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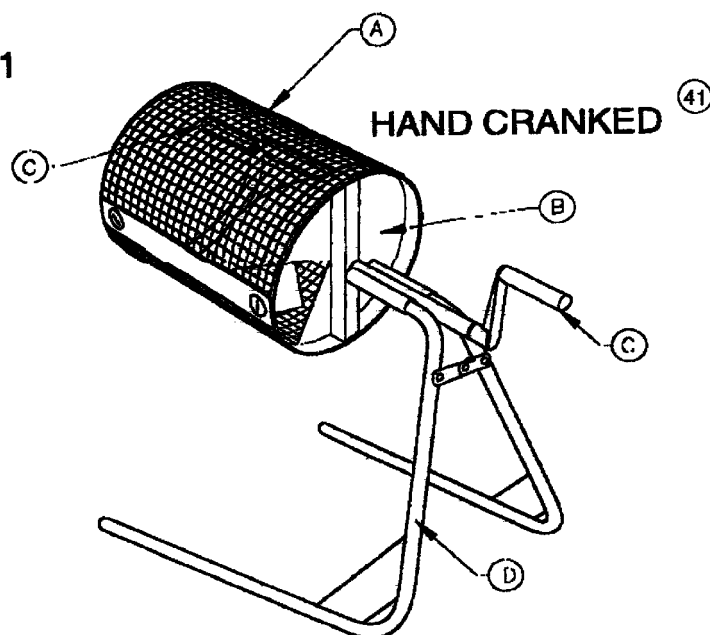
(54) **Soil sifting device**

(57) A soil sifter, e.g. a soil sifting device, has a body (figure 1) which is an inclined mesh drum (A), with open end upper most which is loaded with garden material to be sifted. The bottom of the drum is closed except for a helical labyrinth (figure 2). On rotating the drum in one direction the material is agitated and separated through the mesh rolling up and over the step shown in the helical back plate (B) (figure 4). Sifted soil then falls to a barrow or container below the drum (A). Larger debris is

expelled from the bottom of (A) when the rotation is reversed. Debris falls through the labyrinth formed by the helical back plate (B) (figure 1,2,3,4).

The inclined drum (A) is supported by a portable frame (D), to which is attached the motor housing or crank handle (C).

Figure 1



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			A01B B07B E01H
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 25 November 1999	Examiner Walvoort, B
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons</p> <p>& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 99 30 3653

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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25-11-1999

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