

along edge 26, is somewhat greater than semicircular in circumference, and in length along flat edge 32 the guard is slightly shorter than the overall length of the housing 12, but within the opposed lips 22 at opposite ends 18 and 20, as may be seen from FIGS. 3 and 4. In unstressed condition, the guard is of slightly greater cross-sectional diameter than the diameter of the open ends 18 and 20.

The guard 14 is preferably made of a resilient flexible springy-type material such as one of the plastic materials including, but not limited to, polyethylene, polypropylene, polyvinyl chloride, polyvinyl acetate, polystyrene, polybutadiene, polyacrylonitrile, urea-formaldehyde condensate, or copolymers thereof, or the like, as well as a metal or flexible paperboard. Resiliency and flexibility are important since the guard must be compressed by sidewise diametrical pressure to enable it to be inserted into the tubular housing through the open ends 18 and 20 narrowed by the lips 22. It should be noted, however, that the material used for the guard is not critical provided it is of a springy resilient nature.

To be positioned on the inside of the tubular housing, the guard must be squeezed with sidewise pressure usually with the insecticide received within the guard held in an inverted (convex upwardly) position. The cutout 34 in the bottom of the guard 14, as best shown in FIGS. 2 and 3, surrounds the sides of the insecticide. Once inside the tubular housing 12, the guard containing the insecticide is no longer subjected to the compression and is released. The curved sides 35 of the guard are forced against the sides of the tubular housing 12 and held from removal as its end edge 26 abuts the abutting surface 24 of the lip 22. The insecticide is thus held in place within the guard upon release of the guard.

To prevent undesired access to the chemical insecticide, cross bars 36,36 are superposed over the cutout portion 34 and are supported by front and rear L-shaped struts 38,38 which are connected to the cross bar 36 at 40. Feet 42 support the ends of the crossbar 36. The bottoms of the L-shaped struts 38 and the feet 42 may be suitably connected at their bases to the guard 14 adjacent the edges of the cutout 34, and in this manner support the cross bar 36 while providing openings 44 whereby the insects have convenient access to the insecticide 16.

In FIG. 6, there is shown a modified embodiment of the guard 14 and is provided with the same basic features. The curved sides include the cutout 34, the end edges 26, and the flat upper edges 32 in the manner precisely as described previously. The cross bar means is somewhat different and, as shown, includes a single superposed bar 46 extending the length of the cutout 34 and is supported by a truncated cone-shaped base 48 on either end of the cross bar 46 where they are made integral at 50.

As can be seen from the foregoing, the chemical insecticide 16 is positioned within the interior of the inverted guard 14. The guard 14 is then compressed by applying diametrical compressive force along the flat edges 32, and the entire guard containing the insecticide is inserted into the tubular housing 12. The inherent and natural springiness and resiliency of the guard will snap the guard walls 35 against the interior sidewalls of the housing 12 upon release. The guard and the contained and protected insecticide will be retained in the housing by the abutting surfaces 24 of the lip 22 and edge 26 of the guard, and cannot be removed by animals or children; nor can there be easy access to the chemical insecticide by humans or pets. Importantly, however, there is no bar to the insects which may easily move into the open ends 18 and 20 and

pass through the openings 44 to eat of the deadly insecticide.

From the foregoing detailed description it will be evident that there are a number of changes, adaptations and modifications of the present invention which come within the province of those skilled in the art; however, it is intended that all such variations not departing from the spirit of the invention be considered as within the scope thereof as limited solely by the appended claims.

I claim:

1. An insecticide apparatus comprising a substantially tubular housing having an open end, a chemical exterminating means positioned adjacent the inner surface of and within said housing, a resilient guard positioned over and covering said chemical exterminating means and within said housing, said guard having an enclosure means including a plurality of openings therein containing said chemical exterminating means and providing insect access to said chemical exterminating means through said guard opening, said guard being of flexible, resilient material and in expanded unstressed condition before insertion into said housing being of a cross-sectional width greater than the diameter of said open end whereby said guard must be contracted to a stressed condition to pass through said open end and be positioned over said chemical exterminating means to protect said chemical exterminating means from being removed from said housing or against animal access.

2. The insecticide apparatus of claim 1 including guard holding means positioned at and projecting across said open end.

3. The insecticide apparatus of claim 2 including said guard holding means being an inwardly protruding lip positioned at said open end.

4. The insecticide apparatus of claim 1 including said guard having a circumference in cross section greater than semicircular.

5. The insecticide apparatus of claim 1 including said guard being composed of polyethylene, polypropylene, polyvinyl chloride, polyvinyl acetate, polystyrene, polybutadiene, polyacrylonitrile, urea-formaldehyde condensate, or the like.

6. The insecticide apparatus of claim 1 including said guard having a curved elongated base, a cutout portion in said base surrounding said chemical exterminating means, crossbar means superposed over said cutout, vertical supporting means connected to said base and said crossbar means to maintain said cross bar means positioned above said chemical exterminating means.

7. The insecticide apparatus of claim 9 including a guard holding means provided with an inwardly protruding lip positioned at said open end.

8. The insecticide apparatus of claim 1 includes a guard holding means, said guard holding means being an inwardly protruding lip positioned at said open end, said lip forming a reduced diameter at said open end smaller than the width of said guard.

9. The insecticide apparatus of claim 8 wherein said guard is provided with a curved elongated flexible and resilient base and a cutout portion in said base adapted to surround said chemical exterminating means.

10. The insecticide apparatus of claim 9 wherein said guard includes a crossbar means superposed over said cutout, vertical supporting means connected to said base and said crossbar means to maintain said crossbar means positioned above said chemical exterminating means.

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