S. C. & J. E. WOLFE.

POULTRY COOLING AND DISPLAY RACK.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 16, 1912.

1,108,055. Patented Aug. 18, 1914.

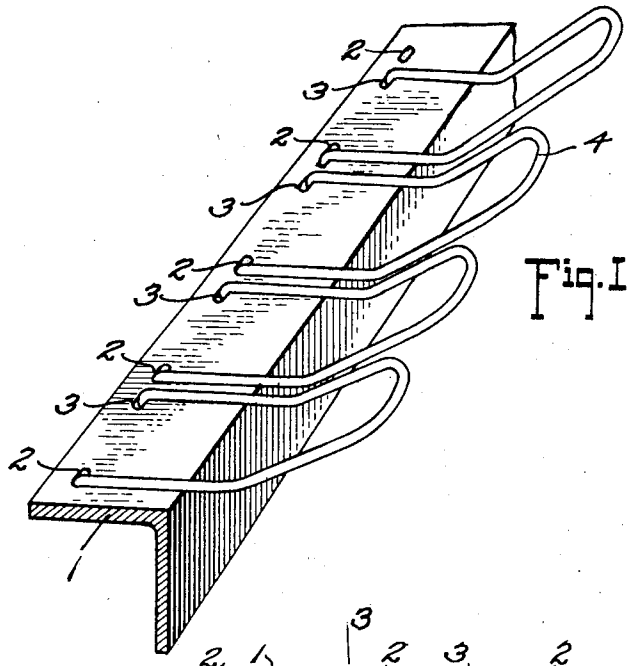


Fig. 1.

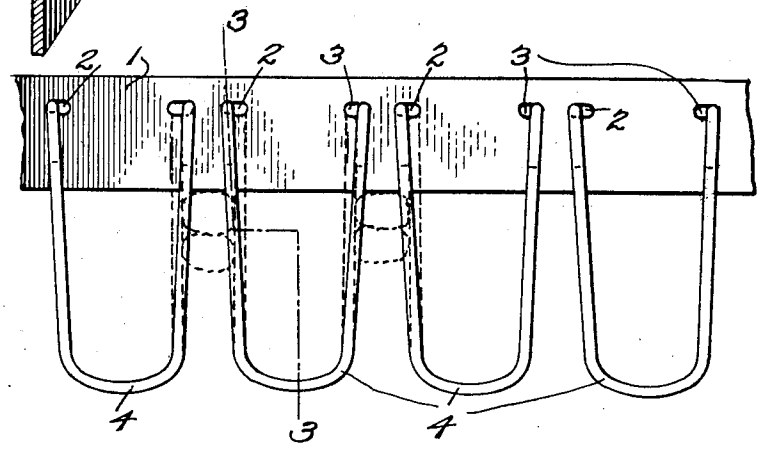


Fig. 2.

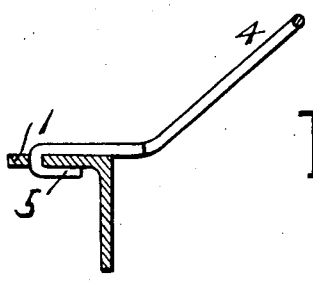


Fig. 3.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL C. WOLFE AND JOHN E. WOLFE, OF ANGOLA, INDIANA.

POULTRY COOLING AND DISPLAY RACK.

1,108,055. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 18, 1914.

Application filed December 16, 1912. Serial No. 737,109.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, SAMUEL C. WOLFE and JOHN E. WOLFE, citizens of the United States, residing at Angola, in the county of Steuben and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Poultry Cooling and Display Racks, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in poultry cooling and display racks, particularly of the type set forth in United States Letters Patent No. 1,020,575.

The primary object in view is the provision of resilient supports adapted to be readily sprung for accommodating and effectively engaging the supported parts.

A further and more detail object is the peculiar and effective mounting of supporting fingers insuring their maintenance in their general given positions while accommodating movements of parts thereof for enabling a resilient grasp of the parts to be supported.

With these and further objects in view the invention comprises the combination with a supporting bar disposed substantially horizontally, of spring fingers sustained thereby and each comprising a loop of resilient material having the ends of the material engaging and shiftable longitudinally of the supporting bar.

The invention further comprises the combination with a supporting bar having spaced slots, of a spring finger outstanding from the bar and formed of a loop of resilient material with the end portions of the material extending through the slots and bent upon the bar for sustaining the finger in position.

The invention also comprises certain other novel constructions, combinations and arrangements of parts as will be hereinafter specified and claimed.

In the accompanying drawing: Figure 1 is a sectional perspective view of a fragment of a rack embodying the features of the present invention. Fig. 2 is a top plan view thereof. Fig. 3 is a transverse vertical section taken substantially on the planes indicated by line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Referring to the drawing by numerals, 1 indicates a supporting bar which, as illustrated, is preferably of the angle iron type and which may be mounted on any suitable support and arranged in any preferred manner, as by being disposed in the form of a supporting rack of the type disclosed in the above identified patent. The bar 1 is preferably disposed with one of its webs horizontal and the other vertical and pendent, and the horizontal web is formed with pairs of slots 2, 3, the slots of each pair being spaced apart a distance substantially equal to the width of a supporting finger 4. Each finger 4 is preferably formed of resilient wire or other spring material bent into a projecting loop, which loop forms the finger, and the end portions of the wire or material are extended through the slots 2, 3 of the respective set and bent into return hook portions 5, 5 beneath the horizontal web of the bar 1, the shanks of the loop adjacent the slots 2, 3 being disposed to lie upon the upper face of the bar 1 and being bent upwardly at a slight angle substantially at the edge of the bar so that each of the loops 4 outstands laterally from the bar and extends on an incline upwardly therefrom. It is to be noted that the said shanks are disposed substantially parallel to the return or hook portions 5 with the space between the shanks and hook portions just sufficient to accommodate the interposed web of the bar 1 so that while the shanks of the loop are free to slide laterally along the slots 2, 3 they are firmly sustained against allowing the projecting portion of the finger to be lowered or drop below the upwardly outstanding position. Each slot 3 is disposed adjacent the slot 2 of the next adjacent pair of slots so that a relatively narrow space is left between either shank of any loop 4 and the adjacent shank of the adjacent loop, the space therebetween being adapted to be increased when desired by springing the respective adjacent shanks apart with a resultant contracting or narrowing of the affected loops, the shanks traveling during such movement along the respective slots. It is further to be observed that the formation of the fingers of loops 4 as loops is such that each loop tapers toward its outer end and therefore the space between adjacent loops is flared outwardly, thus facilitating the introduction of an object between any two of the loops.

In operation, the poultry is applied to the rack merely by pressing the legs of the fowls between the several fingers with their bodies pendent. It is to be noted that in thrusting the legs between any two of the fingers, the shanks of the respective loops spring apart

sufficiently to accommodate the legs but do so under spring tension which causes the said shanks to grip the legs and firmly hold the same so that the feet cannot possibly escape downwardly between the fingers. To remove any particular fowl, it is only necessary to grasp the body or other part and draw the same laterally away from the rack, the legs sliding out from between the particular pair of fingers and allowing the shanks thereof to move toward each other within the limits of the engaged slots.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:—

In a poultry rack, the combination of a bar having a horizontal web, a series of spring fingers sustained by said bar, each having a portion of the loop resting on the upper face of the horizontal web and a portion bent to extend outwardly and upwardly on an incline from the outer edge of the horizontal web, the said horizontal web being formed with a pair of slots for each loop and the shanks of the loop being extended through the slots and bent to a position having a purchase on the horizontal web, and a sliding engagement therewith, the several fingers being disposed sufficiently adjacent each other for enabling any two adjacent fingers to coöperate in supporting a weight interposed between the two.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

SAMUEL C. WOLFE.
JOHN E. WOLFE.

Witnesses:
JAMES CRAM,
W. C. FINK.