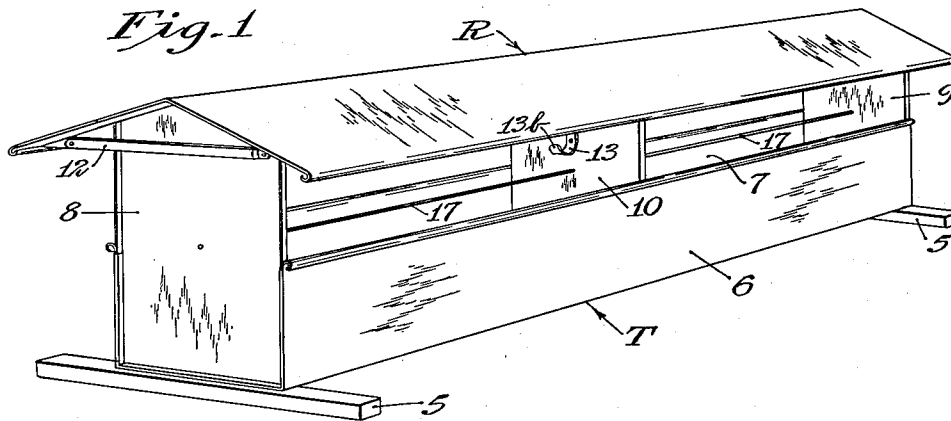
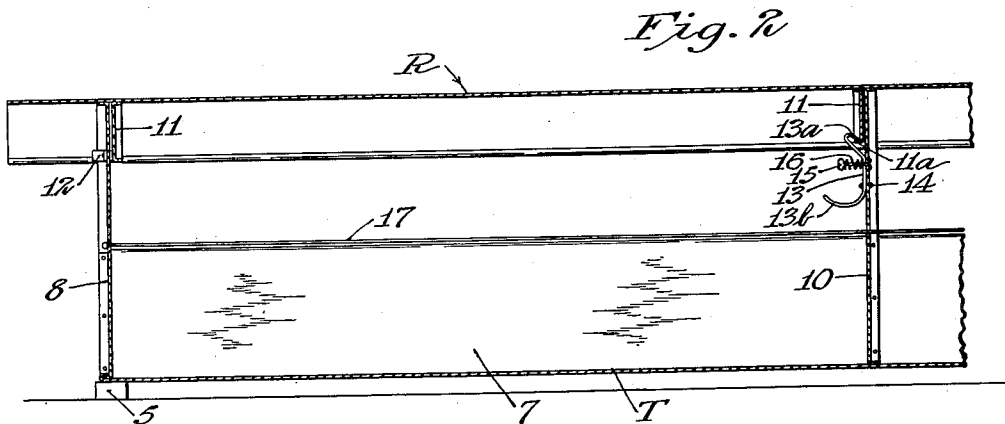
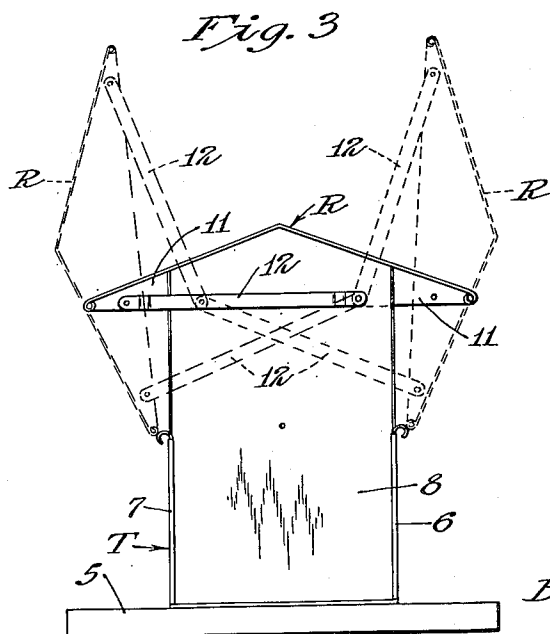
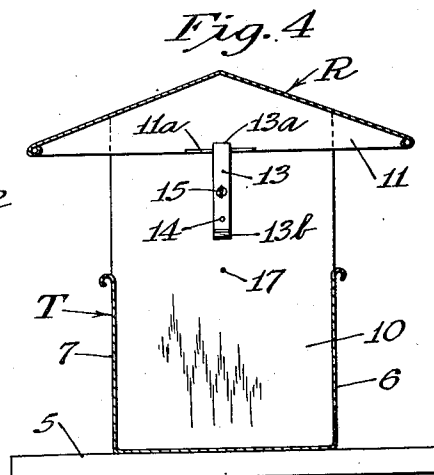


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J. W. HAAPALAKSO
POULTRY FEED RECEPTACLE

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Inventor
John W. Haapalaksso
By Williamson & Williamson
Attorneys

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POULTRY FEED RECEPTACLE

John W. Haapalakso, Deer Creek, Minn.

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7 Claims. (Cl. 119—74)

My invention relates to poultry feeding apparatus and particularly to feed troughs.

In feeding of poultry it is desirable to have feed receptacles to which poultry have convenient access for feeding but wherein the feed is protected from damage by the elements and contamination.

An object of my invention is to provide a feed trough so constructed as to protect its contents from the elements and prevent entrance of a bird's body thereinto and yet provide convenient access to its contents with respect to poultry feeding therefrom.

Another object is to provide such a receptacle having a roof member thereon which may be easily tilted either upwardly and rearwardly or upwardly and forwardly to provide convenient access to the interior of the receptacle for purposes of cleaning or inspecting the same or replenishing the supply of feed therewithin.

Still another object is to provide such a receptacle having effective and yet conveniently releasable retaining means for normally holding the roof member thereof in its normal position thereon.

A further object is to provide such a receptacle of simple, rugged, compact and inexpensive construction.

These and further objects and advantages of the invention will more fully appear from the following description made in connection with the accompanying drawing, wherein like reference characters refer to the same or similar parts throughout the views, and, in which:—

Fig. 1 is a general perspective view of an embodiment of my invention;

Fig. 2 is a partial vertical, longitudinal, sectional view;

Fig. 3 is an end view showing the roof member in normal position in full lines and in respective raised positions in dotted lines; and

Fig. 4 is a vertical cross-sectional view.

Referring to the drawing, I have shown an embodiment of my invention associated with a trough T which is preferably supported on horizontal supporting strips 5 and which is surmounted by a roof member R. The trough T includes a front wall 6 and a rear wall 7 disposed longitudinally thereof and end walls 8 and 9 and an intermediate wall 10 disposed transversely of the trough. The transverse walls 8, 9 and 10 are of such height as to project a substantial distance above the upper limits of the longitudinal walls 6 and 7 and at their upper edges support the roof member R. The roof member R is pref-

erably formed with a cross section having a relatively flat inverted V-shape. The upper portions of the transverse walls 8, 9 and 10 are shaped to conform to the cross sectional shape of the roof member R and to engage the lower side of the roof member R. The roof member R is provided with triangular vertically disposed members 11 attached to the lower side thereof.

The roof member R is connected to the trough T in such manner as to be raisable therefrom by either a rearward tilting motion or a forward tilting motion. For this purpose elongated elements 12 are provided and comprise bars or links. A pair of the links 12 is associated with each of the end walls 8 and 9. Of each such pair, one link 12 is connected at its forward end to an upper forward portion of the end wall and at its rear end with the rear portion of the roof member R as by means of a connection to the triangular member 11. The other bar 12 of the pair is connected at its rearward end to an upper rear portion of the end wall and at its forward end to the roof member R as by means of a connection to the member 11. All of the connections between the bars 12 and the roof member R are pivotal connections so that the bars 12 are swingable in a vertical plane relative to the members to which they are attached. The bars 12 are of suitable lengths generally approximating the width of the transverse walls 8 and 9 and when the roof member R is in normal position resting on the upper edges of the end walls 8 and 9 the bars 12 are disposed substantially in horizontal position. To prevent interference between the respective bars 12 of a pair thereof, one bar of the pair is disposed immediately outwardly of the end wall 8 or 9 with which it is associated and the other bar of the pair is disposed immediately inwardly of the end wall.

A position assumed by the bars 12 when the roof member R is tilted forwardly and rearwardly is as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 3. It will be seen that during upward and rearward tilting of the roof member R the bar 12 connected to the forward portion of the roof member R swings upwardly and rearwardly and that the bar 12 connected to the rear portion of the roof member R swings downwardly. The movement of the bars 12 during upward and forward tilting of the roof member R is thought to be apparent from Fig. 3 and the above explanation. The tilting movement of the roof member R is preferably limited by use of suitable stop means and it will be seen from Fig. 3 that the rolled upper edge of

the front and rear walls 6 and 7 function as stop means for this purpose.

I provide means for holding the roof member R in the normal position thereof shown in Fig. 1. A form of such holding or retaining means is shown in Figs. 2 and 4. I provide the centrally located one of the triangular members 11 with a horizontally disposed flange 11a along its lower edge and provide suitable latch means on the centrally located transverse wall 10 for engagement with the flange 11a. My latch device comprises a flat bar 13 bent into the general form of an S so as to provide a hook 13a in its upper portion for engagement with the upper side of the flange 11a and an operating bar 13b in its lower portion. The medial portion of the bar 13 is rockably connected with the transverse wall 10. A rivet 14 loosely connects the bar 13b to the wall 10. The desired looseness is obtained by providing aligned apertures in the bar 13 and the wall 10 of larger diameter than the shank of the rivet 14 and installing the rivet with the respective heads thereof sufficiently far apart to avoid clamping of the riveted members therebetween. Above the rivet 14 a cotter key 15 is extended through aligned apertures in the bar 13 and wall 10 and the free ends of the cotter key are bent to prevent withdrawal of the cotter key. A helical compression spring 16 is disposed between the head of the cotter key and the outer side of the bar 13. Release of the hook 13a from the flange 11a is effected by pressing the handle 13b downwardly to rock the bar 13 against the pressure of the spring 16, whereafter the roof member R may be tilted forwardly or rearwardly, as desired. The hook 13a is so shaped that the flange will cam the hook 13a out of its way as the roof member R is returned to its normal position whereafter the spring 16 will return the hook 13a into flange-engaging position.

To provide for cleaning of beaks by the poultry, a wire 17 is extended through suitable apertured portions of the transverse walls 8, 10 and 9, as shown.

It is apparent that I have invented a novel, convenient, compact and inexpensive form of poultry feeder including a roof member readily tiltable either forwardly or rearwardly and normally held in position by self-engaging and easily releasable latch means.

It will, of course, be understood that various changes may be made in the form, details, arrangement and proportions of the various parts without departing from the scope of my invention.

What is claimed is:

1. Poultry feeding apparatus comprising an open topped receptacle, a roof member normally resting on portions of said receptacle, a relatively rigid element swingably connected at its respective ends to a forward portion of said roof member and a rearward portion of said receptacle, and a second relatively rigid element swingably connected at its respective ends to a rearward portion of said roof member and a forward portion of said receptacle whereby said elements will guide said roof member in forward and rearward tilting movements thereof relative to said receptacle.

2. Poultry feeding apparatus comprising an open topped receptacle having front, rear and end walls, said end walls projecting above the upper limits of said front and rear walls, a roof member normally resting on the upper edges of said end walls, a relatively rigid element swingably connected at its respective ends to the front portion

of said roof member and an upper rear portion of said receptacle, and a second relatively rigid element swingably connected at its respective ends to the rear portions of said roof member and an upper forward portion of said receptacle whereby said elements will guide said roof member in both forward and rearward tilting movements thereof.

3. Poultry feeding apparatus comprising an open topped receptacle having longitudinal front and rear walls and transverse walls, said transverse walls projecting above said longitudinal walls, a roof member normally resting on the upper edges of said transverse walls, a relatively rigid element swingably connected at its respective ends to the front portion of said roof member and an upper rear portion of one of said transverse walls, and another relatively rigid element connected at its respective ends to the rear portion of said roof member and an upper forward portion of one of said transverse walls whereby said elements will guide said roof member in forward and rearward tilting movements thereof.

4. Poultry feeding apparatus comprising a relatively elongated open topped receptacle having front, rear and end walls, said end walls projecting above the upper limits of said front and rear walls, a roof member normally resting on the upper edges of said end walls, a relatively rigid element swingably connected at its respective ends to the front portion of said roof member and an upper rear portion of one of said end walls, and another relatively rigid element swingably connected at its respective ends to the rear portion of said roof member and an upper forward portion of one of said end walls whereby said elements will guide said roof member in both forward and rearward tilting thereof.

5. Poultry feeding apparatus comprising an open topped receptacle having front and rear longitudinal walls and transverse walls, said transverse walls projecting above said longitudinal walls, a roof member normally resting on the upper edges of said transverse wall, a pair of relatively rigid elements disposed adjacent respective ends of said receptacle and each swingably connected at its respective ends to a forward portion of said roof member and an upper rear portion of said receptacle, and a second pair of relatively rigid elements disposed adjacent respective ends of said receptacle and each swingably connected at its respective ends to a rearward portion of said roof member and an upper forward portion of said receptacle whereby said elements will guide said roof member in both forward and rearward tilting movements thereof.

6. Poultry feeding apparatus comprising a relatively elongated open-topped receptacle having front, rear, end and bottom walls, said end walls projecting above the upper limits of said front and rear walls, a roof member normally resting in its respective end portions on the upper edges of the respective end walls, and means hingedly connecting said roof to said receptacle for forward and rearward tilting relative thereto and comprising four similar bars of a length generally approximating the horizontal dimension of said end walls, one of said bars being pivotally connected at its respective ends to the upper forward portion of one of said end walls and an aligned point on the rear portion of said roof member, a second of said bars being pivotally connected at its respective ends to the upper rear portion of said end wall and an aligned point on the forward portion of said roof member and the remaining two of said bars being associated with said

roof member and the remaining end wall in a manner corresponding to that of said first two bars.

5 7. Poultry feeding apparatus having, in combination, a trough structure, a roof for said structure normally resting on portions thereof, means permitting, guiding and limiting tilting move-

ments of said roof member in an upward and rearward direction and in an upward and forward direction, and releasable retaining means for connecting a central portion of said roof member to a central portion of said trough structure when 5 said roof member is in normal position.

JOHN W. HAAPALAKSO.