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CA 2529131 A1 2007/06/09

(21) 2 529 131

## (12) DEMANDE DE BREVET CANADIEN CANADIAN PATENT APPLICATION

(13) **A1** 

(22) Date de dépôt/Filing Date: 2005/12/09

(41) Mise à la disp. pub./Open to Public Insp.: 2007/06/09

(51) Cl.Int./Int.Cl. *A01G 9/20* (2006.01), *F21V 19/02* (2006.01), *F21V 29/00* (2006.01)

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(54) Title: SLIDING CLIP



## SLIDING CLIP

The present invention relates to an accessory for a light fixture and more particularly, relates to an accessory for a light fixture used in a horticultural apparatus.

In recent years, there is an increased interest in growing plants using artificial light. This interest exists both on an individual basis and on a commercial basis. Normally, the commercial arrangement uses high powered lights in a greenhouse wherein the plants are situated in beds which also provide for delivery of nutrients and water.

One problem with the above arrangement is the amount of space required.

Accordingly, the potential crops are limited to those of a relatively high value.

Increasingly, there is interest in rotary type arrangements wherein there is provided a light source interiorly of a drum which is rotated about the light source. This arrangement is advantageous in that far less space is utilized. However, one problem associated with such an arrangement is the amount of heat generated by the lights. As will be appreciated, at certain stages of growth, the heat can be excessive leading to plant loss and/or low growth rates.

The same problem exists in those rotary devices which are suitable for home use. Furthermore, the adjustability of the lights which come in different lengths is limited.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a novel arrangement for light fixtures used for horticultural purposes and wherein the light fixture is enclosed in a tube.

According to the present invention, there is provided an improved light tube arrangement for a horticultural apparatus, the arrangement being one wherein the light may be adjustably mounted within the tube.

Having thus generally described the invention, reference will be made to the accompanying drawings illustrating an embodiment thereof, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective illustration of an end light bracket according to an embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 2 is a further perspective illustration from the opposite side of the light bracket; and

Figure 3 is a side elevational view thereof.

Referring to the figures in greater detail and by reference characters thereto, there is illustrated a mounting member in Figure 1 and which mounting member is generally designated by reference numeral 10.

Mounting member 10 includes, centrally located thereof, an electrical box 12 which may be any conventional and is designed to receive the electrical connections for running power to one end of a light fixture. A conventional socket 14 is likewise provided.

A nut 18 mounts a bushing 16 in a desired position along with a cover nut 20 having an aperture to receive the electrical cords.

Mounting member 10 includes an outer flexible ring 22 formed of a suitable sheet material having somewhat resilient properties. In the position shown, the ring is slightly larger or equal to the diameter of the tube in which it is to be fit.

At one side thereof, flexible ring 22 has a flange 24 extending upwardly thereof. The connecting member generally designated by reference numeral 26 includes a first attaching portion 28 which is secured to flange 24, a second attaching portion 30 which is secured to electrical box 12, and an intermediate portion 32.

Similarly, on the other side of the flexible ring 22, there is provided a flange 24' which extends in the opposite direction compared to flange 24. Connecting member 26' includes a first attaching portion 28' secured to flange 24' along with a second connecting portion 30' which is secured to electrical box 12. Second connecting member 26 likewise has an intermediate portion 32'. It will be noted that intermediate portions 32 and 32' are aligned such that they present a minimal surface area with any airflow easily going through therethrough.

In the illustrated arrangement, both connecting members 26, 26' are formed as a single unit. Naturally, they could be formed as two different elements.

A pair of gripping portions 34, 34' are provided such that the flexible ring may be lessened in diameter to fit interiorly of a cylindrical tube. Subsequently, the release of gripping portions 34, 34' will permit the expansion of flexible ring 22 to retain the same in position.

At the other end of the flexible tube, there may be provided a similar mounting member.

It will be understood that the above described embodiment is for purposes of illustration only and that changes and modifications may be made thereto without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

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