

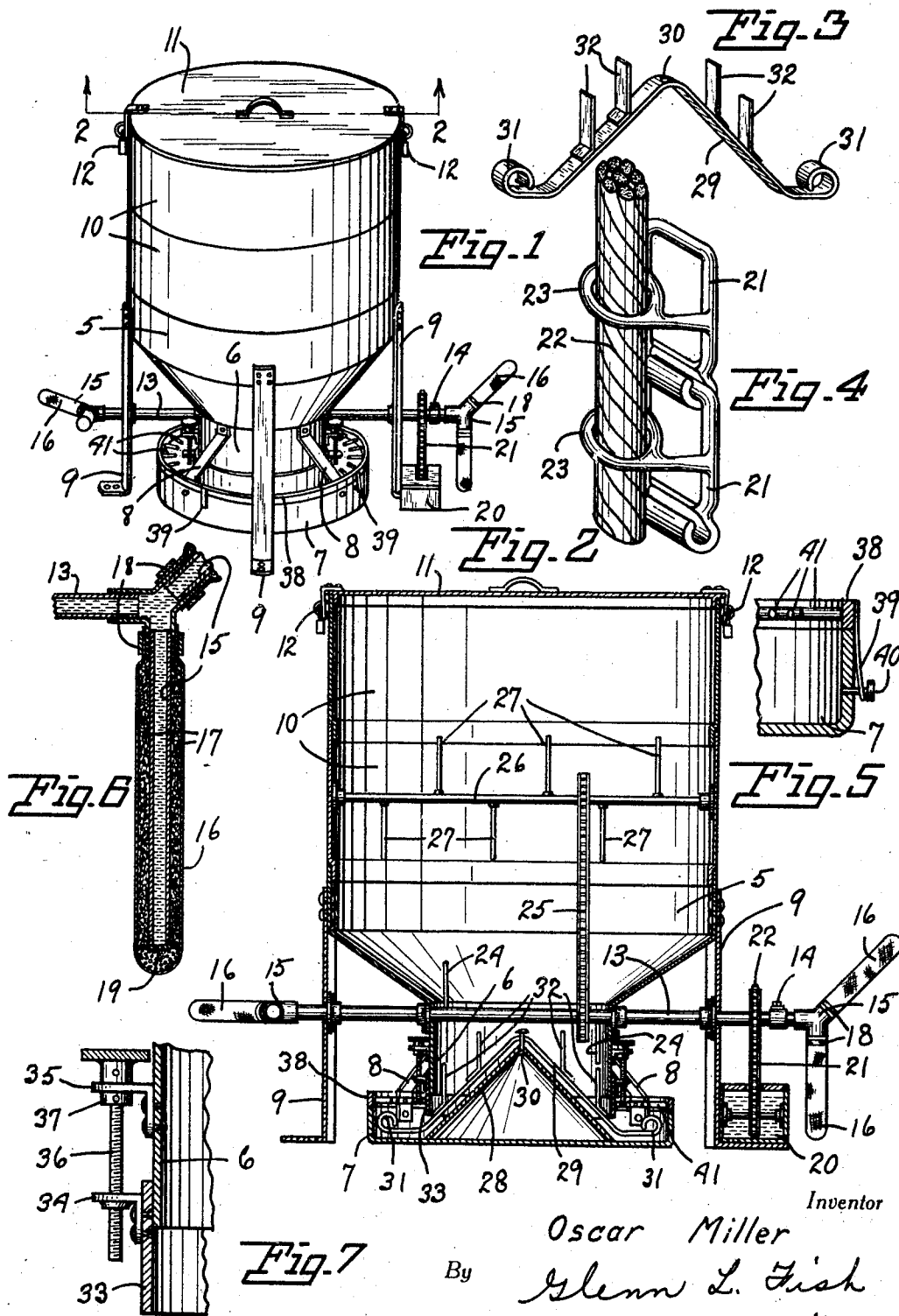
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PIG FEEDING AND OILING DEVICE

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My invention relates to pig feeding and oiling devices that are adapted to be placed within pig pens for the purpose of feeding pigs and applying oil to their bodies. In this invention advantage is taken of the pigs' liking and tendency to apply the oil to his body by rubbing against the oil applicator elements of the device and to utilize the motive power thus furnished for actuating the agitator elements whereby the feed is caused to gravitate to the feed trough. Other objects of the invention are to provide adjustable means for regulating the passage of the feed into the feed trough, means for preventing the pigs from rooting the feed out of the trough, and other novel details as hereinafter specified.

With the above and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention consists of the novel construction, adaptation, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter described and claimed. These objects are accomplished by devices illustrated in the accompanying drawings; wherein:—

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of the device as a whole;

Fig. 2 is a view in central vertical section of the same taken substantially on a broken line 2, 2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a detail view in perspective of the lower or angular agitator;

Fig. 4 is a detail view in perspective showing an auxiliary oiler rope and its associated sprocket chain;

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary view in vertical section showing the fender ring for the feed trough which prevents the pigs from rooting the feed out of the trough;

Fig. 6 is a detail view in longitudinal section of one of the main oiler tube devices; and

Fig. 7 is a detail view in vertical section showing the adjustable means for the tubular lip or feed control tube.

Referring to the drawings throughout which like reference numerals indicate like parts, the numeral 5 designates the hopper portion of the feed container or casing whose depending throat 6 is provided with an annular feed trough 7 that is secured in spaced

relation with the lower edge of said throat by bracket arms 8. Said hopper is supported on legs 9 and a plurality of tubular sections 10 are superimposed upon the hopper in order to increase the feed capacity of the container. A lid or cover 11 for the container may be locked in place, as at 12, in order to prevent piracy of the feed therein as will be understood.

A hollow shaft or pipe 13 is journaled through the hopper throat 6, adjacent the point of its joinder with the hopper 5, and also through the legs 9. Said hollow shaft is provided with a filling plug at 14 whereby said shaft may be filled with oil as shown in the drawings. Each exterior end of said shaft is provided with a forked pipe member 15 in communication with the hollow shaft so that the oil may flow freely into said forked pipe members. Referring to Fig. 6, the arms of said forked pipes are provided with cloth jackets 16 and the space between said forked pipes and jackets is filled with fabric packing or filler 17. Said cloth jackets are secured to the arms of the forked pipes by clamp rings 18 and apertures 19 in the ends of the pipe arms provide means whereby the fabric packings and jackets are saturated with oil.

The arms of the forked pipe members 15 are so angularly disposed and said two members are so disposed relative to each other that one arm thereof is always in such lowered position that it may be engaged by a pig at all times. In rubbing against said pipe arms they not only serve as a means for imparting the oil to the pig's body but also serve as motive power, created by the pig, to turn the hollow shaft 13. An auxiliary oiling means is provided for the device which comprises a small oil reservoir 20 secured to one of the legs 9 and having a sprocket wheel mounted therein with a sprocket chain 21 extending to another sprocket on the hollow shaft 13. As shown in Fig. 4, a rope 22 connected by bracket rings 23 to the links of said sprocket chain extends around said chain and raises the oil from said reservoir whereby it may be engaged by the pigs.

The hollow shaft 13 is provided with fingers 24 which serve to agitate the feed within

the hopper 5, and is also provided with a chain 25 extending from a sprocket wheel thereon to a corresponding wheel fixed on an agitator shaft 26 mounted within the upper tubular sections 10 of the container. Said agitator shaft is provided with a plurality of fingers 27 which together with the finger on the hollow shaft serve to agitate the feed therein whereby it will gravitate into the hopper throat 6. The annular feed trough 7 is centrally provided with an upstanding cone portion 28 which supports the bulk of the feed as will be understood.

The cone portion 28 of the feed trough 7 is provided with an angular agitator member 29, shown in detail in Fig. 3, which straddles said cone portion and is pivotally secured to its vertex at 30. The outer ends of said angular agitator extend into the outer or peripheral portion of the feed trough and are formed into loops 31 which are engaged by the nose of the pig when feeding from the trough thus causing said agitator to be turned on its axis. Said agitator is provided with a plurality of upstanding fingers 32 which stir the feed and cause it to move downwardly through the opening between the conical trough portion and the lower edge of the hopper throat 6.

Referring particularly to Fig. 7 of the drawings, I have provided adjustable means for regulating the passage of the feed downwardly between the conical trough portion 28 and the bottom edge of the hopper throat 6. Said means comprises a tubular lip 33 telescopically disposed on the lower portion of said hopper throat. Brackets 34 are secured to said lip and corresponding brackets 35 are secured to said hopper throat with a screw 36 passing through each of said brackets and swiveled to the upper or throat bracket by means of a collar 37 whereby the threaded portion of said screw passing through the lower or lip bracket will raise or lower the tubular lip when said screw is turned to permit free or restricted passage of the feed, as desired, into the outer annular or dished portion of the feed trough 7.

As a means for preventing the pigs from rooting the feed out of the trough 7 I have provided a fender ring 38 which fits on the top edge of said trough and is retained thereon by spring catches 39 secured to the ring and arranged to be held by pins 40 held into the side of the trough by the springs 39 as shown in detail in Fig. 5. Said ring is provided with a plurality of spikes 41 projecting radially into the trough which are adapted to be engaged by the pig's nose or snout and thus prevent him from lifting or rooting the feed out of the trough. Said ring may be readily removed for the purpose of cleaning the trough.

It will now be apparent that I have provided cooperative means whereby the oil ap-

plicator elements that are turned by the pigs furnish the motive power for actuating the flow of feed through the device, means for regulating the passage of the feed, and other novel details of construction. Having thus described my invention, it being understood that minor changes may be resorted to in its construction and arrangement without departing from the scope and spirit of the invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:—

1. A pig feeding and oiling device having in combination a feed container, a depending hopper for said container, a feed trough secured to and in spaced relation with the bottom discharge end of the hopper, a hollow oil containing shaft journaled through the hopper, a forked pipe member connected to each exterior end of the hollow shaft in communication therewith, said forked members having perforations in the ends of their arms, and fabric coverings for the forked pipe members adapted to be saturated by the oil therein.

2. A pig feeding and oiling device having in combination a feed container, a depending hopper for said container, a feed trough secured to and in spaced relation with the bottom discharge end of the hopper, means for adjustably regulating the space between the discharge end of the hopper and the trough, a hollow oil containing shaft journaled through the hopper, an agitator finger for said shaft, a forked pipe member connected to each exterior end of the hollow shaft, said forked members in communication with said hollow shaft and having perforations in the ends of their arms, and fabric jackets and filler secured around the forked pipe arms adapted to be saturated by the oil within the hollow shaft and forked pipe members.

3. A pig feeding and oiling device having in combination a sectional feed container, a depending hopper for said container, a feed trough secured to and in spaced relation with the discharge end of the hopper, means for adjustably regulating the space between the discharge end of the hopper and the trough, a hollow oil containing shaft journaled through the hopper, an agitator finger for said shaft, a forked pipe member connected to each end of the hollow shaft, said forked members in communication with said hollow shaft and having perforations in the ends of their arms, fabric jackets and filler secured around the forked pipe arms adapted to be saturated by the oil within the hollow shaft and forked pipe members, an auxiliary oiling means comprising an oil containing reservoir, a sprocket connection between said reservoir and the hollow shaft, a rope carried by said connection passing through the oil within the reservoir, an agitator member for the sectional portion of the feed container, and a sprocket connec-

tion between said agitator and the hollow shaft.

4. A pig feeding and oiling device having in combination a sectional feed container, a depending hopper for said container, a feed trough secured in spaced relation with the discharge end of the hopper, means for regulating the opening between the hopper discharge and trough, a central conical raised portion for the trough, an angular agitator pivotally straddling said conical portion, loop ends for said agitator extending into the peripheral portion of the trough, a fender ring detachably mounted on the upper edge of the trough and having inwardly projecting spikes, a hollow oil containing shaft journaled through the hopper, an agitator finger for said shaft, a forked pipe member secured to each end of the hollow shaft, said forked members in communication with said hollow shaft and having perforations in the ends of their arms, fabric jackets and filler secured around the forked pipe arms adapted to be saturated by the oil within the hollow shaft and forked pipe members, an auxiliary oiling means comprising an oil containing reservoir, a sprocket connection between said reservoir and hollow shaft, a rope carried by said sprocket means passing through the oil within the reservoir, an agitator for the sectional feed container, and a sprocket connection between said agitator and the hollow shaft.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

OSCAR MILLER.

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