

A. V. CRONK.
INSECT DESTROYER.
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1,065,782.

Patented June 24, 1913.

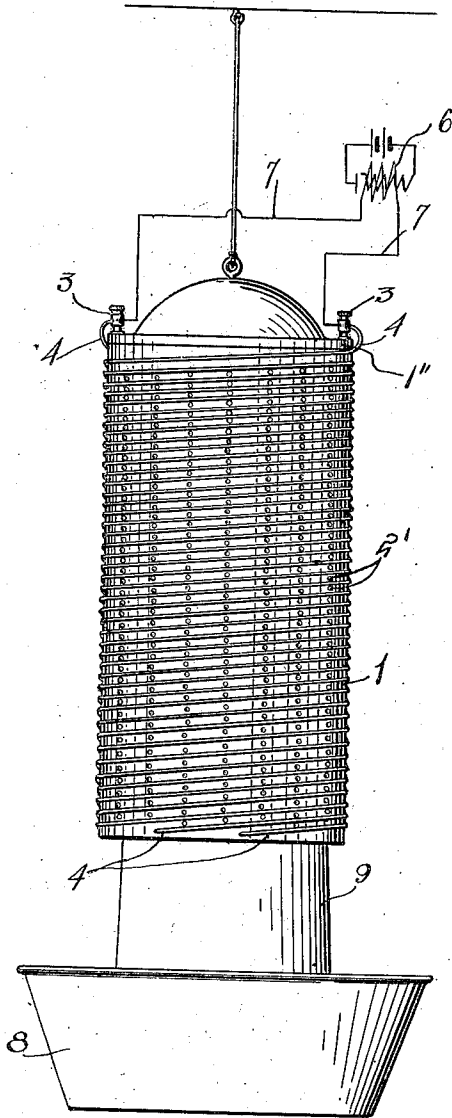


Fig. I.

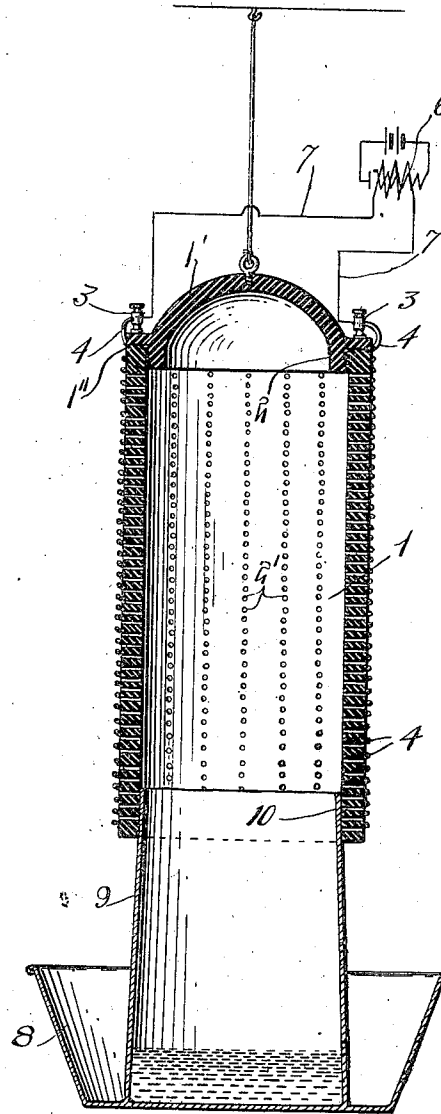


Fig. 2.

Witnesses
J. C. Simpson
Arthur J. Johnson

Inventor
A. V. Cronk

By Harry Ellis Chandler

Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ADOLPHUS V. CRONK, OF BURWELL, NEBRASKA.

INSECT-DESTROYER.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ADOLPHUS V. CRONK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Burwell, in the county of Garfield and State of Nebraska, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Insect-Destroyers, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention is directed to insect destroyers, and has for its object to produce a device of this character so constructed that an electric current is passed through the bodies of the insects in their attempt to reach the bait, thus instantly killing them.

A further object of the invention is to construct the device in a simple and practical manner, the same being particularly designed for use in dwellings equipped with electrical wiring.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in certain novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts as will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the drawing: Figure 1 is a side elevation of the device, the same being equipped with a plug for engagement with a socket. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of the device.

The device consists of a hollow cylindrical body 1 formed from insulating material, such for instance, as glass, rubber, wood or papier-mâché, the body being closed at its upper end by a cap 1', said cap having an annular flange 1'', which rests upon the upper edge of the body, and has its depending flange 2 formed for threaded engagement with said body. A plurality of rows of perforations 2' are formed in the body 1, said perforations being alined and vertically spaced, the purpose of which will be hereinafter described.

Suitably secured to the upper surface of the flange 1' are binding posts 3. Leading from each binding post and encircling the outer surface of the body 1 is a wire 4, said wires being spirally wound, and in the same direction, the lower terminals of said wires being secured in the body 1 near the bottom thereof, thus forming a normally open circuit.

The wires 4 are wound in such a manner as to be spaced a short distance apart and in parallel relation so that each perforation 2 forming a row will lie in the space between the wires.

An induction coil 6 is provided, and leading therefrom are wires 7 which connect to the binding posts 3. The induction coil 6 may be connected to batteries or to a suitable source of electrical energy, as desired.

The device further includes a pan 8, formed from sheet metal. Rising from the center of the pan 8 is a tubular receptacle 9, the same tapering toward its upper end, as indicated at 10, so that the lower end of the tubular body 1 may pass thereover and frictionally engage the beveled upper end of the member 9, to support said body, when the device is to be placed upon a table or other support. As the body 1 and tubular receptacle 9 are frictionally engaged, it is obvious that the body 1 may be suspended from the ceiling of a room in any suitable manner, the frictional engagement between the parts 1 and 9 being sufficient to maintain their mutual engagement.

When in use a quantity of bait, preferably in liquid form is poured into the receptacle 9. The bait referred to may be molasses, honey, or any fluid which tends to attract flies.

From this construction it will be understood that when a fly is attracted to the device by the odor of the bait passing through the perforations 2 it will in approaching a perforation to gain access to the bait, alight between the wires. It is found in practice that there is a resultant short circuiting of the wires 2 through the body of the fly until electrocution of the insect which falls into the pan 8.

It is obvious from this construction that the same may be used with equal success in orchards for exterminating moths and the like, it being only necessary that the bait receptacle and pan be removed and an electric bulb be placed within the body 1 to attract the insects.

What is claimed is:

An electrical insect destroyer, comprising a hollow cylindrical body having a plurality of rows of vertically alined perforations formed therein, a pair of wires wound spirally around the body in the same direction, and secured to the lower end of the body each perforation of each row being positioned between the wires, a cap for closing the upper end of the body said wires being connected to the cap, and to a source of induced electrical energy leading to said cap, and a bait receptacle having a tapered up-

per end adapted for insertion in the lower end of the body, to close the same so that the fumes from the bait will arise from the receptacle and pass through the perforations to attract the insects to the body, said bait receptacle being supported in a pan for catching the dead insects.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature, in the presence of two witnesses.

ADOLPHUS V. CRONK.

Witnesses:

FRANCIS BOYLE,
H. ELLIS CHANDLEE.