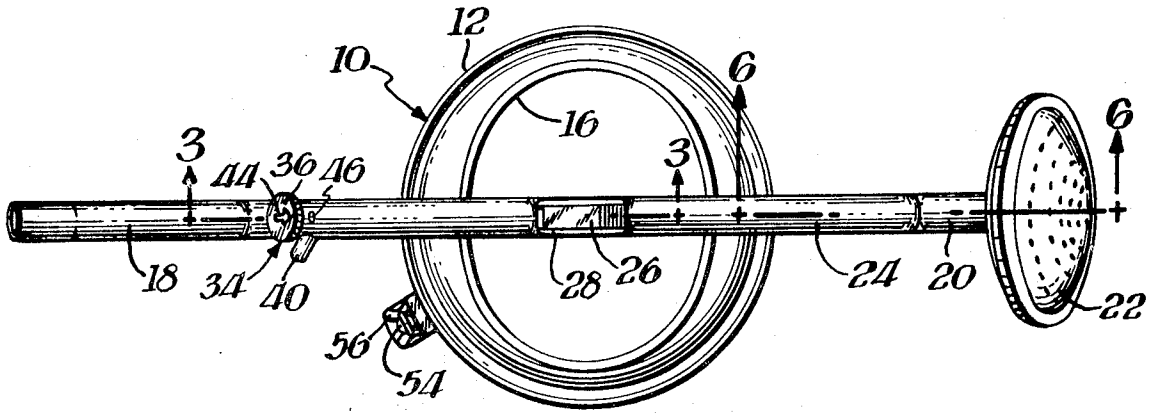
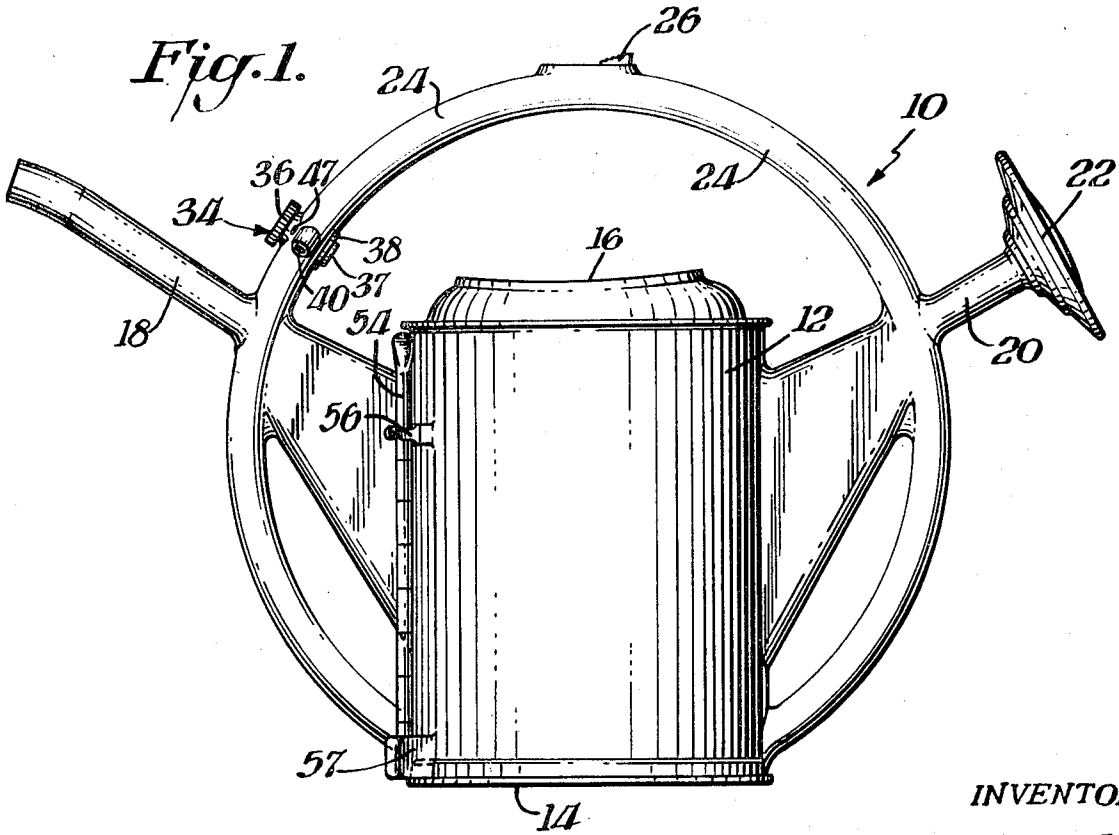


Fig. 1.



INVENTOR
Edward C. Grotz
BY
Samuel U. Abramo
ATTORNEY

Fig. 4.

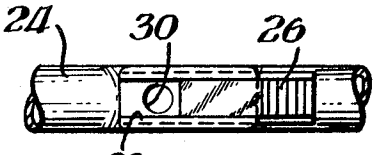


Fig. 5.

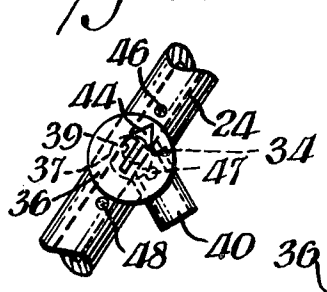


Fig. 3.

Fig. 6.

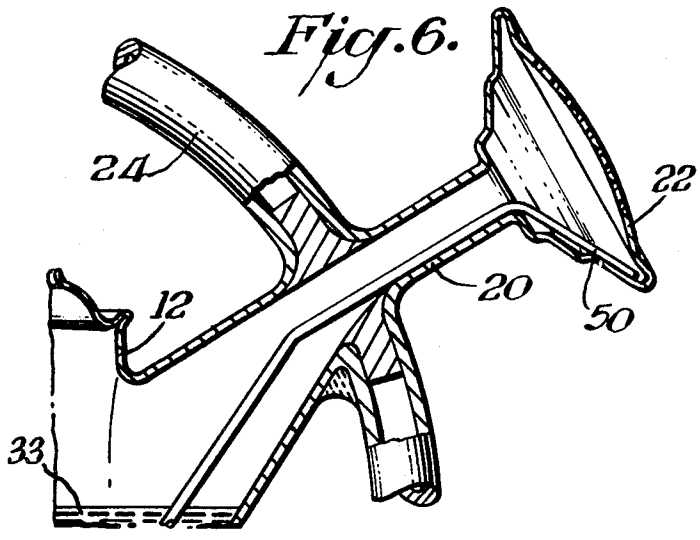
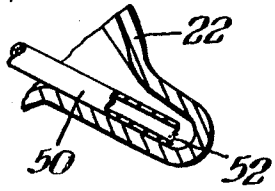


Fig. 7.



INVENTOR
Edward C. Grotz
BY
Samuel V. Abramo
ATTORNEY

WATERING CAN

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

This invention relates to hand-portable watering devices and more particularly is directed to a watering can which combines means for measuring powder, solid or liquid materials into the can, means for mixing and measuring the contents of the can, alternate solid stream or spray dispensing of the cans contents, and optionally a siphon drain for the liquid which collects to form a small pool inside the lower lip of the rosette spray head.

2. Description of the Prior Art

Watering cans have been known to the art for many years. Representative of the prior art cans are those disclosed for example in German Pat. No. 437,666 and French Pat. No. 716,040. However, there is a continuing need for improved watering cans which optimize the convenience of various gardening devices. Thus, for example, the watering can of this invention provides means for both solid stream and spray application of the can's contents; means for mixing other material with the liquid contents of the can; a means to reduce the corrosion of the rosette spray head; and a means to prevent dripping of retained water in the spray head when the water can is placed in an upright position.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In summary this invention is directed to a watering can comprising

a. a cylindrical body having a closed bottom, an open top, and openings at each of two opposite sides;

b. two spouts,

one each located at opposite sides of the body and communicating with the openings at the opposite sides of the body,

one spout comprising an unrestricted conduit, and the other spout comprising a conduit opening into a rosette spray head;

c. means fixed to the outside of said body for detachably mounting a rod, and said rod, suitable in length for stirring the contents of the body, and bearing graduated markings along its length for measuring the contents of the body; and

d. a circular shaped handle fixedly connected at opposite lower portions of the body, in the vertical plane of the openings at the opposite sides of the body;

passing up in a curved path on both sides of the body in the vertical plane of the spouts;

connecting with the spouts; and passing in a continuous arc over the top of the can

said handle having

an opening in its uppermost region;

closing means for said opening;

a hollow passage in communication with said opening and the interior of a spout; and

means for intermittent interruption of said communication.

This invention is further directed to the above described can wherein there is a hollow tube running from just inside the lower lip of the rosette spray head back down into the body, such that a siphon effect is exerted on liquid pooling inside the lower lip of the rosette spray head.

This watering can provides a means for dispensing either a solid stream or a spray of the liquid contents of the can, means for mixing other materials with the liquid contents of the can, and optionally a means for removing retained water in the spray head and minimize reducing dripping of this water from the rosette spray head.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

This invention is more easily understood by reference to the drawings wherein;

FIG. 1 is a side elevational view illustrating the physical appearance of an embodiment of this invention;

FIG. 2 is a top plane view of the embodiment illustrated in FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is a fragmented cross-sectional view illustrating the communicating hollow handle, means for interrupting the communicating passage, and a solid material, in the form of pellets being measured into the can;

FIG. 4 is a fragmented plane view of closing means for the opening in the upper region of the handle:

FIG. 5 is a fragmented plane view illustrating a three-way pellet dispensing index as means for interrupting the communicating passageway between the top of the handle and the spout;

FIG. 6 is a fragmented cross-sectional view illustrating the rosette spray head with the optional siphon-tube in place;

FIG. 7 is a fragmented cross-sectional view showing the screen-filtered siphon-tube of FIG. 6 in detail.

DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Referring now to the drawings in greater detail it is seen in FIG. 1 that the watering can **10** comprises a cylindrical body **12** closed at the bottom **14** with an opening **16** at the top. An unrestricted spout **18** provides a solid stream dispenser while the second spout **20** terminates in a rosette spray head **22**. The encircling handle **24** connects at opposite sides of the body in its lower region, passes up through the vertical plane of the spouts **18**, **20** and arcs over the open top **16** of the body. The opening in the top of the handle **24** is shown with a side latch **26**. Also shown in the handle **24** is the knurled head **36** of a closure-three-way dispenser means **34**, having a stem **37** and snapring **38**, with a discharge tube **40**, and a color indexing spot **47**. Also shown is the optional stirring/measuring rod **54** and its holding means **56**, **57**.

In FIG. **2** top view, the slide latch **26** is shown in greater detail with a latch guide way **28**. The knurled head **36** is also shown more clearly with an arrow pointer **44**.

In FIG. **3** is shown the hollow portion of the handle **24** with a detailed example of a solid dispensing device featuring a pellet inlet part **30** under the slide latch **26**. The pellets **32** are shown being added to the liquid **33** in the can by means of the phantom outlines **32***a*. The 3-way dispensing means **34** includes a knurled head **36**, stem **37**, snapring **38**, and recessed pocket **39**. The pellets **32** are shown stored in the hollow handle **49** which serves as a pellet storage area.

FIG. **4** shows a closeup top view of the top of handle **24** with the slide latch **26**, latch guideway **28** and pellet inlet part **30**.

FIG. **5** shows a closeup view of a dispensing means with a knurled head **36**, stem **37**, and recessed pocket **39**. Also shown is the discharge tube **40**, the indicating arrow **44** and color indexing spots **46**, **47** and **48** in the handle **24**.

In FIG. **6** is shown the optional siphon-tube **50** running from just inside the lower lip of the rosette spray **22** back down through the spout **20** into the liquid **33** in the can.

In FIG. **7** the siphon-tube **50** is shown just inside the lower lip of the rosette spray head **22** with a filter screen **52** over the end of the siphon-tube **50** to prevent plugging.

The device of this invention is useful for watering plants. The device provides water either as a spray or as a solid stream. A fertilizer water mixture can be formed and conveniently provided from the dispenser means. Alternatively, the dispenser means is in itself useful as a means of measuring a water soluble concentrated plant food pellet into water contained in the water can or the pellet can be dispensed for direct use in a potted plant.

As used in this application the rosette spray head or as it is sometimes known as a rose spray head conotates a spray head having a plurality of orifices which permits the flow of water as a broad spray. The water escapes from this spray head as a gentle spray for application directly to the foliage as well as the roots of a plant.

The siphon containing rosette spray head is particularly useful to minimize the loss of pooled water when the water can is placed in an upright nondispensing position. For example, the

water can equipped with siphon can be used indoors where dripping from the spray head might stain or otherwise mar floors and interior structures.

The dispenser has a first setting for engaging a plant food pellet when the arrow **44** is directed towards color indexing spot **46**, a second position for discharging the pellet out of the discharge tube **40** when the knurled head **36** is turned to position the arrow towards color index spot **47** and a third position for discharging the pellet directly into water contained in the can by turning the knurled head **36** towards color indexing spot **48**.

The foregoing detailed description has been given for clarity of understanding only and no unnecessary limitations are to be understood therefrom. The invention is not limited to the exact details shown and described for obvious modifications will occur to those skilled in the art.

The embodiments of this invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

1. A watering can comprising

a. a cylindrical body having a closed bottom, an open top, and openings at each of two opposite sides;

b. two spouts, one each located at opposite sides of the body and communicating with the openings at the opposite sides of the body, one spout comprising an unrestricted conduit, and the other spout comprising a conduit opening into a rosette spray head;

c. a circular shaped handle fixedly connected at opposite lower portions of the body, in the vertical plane of the spouts; connecting with the spouts; and passing in a continuous arc over the top of the can; said handle having an opening in its uppermost region; closing means for said opening; a hollow passage in communication with said opening and the interior of a spout; and

means for intermittent interruption of said communication.

2. The watering can of claim **1** wherein there is a hollow tube running from just inside the lower lip of the rosette head, back down into the body, such that a siphon effect is exerted on liquid pooling inside the lower lip of the rosette head.

3. The watering can of claim **1** wherein this is means fixed to the outside of said body for detachably mounting a rod, and said rod, suitable in length for stirring the contents of the body, and bearing graduated markings along its length for measuring the contents of the body.

4. The watering can of claim **3** is made of metal.

5. The watering can of claim **3** can be composed of polyethylene or polypropylene.

* * * * *