Sept. 20, 1955 M. G. HARWOOD ET AL 2,718,050

ARTICLE SPRINGING TOOL

Filed Jan. 20, 1951

FIG. 1.

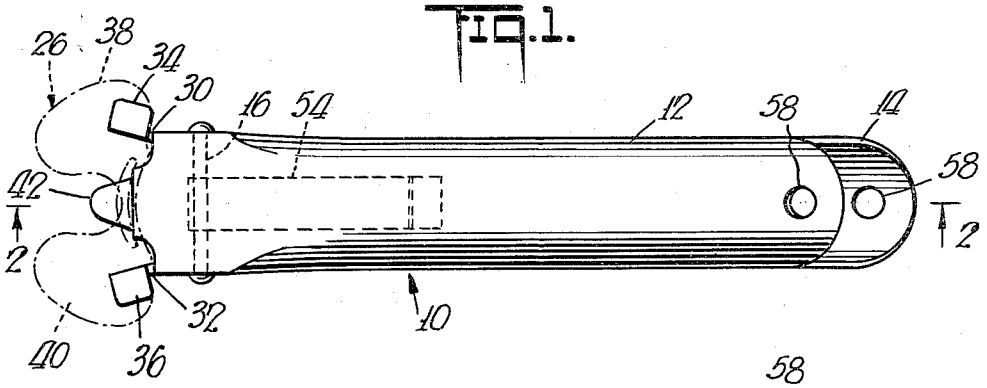


FIG. 2.

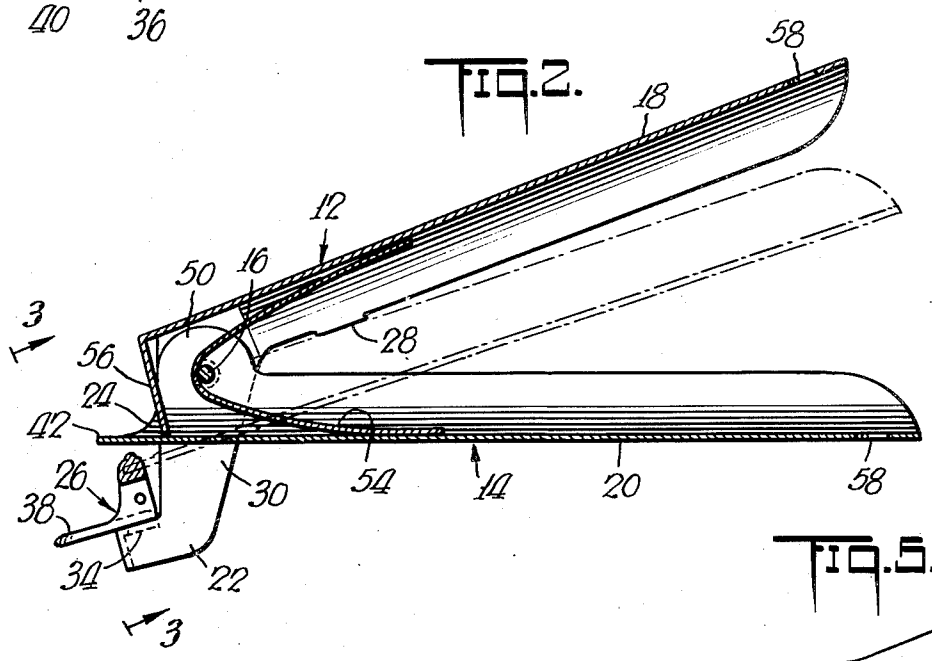


FIG. 5.

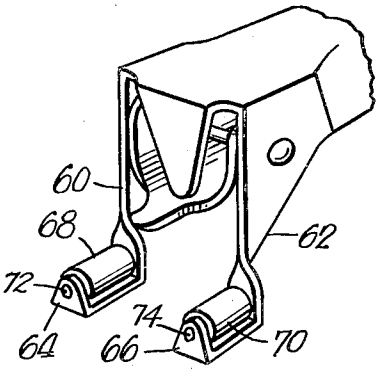


FIG. 3.

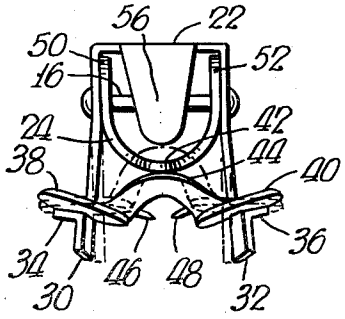
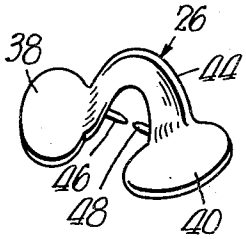


FIG. 4.



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ARTICLE SPRINGING TOOL

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4 Claims. (Cl. 29—235)

Our invention relates to tools for springing articles and more particularly to a tool which can be utilized for the application of bowed anti-picking blinders to the nostrils of fowl.

In the patent issued as No. 2,437,959, dated March 16, 1948, and assigned to the present applicants, there is disclosed a bowed type of poultry blinder having vision obstruction portions, one at each end of the blinders. The bowed section is preferably made of the same material of the blinder, such as metal, plastic or the like. A blinder of this type is designed to be applied to the fowl with one hand of the user, while the other hand holds the poultry.

In some instances we have found it desirable to make the bowed section sufficiently resilient to require more pressure than can normally be applied by the fingers alone, as is illustrated in Fig. 2 of the above patent. Moreover, a blinder so constructed may be difficult to remove in the event it is so required, especially if the removal must be made quickly.

Consequently, it is an object of the present invention to provide a tool in which a poultry blinder has been inserted and supported therein, and sprung by the pressure exerted by the hand holding the tool, in applying the bowed blinder to the nostrils of the poultry. Releasing the pressure on the blinder will cause the pointed piercing elements of the blinder to engage resiliently the nostrils of the poultry and be released from the tool.

Another object is to provide a tool which will permit the nostril engaging elements of the blinder to be conveniently moved apart while the blinder is being supported.

A further object consists in normally biasing the handles outwardly to keep the tool in open position for inserting the blinder; in making the tool of sheet metal to reduce the manufacturing cost thereof, and to provide a tool which is simple in operation.

A still further object consists in providing a tool which may be applied to a poultry blinder at points not required to engage the surface of the poultry beak, to permit the tool to be withdrawn without loosening the blinder on the poultry.

We accomplish these and other objects and obtain our new results as will be apparent from the device described in the following specification, particularly pointed out in the claims, and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which—

Fig. 1 is a top plan view of our novel tool showing a blinder positioned therein, indicated by dot-dash lines;

Fig. 2 a longitudinal section taken along line 2—2 of Fig. 1, showing the opened and closed position of the tool, the latter position indicated by dot-dash lines;

Fig. 3 an end view showing the tool supporting the blinder in each relative position, the open position indicated by dot-dash lines;

Fig. 4 a top perspective view of the blinder; and

Fig. 5 a partial perspective view of a modified construction of the tool.

In the drawing, reference character 10 generally designates our tool comprising two body members 12 and 14 pivotally mounted at riveted pin 16. In Fig. 2 the body members are provided with handle portions 18 and 20 at one side of the fulcrum, and jaw portions 22 and 24 at the other side thereof to support the article, a poultry blinder 26. The body members 12 and 14 can be constructed of any suitable material, but are desirably stamped from sheet metal and bent to form the handle portions, which may be arcuate in cross-section to conform to the hand of the user. A tab 28 may be formed on each side of one of the handles near the pivot to act as a stop when the handles are drawn together and prevent the hand of the user from being pinched therebetween. The jaw portions 22 comprise a pair of legs 30 and 32, extending substantially normally from each side of its respective handle 18, and terminate in flat supporting shoulders 34 and 36 upon which rest the flat vision obstruction portions 38 and 40 of the blinder 26, illustrated in Fig. 4. The legs 30 and 32 may be resiliently moved outwardly under pressure of the tool to accommodate the spring blinder as is shown in Fig. 3, where the original position is shown in dot-dash lines.

The body member 14 at the pivot point lies between the legs 30 and 32 of the member 12, and the pressure applying extension 42 of the jaw portion 24 extends therebetween and centrally above the supporting shoulders 34 and 36 of body member 12. The extension 42 is thus positioned above the top of the bridge or bowed portion 44 of the blinder 26 and when compressed against the blinder inserted into the tool, causes the vision obstruction portions 38 and 40 carrying the nostril engaging points 46 and 48 attached respectively thereto to separate, permitting attachment to the poultry.

Ear portions 50 and 52 are formed on the body member 14 through which the pivot pin 16 is positioned, the pin extending transversely the jaw member 14, through the legs 30 and 32, and peened at the outside thereof. A compressed spring 54 is positioned in and between the jaw members, extending around the pin 16, and maintains the handles and applying sections in outwardly biased position to enable the blinders to be readily inserted in the tool. A tongue portion 56 extends normally from the central portion of body member 12 to engage the inner surface of the body member 14 to limit the opening of the members by the spring 54.

Apertures 58 may be provided at the end of the handles as a convenience in suspending the tool from a support.

In Fig. 5 is shown a modified construction where the legs 60 and 62 having end supports 64 and 66 the latter of which may be rigidly connected to the legs. The horizontal rollers 68 and 70 are mounted on the legs by shafts 72 and 74 to support the vision obstruction portions of the blinders. The rollers, however, as distinguished from the shoulders 34 and 36 in the construction shown in Figs. 1 to 3 inclusive, permit the blinder to be sprung when pressure is applied by the extension 76 causing a sliding movement over the rollers.

The operation of the tool is quite simple. The tool is normally biased to open position to receive the blinder. The blinder is inserted in the tool with the vision obstruction portions 38 and 40 resting on the shoulders 34 and 36. When the handles are compressed together, to the position indicated by the dot-dash lines in Fig. 2, the extension 42 is pressed against the bridge 44 of the blinder compressing the vision obstruction portions against the shoulders, and spreading apart the nostril engaging points of the blinder.

In this position the blinder is firmly locked in the tool by the pressure of the gripping hand, and in a position to be applied to the nostrils of poultry. When in such position, releasing the pressure against the blinder will

allow the nostril engaging points to close on the poultry and be freed from the grip of the tool.

In the foregoing devices we have provided a tool that will afford an expeditious means for applying blinders to fowl. The blinder may similarly be quickly removed and such action may be of the utmost importance should a flock of fowl be attacked by a respiratory disease making the quick removal of the blinders necessary. Our tool can be economically stamped from sheet metal, moulded of plastic or made of substantially rigid material such as a forging, and easily assembled. By utilizing a spring we bias the tool to a normally open position to receive the blinder, facilitating the application of the required pressure on the blinder by the use of one hand, and allowing the remaining hand to hold the fowl. To allow the blinder to be sprung on the supporting structure of the tool, we may provide a movable supporting structure, such as resilient material or rollers or the like.

While we have illustrated a pivoting movement of the parts, any other well known mechanism may be substituted therefor.

We have thus described our invention, but we desire it understood that it is not confined to the particular forms or uses shown and described, the same being merely illustrative, and that the invention may be carried out in other ways without departing from the spirit of our invention, and, therefore, we claim broadly the right to all equivalent instrumentalities coming within the scope of the appended claims, and by means of which, objects of our invention are attained and new results accomplished, as it is obvious that the particular embodiments herein shown and described are only some of the many that can be employed to attain these objects and accomplish these results.

We claim:

1. A springing tool for poultry blinders comprising a pair of jaws connected together adjacent said jaws, one of said jaws comprising a channel structure having a pair of resiliently flexible coacting dependent legs extending therefrom constituting the sides of said channel structure, each of said legs terminating in a supporting surface, the other of said jaws comprising a pressure portion extending between said legs above said supporting surfaces, and means for closing the jaws whereby a poultry blinder comprising vision obstructing portions joined by a bowed portion is placed on said tool with said vision obstructing portions resting on said supporting surfaces and said jaws are closed to force said pressure portion onto the top of said bowed portion to force said legs apart and flex said blinder, said pair of resiliently flexible legs being resiliently separable laterally when said jaws are closed on the poultry blinder.

2. The tool of claim 1, wherein the poultry blinder supporting surfaces are flat and project laterally from the legs.

3. The tool of claim 1, wherein the means for closing the jaws comprises a pair of handles pivotally connected and a spring biasing said handles apart.

4. The tool of claim 1, wherein each of the poultry blinder supporting surfaces comprises a roller.

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