

1,358,629.

A. R. FLINK.
SEAL FOR SILOS.
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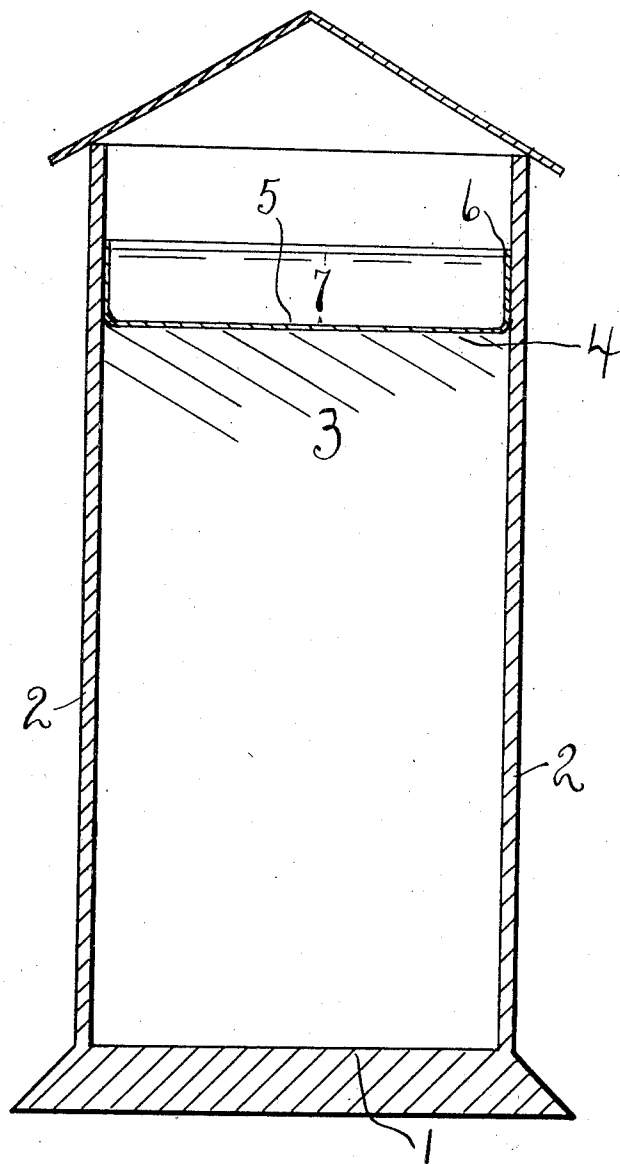


Fig. 1.

WITNESSES

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SEAL FOR SILOS.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALLEN R. FLINK, of the city of La Salle, county of La Salle and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Seals for Silos, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in seals for silos and the object of my improvement is to produce a simple and effective seal for silos, one which is very simple in construction, can be readily applied and will preserve the material in first-class condition.

I attain this object by the means illustrated in the accompanying drawing in which;

The figure is a vertical section of a silo.

In the drawings 1 represents the bottom of the usual silo and 2 the walls of same. 3 is the material or silage which it is intended to seal and preserve. In my invention I use a flexible tank 4 and place it on top of the material of the silo as shown and then fill the tank with water 7 which may have or may not have salts dissolved in it to keep it sweet and also to keep it from freezing in cold weather. 5 is the bottom of my flexible tank which can be made of rubber, prepared canvas or other flexible waterproof material. 6 is the vertical part of said tank.

The flexible tank is preferably a little larger in diameter than the inside diameter of the silo so that when the tank is filled with a suitable liquid the pressure of the liquid will press the vertical part of the tank against the inside of the silo and thus thoroughly exclude the air and thereby keep or preserve the contents of the silo intact.

It is well known that heretofore in silos the first few feet of material near the top surface of the stored material always spoiled or decayed, with the result that this always was lost for feeding purposes and if stored for a considerable time the loss from this cause was a very large item to the farmer. My invention will prevent this loss.

To remove my seal it is only necessary to syphon off the water and remove the collapsed tank.

From the above description it will be seen that my seal is inexpensive, can be used any number of times and is easy of application in practice.

It will be understood, of course, that while I have here shown one form of my seal, I do not wish to limit myself to the exact construction shown, but wish to have it taken in a sense illustrative of any or all forms that come fairly within the scope of my claims.

I claim:—

1. In a silo a seal comprising a flexible tank resting on top of the stored material and a suitable liquid in said tank pressing its flexible walls against the inside walls of the silo.

2. In a silo a seal comprising a flexible tank resting on the upper surface of the stored material in said silo and suitable liquid containing a salt in solution in said tank pressing its flexible walls against the inside walls of said silo.

3. A seal for silos comprising a tank of flexible material adapted to fit in the upper portion of a silo, said tank being adapted to receive liquid therein for settling the flexible tank down upon the silage in the silo to pack the silage and drive air out of the same and for sealing the tank against the inner wall of the silo to preserve the silage from access of air.

4. A seal for silos comprising a waterproof flexible body adapted to fit in the upper end of a silo, said flexible body being adapted to contain a body of liquid for settling the flexible body evenly down upon the silage and packing the same, said flexible body also being adapted to be sealed against the inner wall of the silo by said body of liquid to prevent access of air to the silage in the top of the silo.

ALLEN R. FLINK.

Witnesses:

S. L. JANKOWSKI,
O. M. BENSON.