A hunting blind which resembles a stack of straw bales, houses and camouflages a hunter. The pyramid-like structure is built of box-like elements which are disengagably connected to form three tiers. Some of the walls of the box-like elements have been partially or totally cut away to form sufficient space within the structure for the hunter. The tiers are hingely connected to each other such that the box-like elements can be swung outwards to allow the hunter an unobstructed hunting position. Storage and transportation is simplified by forming box-like elements of such dimensions that they may be nested to form a single, compact unit.

5 Claims, 5 Drawing Figures
GOOSE AND DUCK BLIND

Matter enclosed in heavy brackets [ ] appears in the original patent but forms no part of this reissue specification; matter printed in italics indicates the additions made by reissue.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to blinds, such as are used in goose and duck hunting.

The principal object of this invention is to provide a structure which appears to be a stack of bales of hay and which is used to camouflage the assembly swings open without falling apart. To return to a hidden state the hunter need only pull the assembly back into place.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In accordance with the invention, a plurality of box-like elements are combined to form a pyramid-like structure, which approximates the appearance of a stack of bales of hay. The elements may form a base tier, a middle tier and a top tier consisting of a single cap element. The middle and top tier elements are hingably connected to the base tier so that a hunter, seated within the structure, may pivot said elements outwardly to gain an unobstructed shooting position. The box-like elements may be disconnected and then nested together to form a load which can easily be transported by the hunter. A covering, which closely simulates the appearance of straw, is secured to the outside surfaces of the box-like elements. This covering, combined with the pyramid-like structure of the assembled element, gives effective camouflage to hide the hunter until the appropriate moment.

Broadly stated, the invention is a game hunting blind comprising a box-like cap element having a wall and side and end walls; first and second pairs of box-like elements, each having a side wall, two end walls and a partially cut away top wall; means for disengagably connecting the first pair of box-like elements to form a base tier; means for hingably and disengagably connecting each of the second pair of box-like elements with one of the base tier elements to form a middle tier wherein each of said second pair of elements rests on the partially cut away top wall of one of the base tier elements, said hinge connection being operative to permit the middle tier elements to be pivoted outwardly; and means for hingably and disengagably connecting the cap element with a middle tier element to complete the formation of a pyramid-like structure wherein the cap element rests on the partially cut away top wall of the middle tier elements, said hinge connection being operative to permit the cap element to be pivoted outwardly; said box-like elements being covered with a material having the appearance of straw and, when assembled in pyramid-like fashion, enclosing a space sufficient to house a hunter.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

In the drawings:

FIG. 1 is a view of the assembled blind; FIG. 2 is a perspective view of the base tier of the blind, partially assembled; FIG. 3 shows the placement of one of the two members of the middle tier of the blind; FIG. 4 is a view of the assembled blind with the cap swung open on its hinges; and FIG. 5 is a view of a blind in its fully opened configuration.
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3 and the cap 4 have pivoted outwardly without tearing the structure apart when the hunter has stood up. The hunter's shooting is unhampered and he can pull the assembly back over himself as he crouches down again.

The box-like elements are preferably constructed of double-walled cardboard so as to be sturdy and relatively light for carrying. The side walls 6, 6' may be reinforced along their self-supporting edges, by folding back flaps 16, 16' of the construction material, as well as along their supporting ledges by folding back flaps 17, 17' to form walls of double thickness.

The assembled configuration of the structure is similar to that of a stack of hay. The box-like elements are preferably covered with a rubber skin which gives the appearance, in color and texture, of real straw, thus providing excellent camouflage.

By way of example of the invention, the rubber skin was produced by forming a wax imprint of actual straw. A rubber molding liquid was poured into the waxed imprint to form a male mold having the rough texture of straw. A final female cast of casting resin was made from the male mold. The skin of rubber latex could then be formed by pouring latex liquid into the resin mold and providing proper coloring in the mold to form a final rough-surfaced rubber skin resembling the surface of a straw bale. This skin was then glued onto the outside surface of the box-like elements.

When disassembled, the blind is easily stored or carried since the box-like elements 5, 5' and the cap 4 can be nested one within the other. The two base elements 5 are longest but differ slightly in length so that one can be placed within the other. The lengths of the progressively higher tiers 3, 4 become smaller due to the pyramidal shape of the blind and the two middle elements 5' are made of slightly differing lengths so that all the elements nest into a single stack.

While the present invention has been disclosed in connection with a preferred embodiment thereof, it should be understood that there may be other embodiments which fall within the spirit and scope of the invention as defined by the following claims.

The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

1. A game hunting blind comprising: a box-like cap element having a top wall and side and end walls; first and second pairs of box-like elements, each having a side wall, two end walls and a partially cut-away top wall; means for disengagingly connecting the first pair of box-like elements to form a base tier; means for hingably and disengagingly connecting each of the second pair of box-like elements with one of the base tier elements to form a middle tier wherein each of said second pair of elements rests on the partially cut-away top wall of one of the base tier elements, said hinge connection being operative to permit the cap element to be pivoted outwardly;

2. A game hunting blind comprising: a box-like cap element having a top wall and side and end walls; first and second pairs of box-like elements, each having a side wall, two end walls and a partially cut-away top wall; a pair of bulkhead members; means disengagingly connecting each of the bulkhead members with the first pair of box-like elements to form a base tier wherein the bulkhead members each space apart the box-like elements and form a continuous surface in combination with two of the end walls of said first pair of box-like elements; means for hingably and disengagingly connecting each of the second pair of box-like elements with one of the base tier elements to form a middle tier wherein each of said second pair of elements rests on the partially cut-away top wall of one of the base tier elements, said hinge connection being operative to permit the middle tier elements to be pivoted outwardly; and means for hingably and disengagingly connecting the cap element with a middle tier element to complete the formation of a pyramid-like structure, wherein said cap element rests on the partially cut-away top walls of the middle tier elements, said hinge connection being operative to permit the cap element to be pivoted outwardly; said box-like elements being covered with a material having the appearance of straw and, when assembled in pyramid fashion, enclosing a space sufficient to house a hunter.

3. A game hunting blind as set forth in claim 2 wherein:

the box-like elements of the base tier being of the same width and same depth but of slightly different lengths;
the box-like elements of the middle tier being of the same width and same depth as the box-like elements of the base tier but shorter in length than the latter;
the cap being of the same width and same depth as the box-like elements of the middle tier but shorter in length than the latter;
said box-like elements being of such dimensions that they may be nested within each other to form a single assembly.

4. A game hunting blind as set forth in claim 3 wherein the box-like elements of the base, middle and top tier and the bulkhead members are constructed from double-walled cardboard.

5. A game hunting blind comprising: a box-like cap element having a top wall and side and end walls; first and second pairs of box-like elements, each having a side wall, two end walls and a partially cut-away top wall; means for disengagingly connecting the first pair of box-like elements to form a base tier; means for hingably and disengagingly connecting each of the second pair of box-like elements with one of the base tier elements to form a middle tier wherein each of said second pair of elements rests on the partially cut-away top wall of one of the base tier elements, said
hinge connection being operative to permit the middle tier elements to be pivoted outwardly; and means for hingably and disengagably connecting the cap element with a middle tier element to complete the formation of a pyramid-like structure wherein the cap element rests on the partially cut away top walls of the middle tier elements, said hinge connection being operative to permit the cap element to be pivoted outwardly, said box-like elements, when assembled in pyramid-like fashion, enclosing a space sufficient to house a hunter.