May 10, 1949. W. QUINN 2,469,784

RABBIT OR ANIMAL TOILET

Filed July 7, 1944

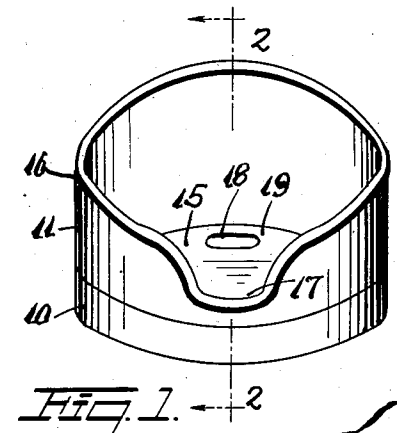


Fig. 1.

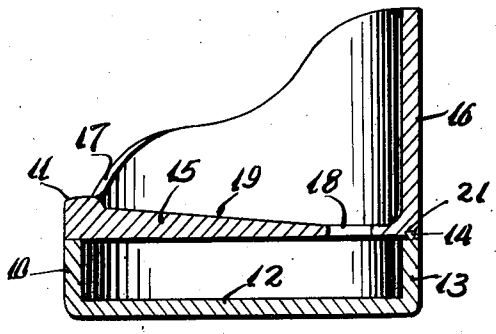


Fig. 2.

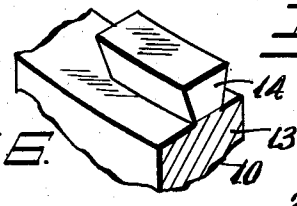


Fig. 6.

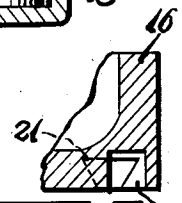


Fig. 5.

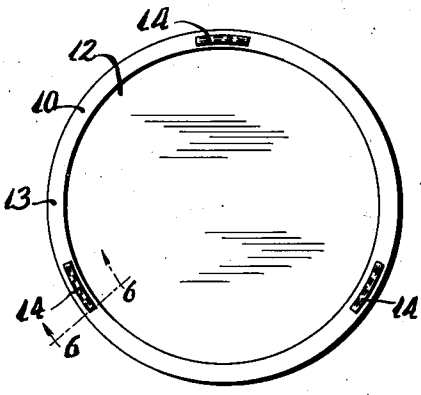


Fig. 3.

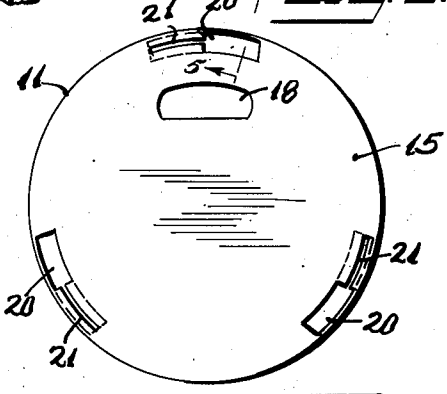


Fig. 4.

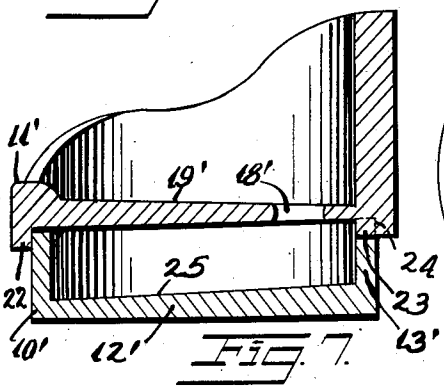


Fig. 7.

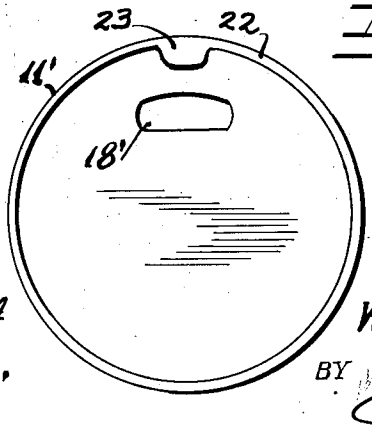


Fig. 8.

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RABBIT OR ANIMAL TOILET

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Application July 7, 1944, Serial No. 543,849

2 Claims. (Cl. 119—1)

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This invention relates to new and useful improvements in a hygienic rabbit or animal toilet.

More specifically, the invention proposes the construction of an animal toilet, such as a toilet for a rabbit hutch, characterized by a receiver for animal excreta and a seat for the animal provided with a hole opening into the receiver and a slanting floor directed downwardly toward the hole.

Still further it is proposed to provide a toilet as aforesaid having means for removably securing the toilet seat to the receiver.

Still further it is proposed to provide a toilet of the aforementioned type in which the receiver has a bottom wall slanting oppositely to the slanting seat floor.

For further comprehension of the invention, and of the objects and advantages thereof, reference will be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, and to the appended claims in which the various novel features of the invention are more particularly set forth.

In the accompanying drawings forming a material part of this disclosure:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a hygienic animal toilet constructed in accordance with this invention.

Fig. 2 is a central section of the toilet taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a plan view of the receiver, per se.

Fig. 4 is an inverted plan view of the seat, per se.

Fig. 5 is an enlarged fragmentary section on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is an enlarged fragmentary section on the line 6—6 of Fig. 3.

Fig. 7 is a section similar to Fig. 2 showing the toilet constructed in accordance with a modification of this invention.

Fig. 8 is an inverted plan of the seat of Fig. 7.

The animal toilet, constructed in accordance with this invention, comprises a receiver 10 and a seat member 11 removably secured thereto. The receiver 10 is of round dish-shape and includes a bottom wall 12 and an upstanding cylindrical wall 13 formed on the upper edge thereof with three equidistant dove-tail tongues 14, each tongue 14 being curved concentric with the wall 13 and being relatively short in length.

Seat member 11 has a floor 15 surrounded for the greater part of its circumference by an upstanding wall 16. Wall 16 at the rear reaches its greatest height and from this point slants downwardly toward the front where it blends into the floor 15 leaving a narrow entrance way 17.

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A hole 18 is formed in the floor 15 and opens into the receiver 10. Floor 15 has a top face 19 which slants rearwardly toward the hole 18.

Three equidistant rectangular recesses 20 are formed in the bottom face of the floor 15, and a dove-tail groove 21 extends from each of these recesses. Recesses 20 are adapted to mate with tongues 14 so that seat member 11 may rest securely on the top edge of the receiver 10. By rotating the seat member 11 relative to the receiver 10 the tongues can be caused to move into the grooves 21, thereby removably securing the seat member 11 to the receiver 10 so that they form a unit which can be picked up as one piece, and which will not become separated by antics of the animals in the cage in which the unit is used.

The operation of this form of device is as follows:

It is well known that a rabbit living in a hutch will make a habit of excreting his body wastes in one corner of the hutch. This has the disadvantage of wetting the hutch, making it dirty, carrying disease, and smelling and infecting other and adjacent hutches, especially a hutch in a tier immediately beneath the hutch in question. The present invention is directed toward providing a toilet which may be disposed in such a corner, the toilet being constructed to be hygienic and to be attractive to the rabbit and therefore to be utilized by it.

The toilet aforedescribed is so designed as to automatically operate correctly with dumb animals. It is well known that a rabbit is attracted to a nest or any similar retreat or shelter in a hutch. Very often a rabbit in a hutch will seek shelter in a feeding dish or the like. The present toilet is provided with an entrance way 17 opposite the opening 18, the rest of the toilet being surrounded by the wall 16. Thus a rabbit entering the toilet must enter through the entrance way 17. It is natural with rabbits to always sit facing the opening of the retreat in which they have sought shelter. This is an inherent trait of rabbits and it is taken advantage of here so that when the rabbit is sitting on the seat member 11, his excretory organs will be disposed in the vicinity of the hole 18. Thus his excreta, both urine and pellets, will be dropped through the hole 18 into the receiver 10 which will be large enough to take several days excreta. The receiver forms an ideal receptacle for pellets and urine, preventing contamination of the hutch and providing simple means for collecting the pellets for use as fertilizer.

The slanting face 19 of floor 15 assures that the

excreta will ultimately drop through hole 18 into the receiver 10 even though it is first deposited on the seat member floor. The dove-tail tongue and groove connections, as aforedescribed, provide a simple means for removably securing the seat member 11 and receiver 10 so that they may not be accidentally separated by the rabbit.

While, as aforedescribed, it is natural for a rabbit to utilize the toilet of the present invention, this utilization may be enhanced in the first instance by depositing some excreta in the receiver, the rabbit then following another natural characteristic of depositing his excreta successively in the same place.

In the modification of the invention shown in Figs. 7 and 8, the construction of the toilet is similar to that previously described except that the seat member 11' has an annular flange 22 which surrounds the receiver 10', and a tongue 23 which fits in a groove 24 formed in the wall 13' of the receiver. Tongue 23 and groove 24 assure that seat member 11' may properly be associated with receiver 10' in only one position. Seat member 11' has a slanting face 19' directed toward a hole 18' and the bottom wall 12' of receiver 10' has a top face 25 which slants in a reverse direction from the the face 19'. Thus when excreta drops through hole 18' onto the face 25, it flows or rolls away from the hole 18' so that a pile does not form under hole 18' and block the entrance of further excreta.

While the toilet has been described in relation to its operation as a toilet for use in a rabbit hutch, it may of course be employed as a toilet for other types of animals. It may be made of any suitable non-porous material such as plastic, pottery, glass or metal.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred embodiments of my invention, it is to be understood that I do not limit myself to the precise constructions herein disclosed and the right is reserved to all changes and modifications coming within the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by United States Letters Patent, is:

1. A hygienic rabbit or animal toilet comprising a bottom waste container having a floor and an upstanding circular wall, and an animal housing receptacle having a circular animal concealing wall of the same approximate diameter as the circular wall of said waste container, said receptacle having an open top, said animal concealing wall being provided with a narrow entrance way near one side and progressively increasing in height from each side of said entrance way to a high point opposite said entrance way, said animal housing receptacle having a floor spaced above the floor of the waste container and provided with a discharge opening for waste located adjacent to the high point of said animal concealing wall, whereby an animal will be caused

to rest on said floor of said housing receptacle with its head adjacent the entrance way and with its body discharge openings located adjacent the waste discharge opening of said housing receptacle floor, the animal housing receptacle being detachably mounted on the waste container and interlocked against accidental separation.

2. A hygienic toilet for rabbits and animals comprising a bottom waste container having a floor and an upstanding circular wall, equally spaced dovetailed projections formed on the top edge of said circular wall, and an animal housing receptacle having an open top and a floor seating on said circular wall of said waste container, said floor of said receptacle being formed in its bottom face with equally spaced dovetailed grooves in which said dovetailed projections are received, said receptacle being formed with an upstanding circular wall formed with an entrance way in one side thereof and increasing progressively in height from each side of said entrance way to a high point opposite said entrance way, said floor of said receptacle being sloped downward from said entrance way and having a low point formed with a discharge hole adjacent the high point of the circular wall of said receptacle, the floor of said receptacle being spaced above the floor of said waste container so that waste dropping through said discharge hole will collect in the space between said floors, each of said dovetailed grooves continuing at one end into a recess into which said dovetailed projections can be engaged by turning said receptacle relative to said waste container, whereby said receptacle can be separated from said container to permit waste collected in said container to be spilled therefrom by turning said receptacle relative to said container aligning said dovetailed projections with said recesses freeing said receptacle to be lifted off said container.

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