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(71) Applicant(s):  
**Adetola Ogunniyi Olajide**  
106 Ballards Road, DAGENHAM, RM10 9AB,  
United Kingdom

(72) Inventor(s):  
**Adetola Ogunniyi Olajide**

(74) Agent and/or Address for Service:  
**Adetola Ogunniyi Olajide**  
106 Ballards Road, DAGENHAM, RM10 9AB,  
United Kingdom

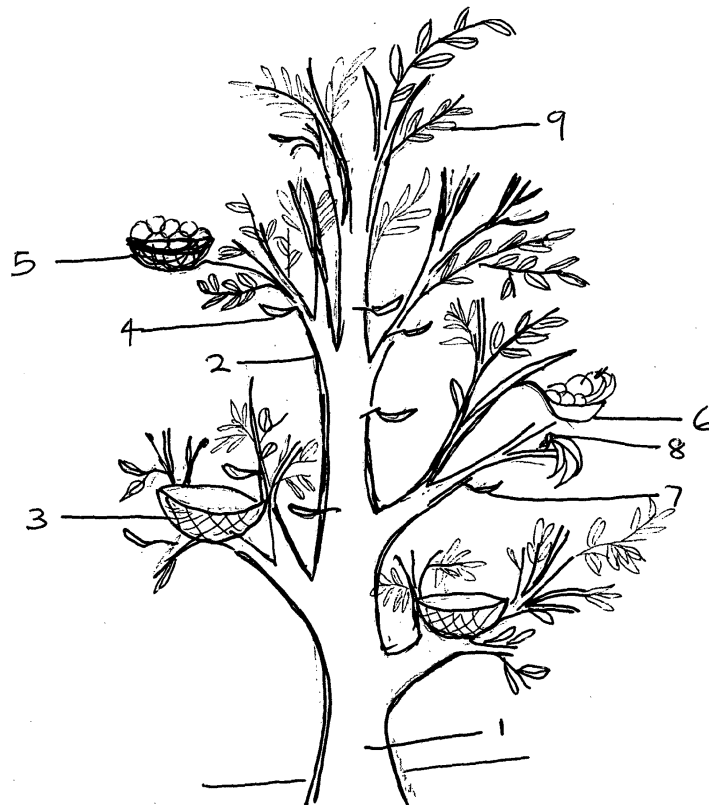
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**A41G 1/00** (2006.01) **A47F 7/00** (2006.01)

(56) Documents Cited:  
**CN 202014943 U** **CN 002696447 Y**  
**CN 002460336 Y** **CN 002428998 Y**  
**JP 610227023 A** **JP 2008156780 A**

(58) Field of Search:  
INT CL **A41G, A47F, A47G**  
Other: **EPODOC WPI INTERNET**

(54) Title of the Invention: **Fruit tree (Frutree)**  
Abstract Title: **Artificial plants for displaying fruits, vegetables and flowers**

(57) An artificial plant is used to display natural fruits, vegetables and flowers. A nest 5, basket (4, figure 5), hook 8, spoon-like shape 4, net, peg-like shape or suspension may be built into the artificial plant for holding natural fruits or vegetables. The artificial plant may be an artificial tree. Also disclosed are structures specifically designed to hold fruits and vegetables by suspension using devices, and designed structures that are either horizontally or vertically constructed for holding fruits, vegetables or flowers.



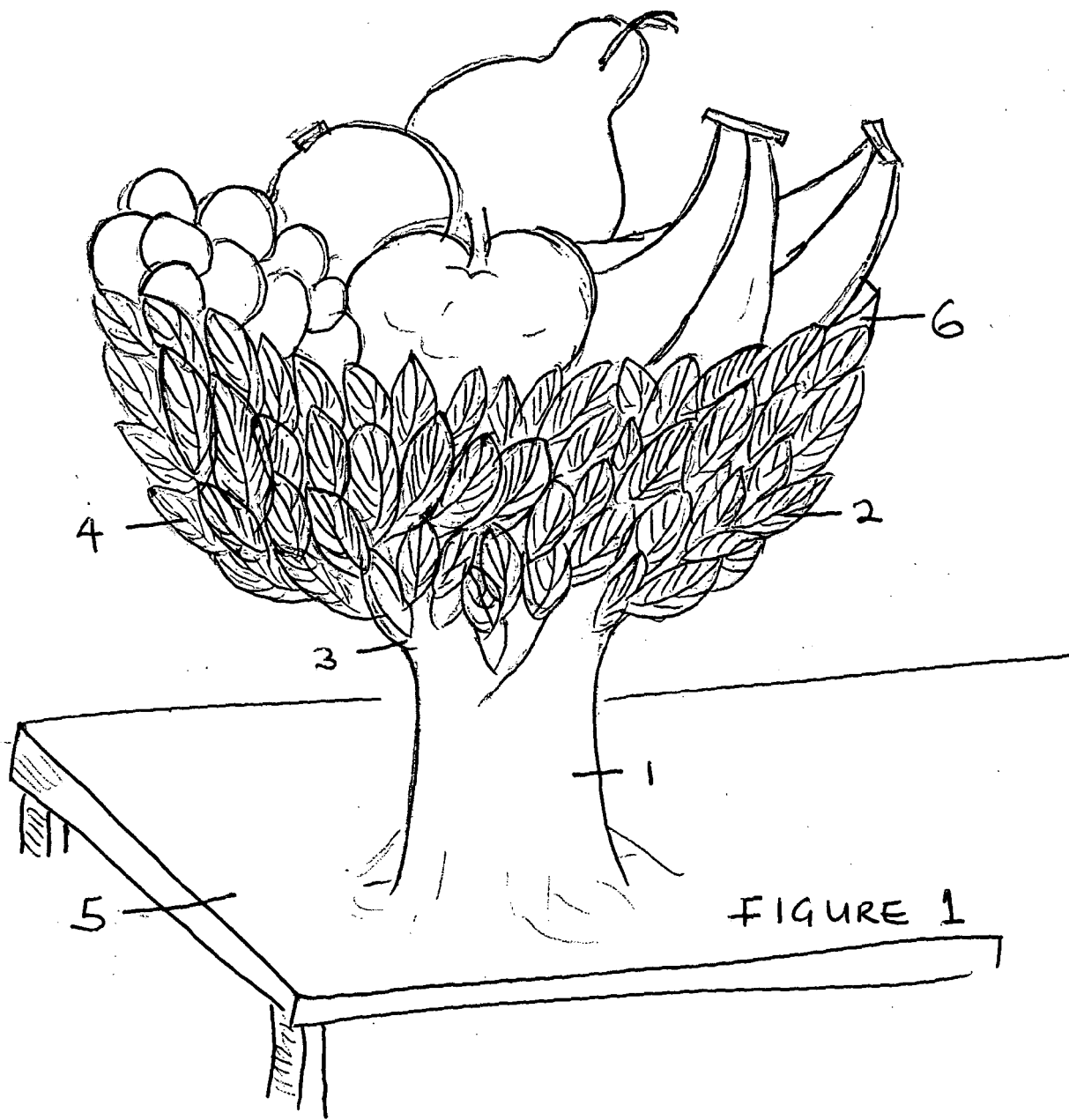
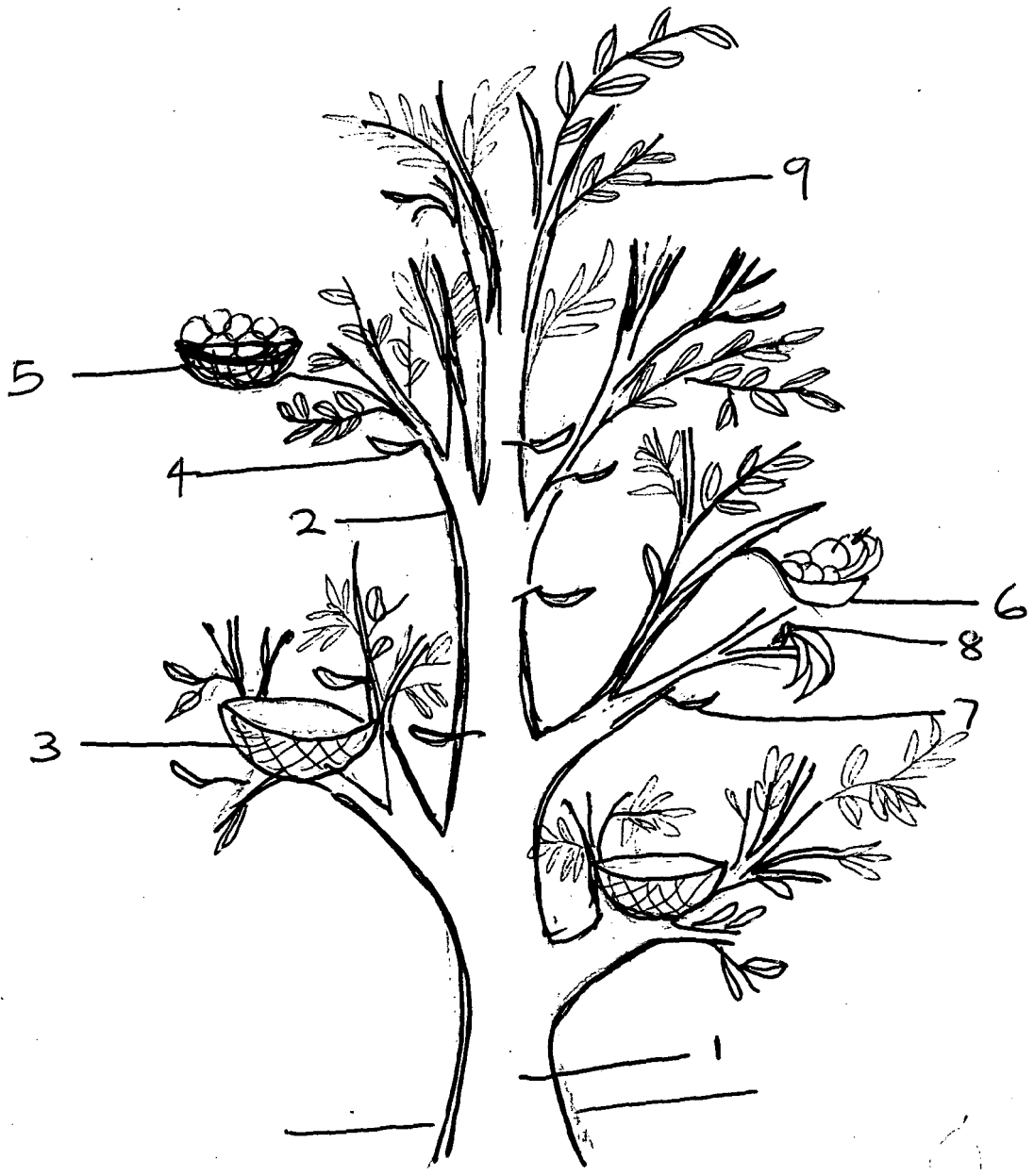
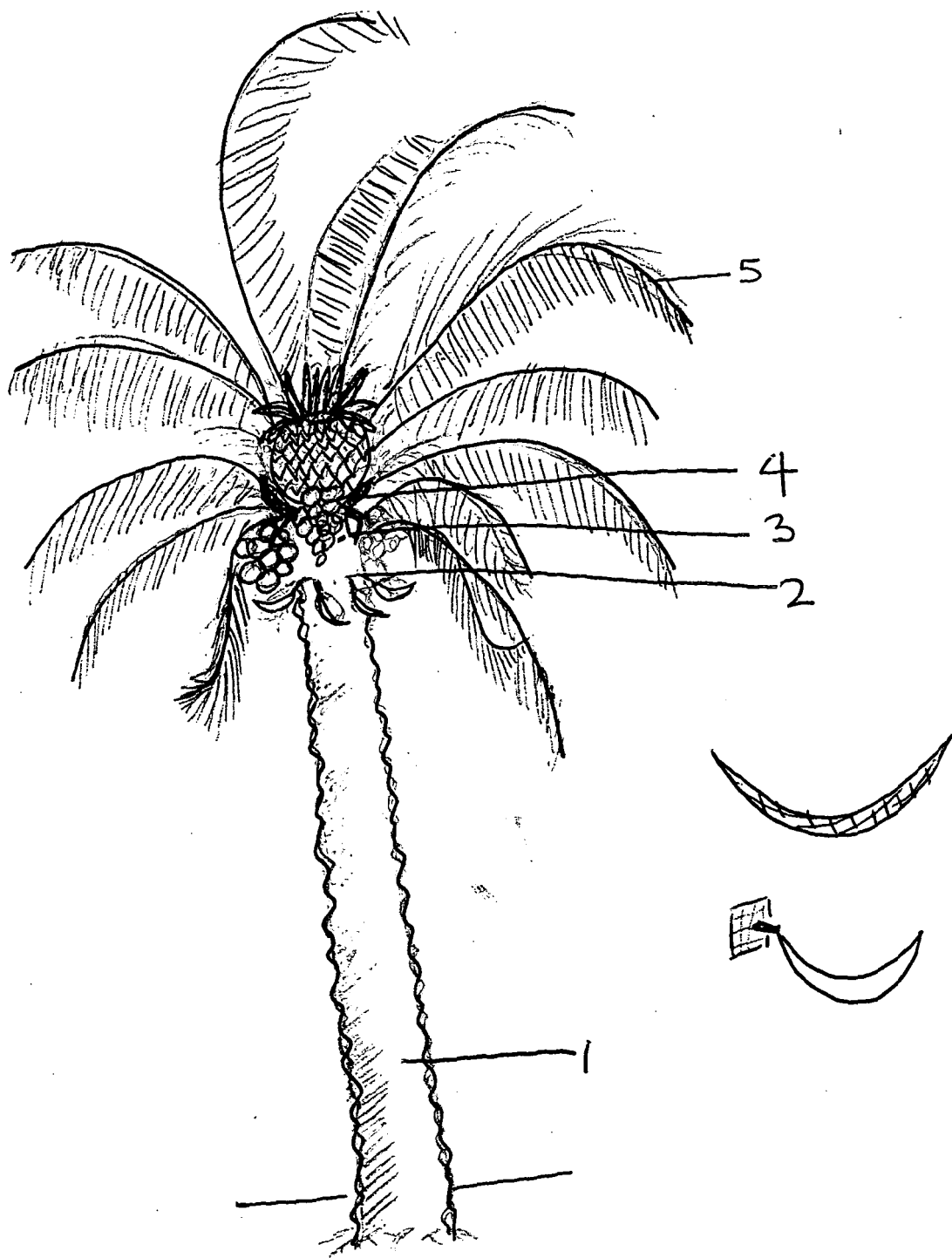
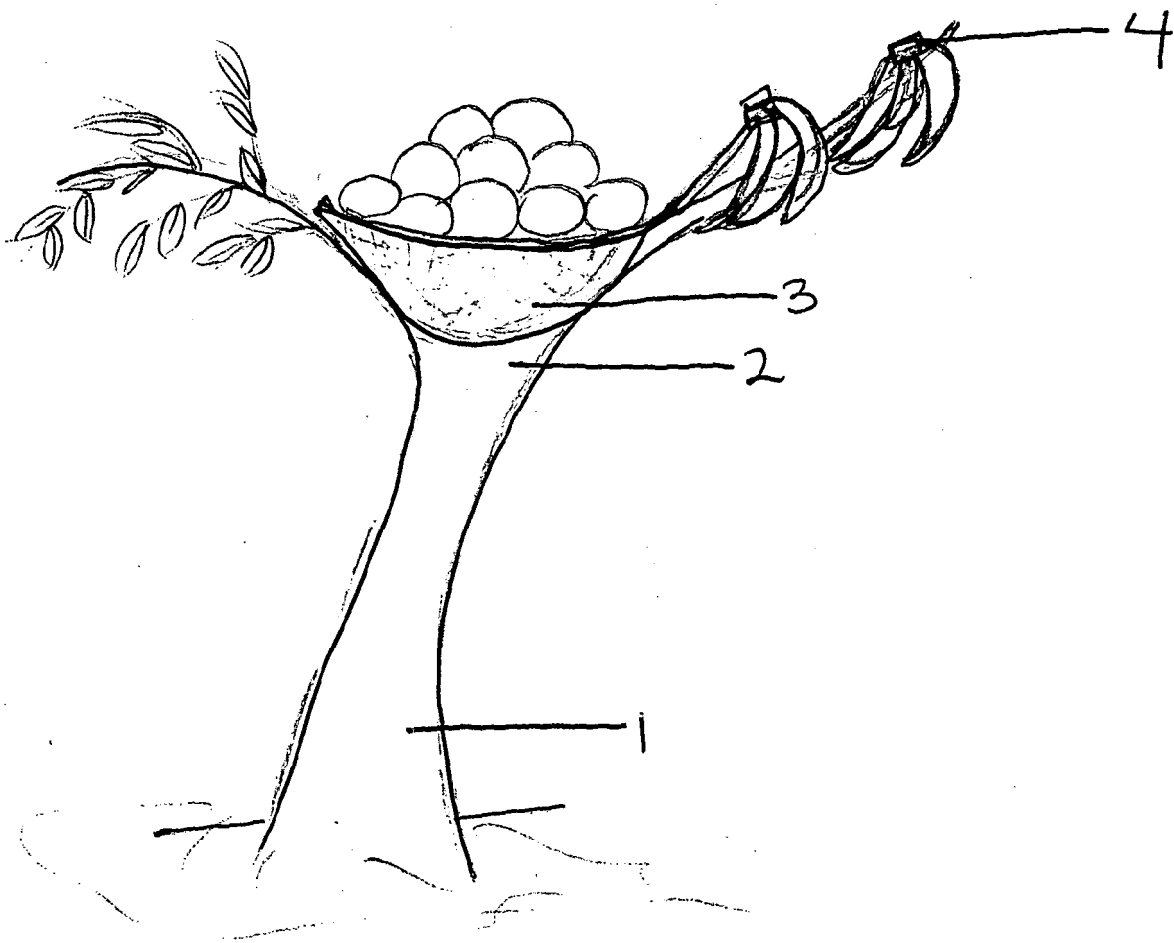


FIGURE 1







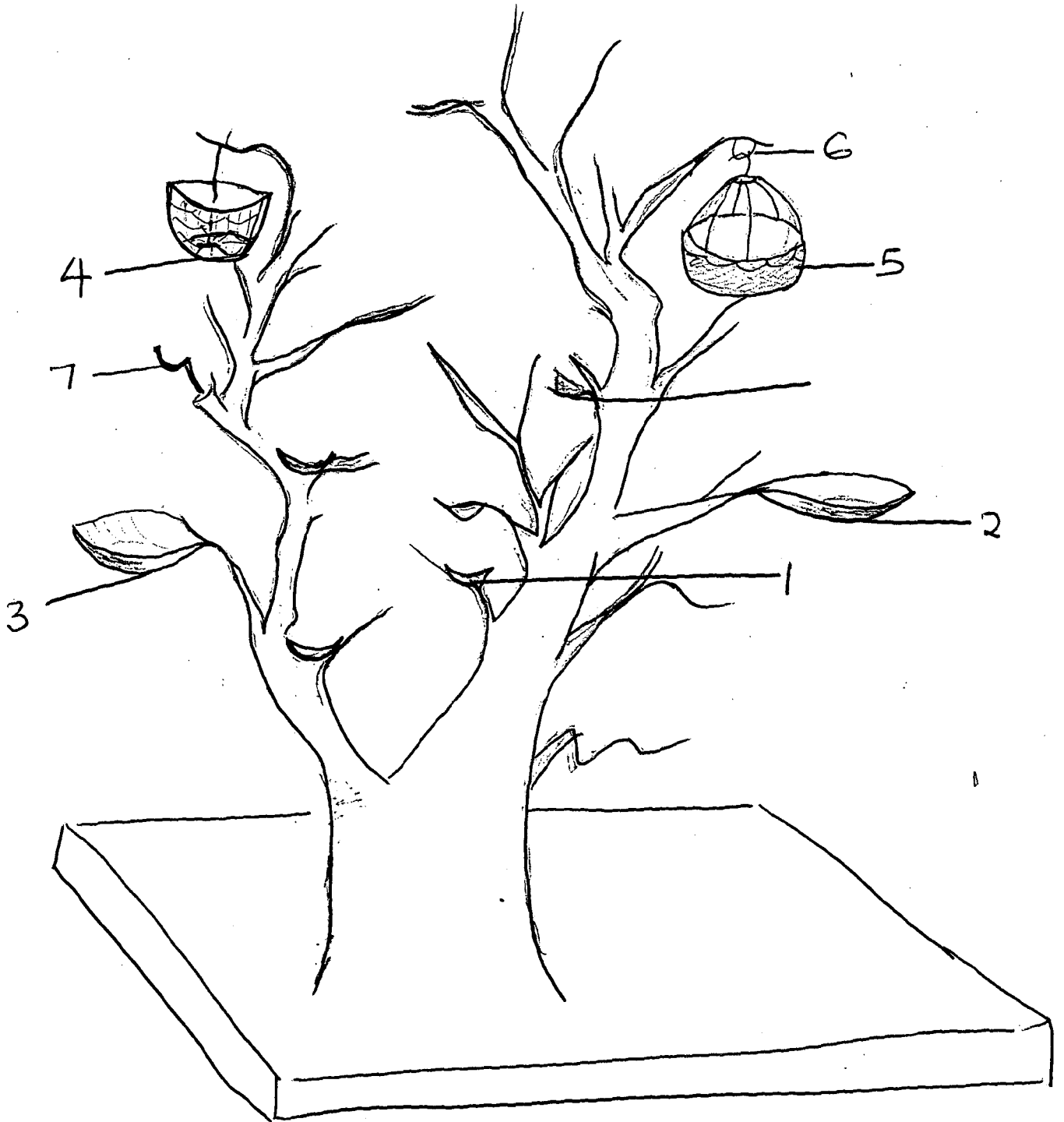
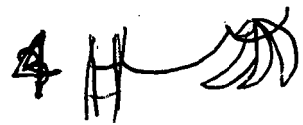
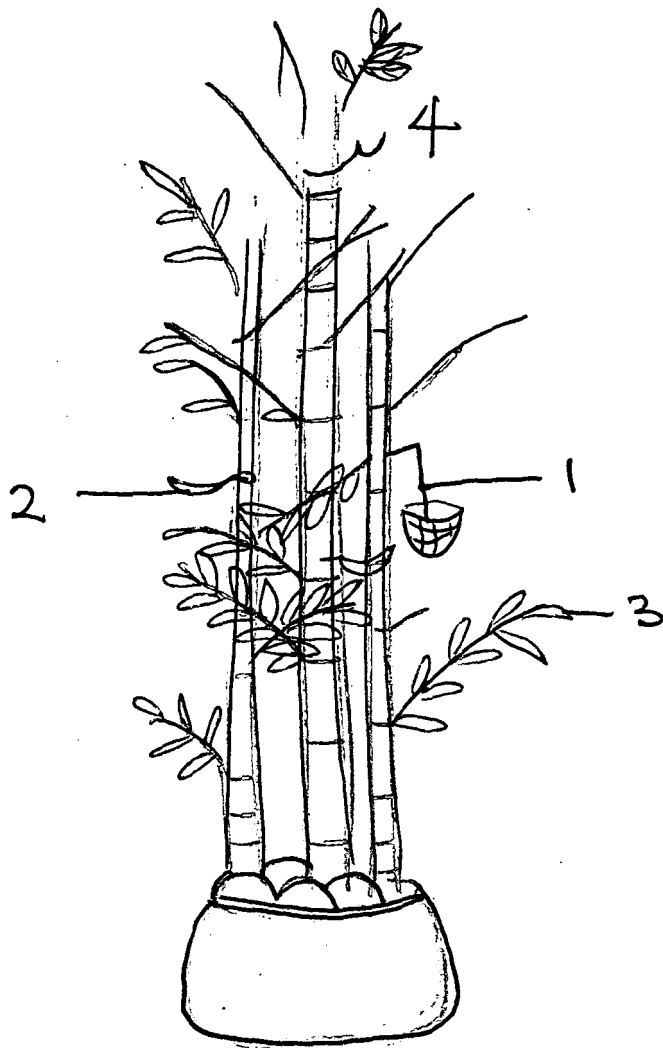


FIGURE 5



## **Fruit Tree (Frutree)**

Background:

The concept of the Fruit Tree (Frutree) was designed to assimilate the attachment of nature to the way fruits and vegetables are stored. The current conventional fruit and vegetable baskets in the market today have been designed for basic storage which removes people's connection from the food's natural source.

Artificial trees have been designed and manufactured in the past in different design types, shapes and with natural materials to enhance the appearance of an interior space and to expand the sense of tranquillity to the environment. These trees do not serve any other benefit beyond that.

This position is also true for fruit baskets and bowls. Conventional baskets or bowls are traditionally used for storing fruits and vegetables with very basic visual design which adds no natural feel for the presentation of fruit.

Other inventions in the market such as some fruit tree mimics a suspension design that position fruits on a hook like frame without giving the presentation a natural look and feel. While all these mentioned designs and ideas serve basic purposes, this invention defines a more progressive solution with the product design intended to add both physical (Visual value) and emotional (Emotive value) for customer

Most people have an affiliation with nature and if given the choice would choose to source their fruits directly from a tree in their back garden. This invention comes close to most people realising that possibility and solving the lack of connectivity with the products currently available in the market today. This will bridge the gap created in the market for people with natural instinct to

**Statement of Invention:** This invention goes far beyond all the functions mentioned above as it combines the natural design of a tree with innovative storage facilities. The Fruit Tree (Frutree) is specifically designed to provide a storage facility for both the interior and exterior environment with a natural and contemporary look and feel that will appeal to the different age spectrum.



spectrum. The product will provide an alternative option for the presentation and preservation of fruits and vegetables.

The features of the storage facility will range from a traditional to contemporary form of materials such as hanging nets, hooks, pegs, suspensions, nets, baskets, hoops, spoon shape, bowl shapes

It provides alternatives and options on how to present and preserve fruit. It incorporates various forms of traditionally used methods for such display. This concept providing an illusion of a tree producing various kinds of fruits

One of the purposes this would serve is to beautify the space making it natural looking at the same time providing display mechanism for these items.

To provide a natural feel for the collection of fruits, and add a natural visual experience for people and at the same time fulfilling its storage facility

This invention is based on the need for a natural looking device that will provide a source of display storage unit enabling the suspension of fruits and vegetables from the stem and branches or other positions.

The importance of the invention among other things includes- bringing nature into the building and providing a sense of nature into the consumption of fruit and vegetable rather than the contemporary forms of artificial packaging. It may also encourage a balanced and healthy eating habit and promotes the government's recommendation of 5- a -day for both adults and children. It also draw reinforcement to the fact that fruits and juice comes from fields and natural sources.

This invention relates to a storage facility for fruits, vegetables and other purposes that it can be used for.

A naturally appearing artificially produced plant which may include but not limited to, stick, branch, flower, support comprising of at least one connection to the base or structure to store natural fruit

It goes further than just the structure of a tree and basket but includes structures that are erected to have various parts which can hold, support, store and display fruits/ vegetables/ flowers

This new concept incorporates a vertical or horizontal shape designed which has component parts that can hold fruits and vegetable for display purposes.

A structure which branches out from the stem of from and extends in other components to form a curvy bowl or spoon support fruit hook shape which can hold fruit.

### The Drawing

The invention would now be described using the illustration shown with the aid of the accompany drawing:

Figure1 - Is a Perspective drawing of a tree shaped bowl with leafy pattern standing on a table

1. The stem of the tree
2. The leafy pattern of the bowl structure
3. The stem protruding of the tree
4. Leafy patterns on the
5. Base of the tree holding it firmly to the surface
6. View of the bowl holding fruits .

Figure 2- Is a Perspective artificial tree with roots branches and stems designed to stand on any surface or floor.

1. The stem of the tree that would be connected to the base
2. Extension of the trunk supporting the upper part of the tree
3. A detachable bowl connected to the branch of the tree
4. A spoon shaped compartment for single fruits sitting on it's a branch
5. A nest shaped compartment for fruits
6. A larger size compartment for fruits
7. A spoon shaped compartment
8. A hook for bunched fruits
9. Patterned leaves on the branches

Figure 3- Perspective drawing of an artificial palm tree

1. The base of the stem supporting the structure
2. Spoon shaped compartment to support single fruits
3. Hooks attached to the tree to support bunch fruits
4. A bowl like base b to sit bigger fruits such as melons se for the
5. Palm leave patterned

Figure 4- Perspective drawing of a tree extending on both side with a hook and tree branches on one side

- |                                |                                   |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. base for the bowl           | 3 Bowl shaped storage compartment |
| 2. Bowl for storing the fruits | 4 hook shape for bunched fruit    |

Figure 5: Perspective drawing of leafless tree with several tunks supporting a hanging basket

1. A spoon like compartment attached to the branch
2. A leaf like bowl attached to the branch
3. A leaf like bowl attached to the branch
4. A hanging basket supported with a hook on a branch of tree
5. A hanging bowl supported from the bottom
6. The hook attaching the basket to the tree
7. A hook for bunched fruits

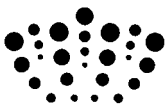
Figure 6 Perspective bamboo tree in a vase like shape

1. A hanging basket to hold fruits in
2. Spoon like shaped compartment
3. Decorative leaf of the bamboo
4. Hook for hanging fruits

## Claims

1. An artificial plant that is used to display natural fruits, vegetables, flowers and any other purpose it may serve
2. A nest built into an artificial plant, and parts of it such as the stem, branches leaves and roots that would hold fruits/ vegetables and any other purposes that it can be used for in an artificial tree
3. A basket built into an artificial plant, and parts of it such as the stem, branches leaves and roots that would hold natural fruits/ vegetables and any other purposes that it can be used for in an artificial tree
4. A hook built into an artificial plant, and parts of it such as the stem, branches leaves and roots that would hold fruits/ vegetables and any other purposes that it can be used for in an artificial tree
5. A spoon like shape built into an artificial plant, and parts of it such as the stem, branches leaves and roots that would hold fruits/ vegetables/ flowers and any other purposes that it can be used for in an artificial tree
6. A net built into an artificial plant, and parts of it such as the stem, branches leaves and roots that would hold fruits/ vegetables/ flowers and any other purposes that it can be used for in an artificial tree
7. A peg like shape built into an artificial plant, and parts of it such as the stem, branches leaves and roots that would hold fruits/ vegetables and any other purposes that it can be used for in an artificial tree
8. A suspension built into an artificial plant, and parts of it such as the stem, branches leaves and roots that would hold fruits/ vegetables/ flowers and any other purposes that it can be used for in an artificial tree
9. Structures in a perspective form which have been specifically designed to hold fruits and vegetable which may be suspended using devices
10. Any other design, crafted, moulded, shape and built into an artificial plant, and parts of it such as the stem, branches leaves and roots that can hold fruits/vegetables A hook, bowl, peg, basket, a net, made with materials which includes but not limited to substances such as rubber, fabric, plastic, metal, silk, wood, straw, bamboo, sticks, glass .

11. A designed structure horizontally constructed that that would hold fruits/ vegetables/ flowers and any other purposes that it can be used for in an artificial tree
12. A designed structure vertically constructed that that would hold fruits/ vegetables/ flowers and any other purposes that it can be used for in an artificial tree



**Application No:** GB1120912.9  
**Claims searched:** 1 - 8 and 10

**Examiner:** Dr Karen Payne  
**Date of search:** 26 March 2012

**Patents Act 1977: Search Report under Section 17**

**Documents considered to be relevant:**

Category	Relevant to claims	Identity of document and passage or figure of particular relevance
X	1 - 8, 10	CN 2696447 Y (ZHANG) See EPODOC Abstract and figures.
X	1 - 3, 5, 10	JP 61227023 A (SHIMAZU KOGYOSHO) See WPI Abstract Accession No. 1986-308196 [47] and figure 1.
X	1 - 3, 5, 10	CN 2428998 Y (ZHAO) See EPODOC Abstract and figure.
X	1, 4, 7, 8, 10	JP 2008156780 A (IZUMITANI) See WPI Abstract Accession No. 2008-J44979 [55] and figures.
X	1, 6, 10	CN 202014943 U (WANG) See WPI Abstract Accession No. 2011-P54150 [78] and figure.
X	1, 10	CN 2460336 Y (ZHANG) See EPODOC Abstract and figures 2 - 14.

**Categories:**

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.

**Field of Search:**

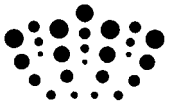
Search of GB, EP, WO & US patent documents classified in the following areas of the UKC<sup>X</sup>:

Worldwide search of patent documents classified in the following areas of the IPC

A41G; A47F; A47G

The following online and other databases have been used in the preparation of this search report

EPODOC, WPI, INTERNET



**International Classification:**

<b>Subclass</b>	<b>Subgroup</b>	<b>Valid From</b>
A41G	0001/00	01/01/2006
A47F	0007/00	01/01/2006