

No. 710.433.

Patented Oct. 7, 1902.

J. COUDON.
DECOY DUCK.

(Application filed May 24, 1901. Renewed Feb. 21, 1902.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

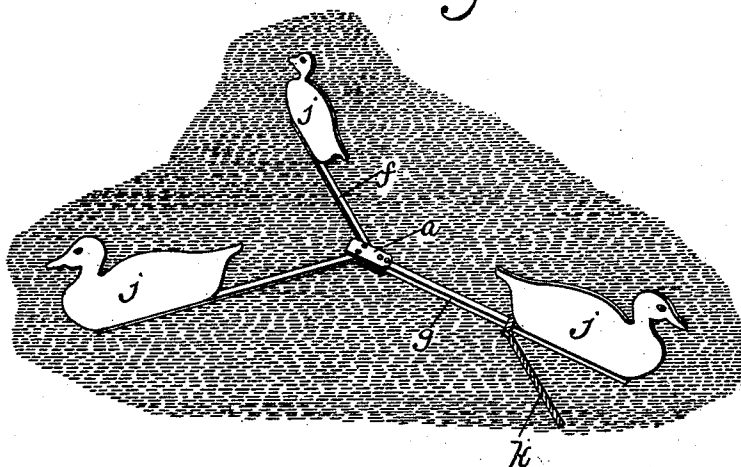


Fig. 2.

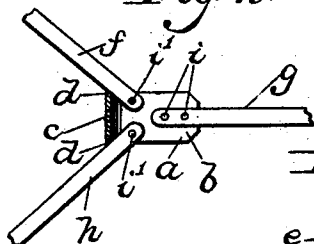


Fig. 3.

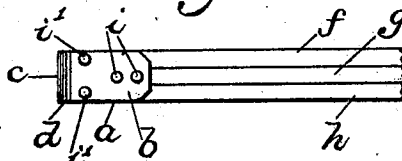


Fig. 4.

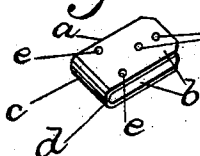
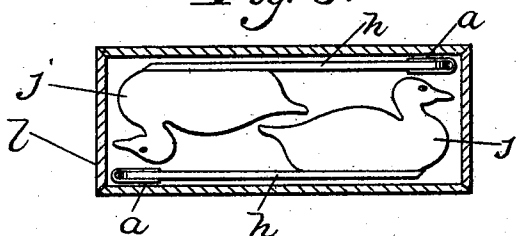


Fig. 5.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH COUDON, OF AIKEN, MARYLAND.

DECOY-DUCK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 710,433, dated October 7, 1902.

Application filed May 24, 1901. Renewed February 21, 1902. Serial No. 95,010. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH COUDON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Aiken P. O., in the county of Cecil and State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Decoy-Ducks, of which the following is a specification.

This invention is an improvement in devices for decoying ducks for shooting purposes; and its object is to provide a floating decoy-duck support which is capable of being folded up into a comparatively small space for handling and transportation and which may be spread out and support the decoy-ducks in the water in life-like position.

The invention consists in certain constructions, arrangements, and combinations of parts hereinafter fully described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the decoy-duck device in practical use, illustrating three decoy-ducks carried by the floating foldable support. Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail sectional plan view illustrating the means whereby the three folding support-rods are pivotally connected together. Fig. 3 is a detail plan view illustrating the said rods folded against each other. Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of the head to which said rods are connected. Fig. 5 is a horizontal sectional view of a box, illustrating the arrangement of several sets of decoys packed for transportation.

Referring to the drawings, the letter *a* designates the head of the support, which head in this instance is a plate of strong but light metal formed into U shape with upper and lower spaced-apart members *b* and transverse member *c*, whose side edges *d* form stop-shoulders for a purpose hereinafter described. Both the upper and lower members *b* of the head *a* are provided with apertures *e*; and the ends of three buoyant rods *f*, *g*, and *h*, preferably of wood, are held between said members by rivets *i*, passed through said apertures and said rod ends, as indicated in Figs. 2 and 3. The middle rod *g* of the three is rigidly secured to the said head *a* by two or more rivets *i*; but the other two rods *f* and *h* are pivotally connected to said head by a rivet *i*, one rod being on each side of

the rigid rod *g*, so that the said two pivoted rods may be spread out with respect to the rigid rod, as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2, or may be folded against said latter rod, as illustrated in Fig. 3. The stop-shoulders *d* on the head limit the outward or spreading movement of the pivoted rods, as best seen in Fig. 2.

On the free end of each of the rods *f*, *g*, and *h* is secured a decoy-duck *j*, and an anchor-rope *k* is attached to the rigid rod *g*.

When the device is in use, the pivoted rods are spread out, as shown in Fig. 1, and as the anchor-rope *k* is attached to the rigid rod *g* said rod will be kept up to the wind and tide, and therefore the wind and tide will tend to hold the other two rods fully spread apart and against the two stop-shoulders *d*. When the device is not in use, the rods are folded together, as indicated in Figs. 3 and 5, so that all three decoy-ducks will lie at all points against one another, and they will not be so liable to breakage as they would be if a portion of one decoy-duck projected beyond the margin of another. When the rods carrying the decoy-ducks are folded up, they may be nested in a comparatively small box *l*, as shown in Fig. 5.

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

1. A device for decoying ducks, comprising a head, *a*; a plurality of rods sundry of which are pivotally connected to said head whereby they may be spread out or folded together; and decoy-ducks secured to said rods, as set forth.

2. A device for decoying ducks, comprising a head, *a*; a buoyant rod, *g*, rigidly secured to said head; buoyant rods, *f*, and *h*, pivotally secured to said head; and a decoy-duck secured to each of said rods, as set forth.

3. A device for decoying ducks, comprising a head provided with stop-shoulders; a buoyant rod rigidly secured to said head; two other buoyant rods pivotally connected to said head, one on each side of said rigid rod, and adapted to be spread out, being limited in the direction to spread out by contact with said stop-shoulders; and a decoy-duck secured to each rod, as set forth.

4. A device for decoying ducks, comprising

a head in the form of a U-shape metal plate, provided with upper and lower spaced-apart members, and a cross member connecting the upper and lower members, the side edges of
5 said cross member forming stop-shoulders; a buoyant rod rigidly secured at one end between said upper and lower members; two other buoyant rods pivotally connected at one end to said head and between said upper
10 and lower members, and adapted to contact with said stop-shoulders whereby to limit the

outward or spreading movement of said pivoted rods; a decoy-duck secured to each of the three rods; and an anchor-rope attached to the rigid rod, as set forth.

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

JOSEPH COUDON.

Witnesses:

CHARLES L. VIETSCH,
FREDERICK S. STITT.