Dec. 26, 1944. L. M. BUFTON 2,365,862

FEEDER

Filed July 26, 1943

Fig. 1.

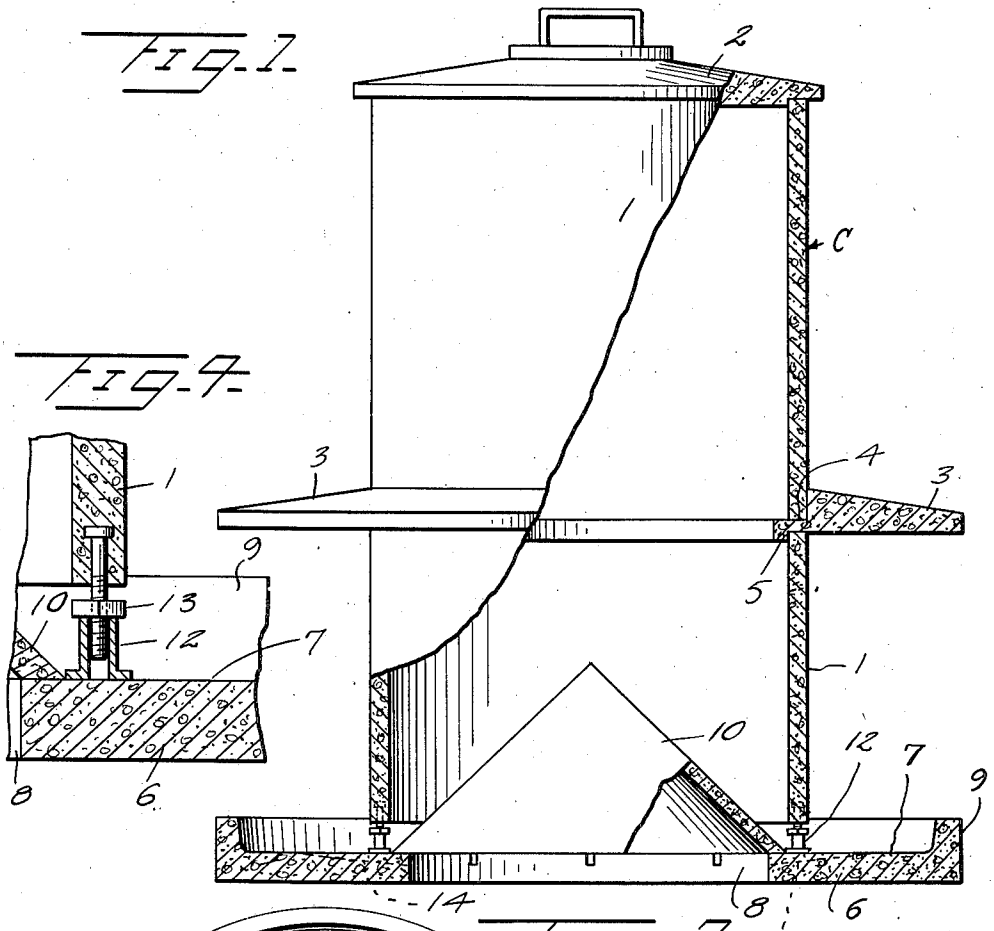
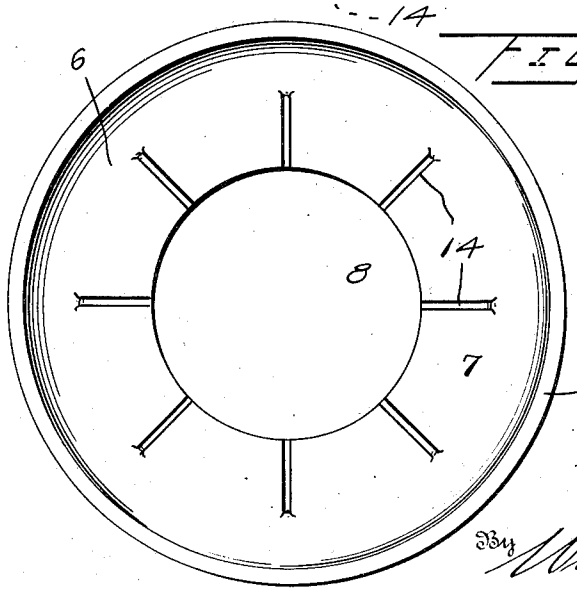


Fig. 4.

Fig. 2.



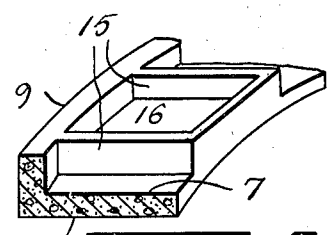


Fig. 3.

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FEEDER

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Application July 26, 1943, Serial No. 496,212

1 Claim. (Cl. 119—53)

This invention is directed to an improvement in feeders, designed more particularly, but not necessarily limited to the feeding of poultry, hogs, and the like.

The primary object of the present invention is the provision of a feeder of the type in which the feeding platform and the food holder may be relatively adjusted to predetermine the volume and speed of food delivered to the platform in accordance with the character of the food and the requirements of the fowl or animal being fed.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a feeder in which the feeding platform is physically divided into sections, each of which is provided with its individual cover, whereby the feeding of a particular class or character of recipient may be controlled in accordance with its needs.

A further object of the invention is the provision of drainage openings or channels in the feeding platform, to discharge any excess liquid from the food.

A further object is the provision of a roof or canopy to overlie and protect the food on the feeding platform, with such roof being removable at will and serving when in use to interfit with and secure superimposed sections of the food container.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a view in elevation, partly in section, of the improved feeder.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the feeding platform.

Fig. 3 is a broken perspective view, showing the division of the feeding platform.

Fig. 4 is an enlarged sectional detail, showing the means for adjusting the feed-delivery outlet to the platform.

The improved feeder comprises a cylindrical food container C, preferably formed of cylindrical bodies 1, designed for superimposed positioning, with the uppermost body or section provided with a removable cover 2. The sections are preferably held in desired relation by a roof section for the feeding platform, such roof 3 being in the form of an annular body having a top inside recess 4 to receive the bottom edge of the upper container section, and a bottom inside flange having a downturned shoulder rib 5 to fit over the lower container section. The notches provide abrupt shoulders to prevent relative lateral shifting of the upper and lower container sections. The roof may, if desired be dispensed with, in which event, if two container sections are used, they may be interfitted and held in any conventional manner.

The feeding platform 6 is concentric with the lower container section 1, and is of greater diameter than such section to provide a feeding area 7 beyond such section 1. The feeding platform has a discharge opening 8 at its center, and an upstanding edge margin rail 9, serving as a guard to prevent displacement of the food.

A conical director 10 is arranged within the lower section 1 of the container, with its apex upward and its lower end of a diameter substantially equal to the diameter of the lower section of the container. The conical director is designed to rest on the feeding platform 6, over and extending beyond the edge of the discharge opening 8 therein, and serves obviously to direct food moving through the container by gravity to the feeding area 7 of the feeding platform.

It is desirable and at times important to regulate the flow of food to the feeding platform in accordance with the character of that food or of its user. To provide for this result in a simple and conveniently controlled manner, the construction shown more particularly in Fig. 4 is employed. This construction includes a threaded rod or bolt 11, having its head embedded in the lower margin of the lower container section, and with its threaded length extending below such container section. A sleeve 12 is mounted on or embedded in the feeding platform to slidably receive the threaded length of the bolt. A nut 13, having threaded cooperation with the bolt and bearing on the upper end of the sleeve 12, will obviously, when turned, adjust the bolt 11 relative to the sleeve in either direction, and thus move the lower margin of the lower section 1 of the container closer to or farther from the feeding area 8 of the feeding platform 6. Thus the volume and speed of delivery of the food may be directly and simply controlled as conditions require.

Of course any desired number of adjusting means may be provided, and all necessary adjustment is provided by simply turning the nuts 13 by hand to the necessary degree. The feeding platform is provided within the feeding area 7 with channels 14, inclining downwardly toward and opening into the discharge opening 8 of the feeding platform. This will provide for discharge of any excess moisture in the food as delivered or as accumulating incident to the feeding.

In particular uses of the feeder, as is contemplated, it may be desirable to divide the feeding area 7, and more or less control the use of the

feeder. To this end the feeding area may be provided with low partitions 15, defining feeding spaces 16, separated from each other, and, in particular uses, such separated feeding areas may be closed, through the use of suitable covers to limit the area of the platform open to feeding.

The construction as a whole provides a feeder which is simple with the parts so arranged that it may be easily assembled or taken apart for cleaning or repair. The food may be simply and readily controlled in volume and speed of delivery, and certain areas of the platform cut off from feeding when desired.

What is claimed as new, is:

A poultry or like feeder, comprising a sectional container, a feeding platform extending beneath and of a diameter exceeding that of the container, and a roof for the platform, said roof being notched to receive and interfit with the sections of the container.

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