

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## INSECT KILLING DEVICE

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This invention relates to means for exterminating insects and has particular relation to a safety container for dispensing liquid poison.

Numerous devices have been suggested for killing insects and the like. Some of these are of the mechanical type and others use chemicals for poisoning the insects. Devices of the latter type have been found generally unsatisfactory since they are usually of such construction that they may be placed almost anywhere and are frequently within the reach of children.

It is accordingly an object of my invention to provide an improved type of insect killer adapted to utilize a liquid type of poison and still enclose the poison in a relatively tight container so as to make it relatively difficult for children to come into contact with the poison.

Liquid poisons have been generally found to be more attractive to insects for a greater length of time, and therefore more satisfactory in such an insect killer.

It is therefore another object of my invention to provide a simple, inexpensive device of this type in which the poison may be sealed in dry form in the container during manufacture, and which may be prepared for use or renewed by the addition of water.

Another object of my invention is the provision of a device of this character and of such construction as to encourage storing or hanging in such a position and location as to be out of reach of children.

Other and further features and objects of the invention will be more apparent to those skilled in the art upon a consideration of the accompanying drawings and following specifications, wherein are disclosed several exemplary embodiments of the invention, with the understanding, however, that such changes may be made therein as fall within the scope of the appended claims, without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In said drawings:

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of the device constructed in accordance with one embodiment of my invention.

Figure 2 is a view in section illustrating the construction of the device shown in Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a view in perspective illustrating a modified form of the device shown in Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a sectional view of the device showing and illustrating the construction thereof, and

Figure 5 is a view in perspective of another modified form of the device.

Referring now to Figures 1 and 2 in particular, 55

the device comprises in general a can-like container, indicated generally at 10, and a wick 11 extending outside of the container and adapted to be wetted by liquid poison 12 within the container. The container shown may include bottom and top members 13 and 14 respectively and a side member 16, all joined together, in accordance with common practice in the making of tin cans, along the edges of the side member 16 by rolling and soldering or the like and as shown at 17.

It is preferable that the top member 14 be conical in shape. The wick 11 is received in an opening 18, preferably near the center of the top member 14 and extending downwardly into the liquid poison 12.

One or more openings, as shown at 19 and 20, are preferably provided around the larger opening 18 to permit water placed within the top cone-like or recessed member 14 to trickle downwardly into the container.

Any suitable liquid poison may be used in the container such as lead arsenate and water. It is preferable that sugar or molasses be also added to the mixture to make it attractive to insects.

To make the device marketable as a unit, the poison and sugar or the like may be supplied in dry form in a water soluble capsule 23 which may be sealed into the can during manufacture. Water may be added to the desired amount by the user when desired. When the water is added, the capsule dissolves, permitting the chemical to form a solution with the water.

It will be apparent that the poison will last practically indefinitely, as only the water will evaporate and may be readily replaced by the user.

In order to keep the container out of the reach of children, it is preferable that it be hung up on the wall out of their reach, and I have therefore provided the tab 21 having a hole 22 therein for mounting upon a nail or hook. The tab 21 may comprise a part of the cover member 14, or a hole may be punched through the upper rim of the container.

In the modified form of the structure shown in Figures 3 and 4 I have provided a different form of wick and have also provided a container of such a shape as to make it impossible to stand it upright on a table or shelf.

In this embodiment of the invention, the container is preferably cone-shaped, having a conical body member 26 and a slightly cone-shaped or recessed cover member 27. It is apparent of course that the main body member 26 may be