F. F. SKLENKA.

BORDER FOR HOTBEDS AND THE LIKE.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 9, 1919.

1,414,593. Patented May 2, 1922.

Fig. 1.

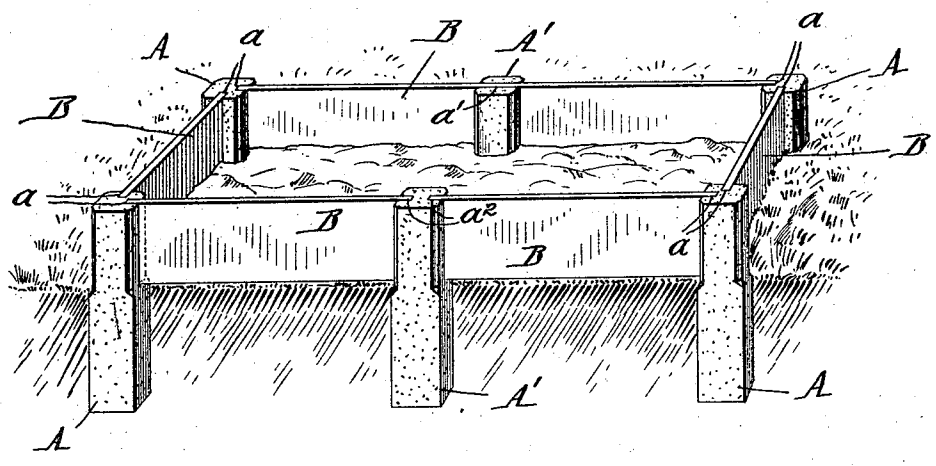


Fig. 2.

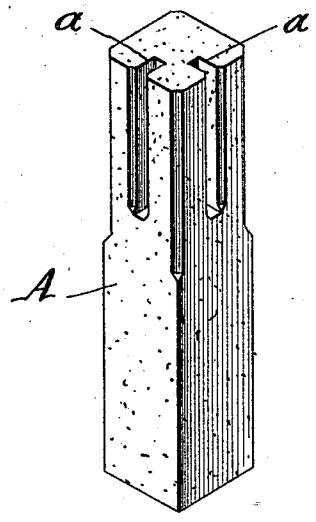


Fig. 3.

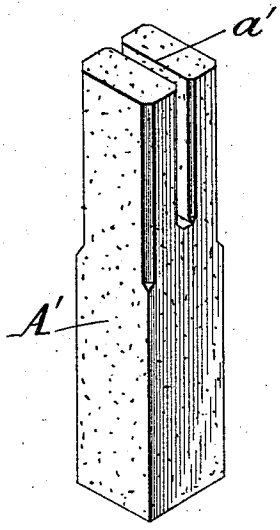
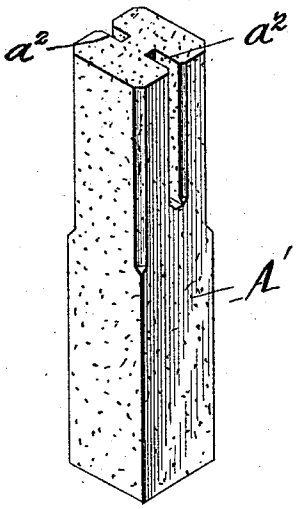


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BORDER FOR HOTBEDS AND THE LIKE.

1,414,593. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented May 2, 1922.

Application filed August 9, 1919. Serial No. 316,509.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK F. SKLENKA, a citizen of the United States, residing at Long Island City, county of Queens, and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Border for Hotbeds and the like, of which the following is a specification.

This invention is a border for hotbeds and the like. It is the practice of florists to surround their flower beds with a low board fence inside of which the earth is banked and in which the flowers or plants are grown. As generally constructed these fences are made entirely of wood embodying wooden posts with boards nailed from one post to the next in the usual way. However, it is found in practice that the posts very quickly rot out due to the frequent spraying of the plants. Furthermore it is desirable to remove the boards from time to time in shifting the bed and, when said boards are nailed in place the removal thereof from the posts usually results in splitting of the lumber. As a result it has been the practice, through necessity, to renew the fences or wooden borders frequently, employing new lumber throughout.

With the foregoing considerations in mind the object of the present invention is to provide a construction wherein the hotbed may be surrounded by a border of wooden boards maintained in easily detachable position by concrete posts. The posts are so formed that the boards may be held in place without the employment of any fastening means whatsoever and may be readily and expeditiously removed from engagement with the post on such times as desired.

Features of the invention, other than those specified, will be apparent from the hereinafter detailed description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

In the accompanying drawings I have illustrated one practical embodiment of the invention, but the construction therein shown is to be understood as illustrative only, and not as defining the limits of the invention.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a hotbed border constructed in accordance with this invention; and,

Figures 2, 3 and 4 are perspective views of different forms of posts which may be used in the construction of the hotbed.

Referring to the drawings A designates four corner posts which are sunk in the ground for a portion of their lengths at the four corners of the hotbed. These posts may have flat or level tops when used in the construction of greenhouse benches, but, when employed as part of a hotbed, they should be made with beveled tops to allow rain water to drain off of the sashes. In either instance, each post is provided on two of its adjacent faces with a vertical slot or pocket *a* into which the end of a board may be slipped to form the construction shown in Figure 1. If the bed is a small one the four corner posts may suffice to properly support four boards B therebetween to complete the border but with beds of larger size, intermediate posts A′ are preferably employed to stiffen and support the side or end boards of the bed intermediate their ends. In such cases the posts A′ are provided with slots *a′* as shown in Figure 3, the boards B simply extending through said slots after the manner illustrated in Figure 1. If boards of less length than the length of the bed are to be employed the intermediate posts may be made as shown in Figure 4 with the slots a^2 in the opposite sides thereof. It will be understood that posts may be made of any desired length and may be formed sufficiently high so that the slots or pockets therein will support two or more boards in superimposed relation. The edges of the post are preferably beveled to facilitate their making and obviate sharp corners. In practice the posts are made of concrete by employing a suitable form and are preferably suitably reinforced.

The present invention may be applied to hotbeds, greenhouse benches and any similar environment at a relatively small cost, is durable and strong and allows of the ready removal of the boards at any time desired in an easy and expeditious manner. While the post construction of this invention is particularly applicable to use by florists its use is not restricted in this regard as it may equally well serve as an element of a fence construction of any character. The invention is further not to be understood as lim-

ited to the specific showing made, but it is to be understood as particularly novel as is commensurate with the appended claim.

Having thus fully described the invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

A border for hotbeds and the like embodying a plurality of spaced corner posts cast from concrete and of substantially uniform cross sectional area throughout their lengths, said posts being embedded in the ground for a portion of their length, each post being integrally cast and that portion of each post which projects above the ground being provided with vertical slots cast in the posts and adapted to receive the end of boards, the slots extending from the tops of the posts downwardly substantially to the surface of the ground, and provided with parallel side faces, so that boards may be positioned in or removed from the slots while the posts are in position, in combination with intermediate posts of substantially uniform cross sectional area throughout their lengths, said posts being cast from concrete and embedded for a portion of their length in the ground, said intermediate posts being bifurcated for that portion thereof which projects above the ground so as to straddle the boards intermediate their ends and support them against sagging outwardly under the pressure of the dirt adapted to be contained in the bed.

In testimony whereof, I hereby sign my name to this specification.

FREDERICK F. SKLENKA.