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(54) **Mesh screen cover, especially for garden pools**

(57) The mesh screen cover for garden pools comprises knitted mesh netting of cotton or a synthetic material, with square meshes of 2mm to 30mm, fitted with a flexible rim or a tunnel of a solid fabric along the edge. The size and shape of the mesh screen cover are ad-

justed to the size and shape of the pool. The mesh screen cover can be fitted with fastening and fixing means along the edge. An elastic string is the most suitable means for such purposes.

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Description

Technical field

[0001] The invention provides a mesh screen cover for outdoor garden pools against leaves and larger organic debris.

Background art

[0002] Various types of aboveground as well as in-ground outdoor swimming pools have become a common part of garden furnishings in family houses; they provide relaxation and rest to their owners in warm seasons of the year. However, the users have to pay much attention to the maintenance and cleaning of these pools, especially their protection against the undesirable collection of organic debris from the surroundings. Leaves from falling trees and shrubs around the pool constitute a significant source of debris in non-seasonal periods, especially in fall. At present pools are most often protected against leaves and other organic debris with plastic tarpaulins, especially made of polyethylene and like materials. The surface of these tarpaulins and the depressions on them, caused by their insufficient tensioning or sagging due to their own weight, often trap such debris as well as rainwater and the organic debris tends to decompose in the wet environment. The subsequent removal of the trapped debris and the cleaning, drying and any other handling of the tarpaulins are physically demanding tasks because of their dimensions, while a large storage area is needed for their keeping. Garden swimming pools can be designed with permanent covering, most often consisting of vaulted sliding segments, but it increases the acquisition costs and can be esthetically disruptive in the garden environment.

Disclosure of the Invention

[0003] The mesh screen cover according the invention provides a simple, cheap and efficient protection of swimming pools against falling leaves and larger organic debris. The screen cover is made from knitted mesh netting of cotton or a synthetic material with square meshes of 2mm to 30mm, featuring a rim of an elastic material, a rubber band or advantageously a fabric tunnel with the minimum width of 10mm, with an elastic string - elastic tape passing through it. The screen dimensions and shape are adjusted to the dimensions and shape of the swimming pool. The screen can be fitted with means for its tensioning and fixing to the adjacent terrain or the pool edges; fastening strings are the most suitable means as they can be fixed to the support material for example using ordinary tent pegs or metal rings mounted in the solid support material. It is also possible to fix the screen with an elastic string, pulled advantageously through the fabric tunnel at the edge of the screen, which can be pulled through the

holes in the tunnel and fixed directly to the terrain using tent pegs. The string can be additionally extended with fastening or tightening means of metal. The used material and the screen connection give the screen cover a sufficient degree of flexibility and expansibility in all directions and allow an excellent tension and adjustment to the shape of the specific pool, which are often designed as irregular. A fundamental advantage of the screen cover in the present invention is that it traps falling leaves and larger organic debris of a similar nature, while its surface does not trap rainwater and the trapped organic debris therefore does not subsequently decompose on it. The mesh netting enables uniform air circulation around the fallen leaves from all directions and the drying of the leaves is therefore significantly faster than in the surrounding terrain, so the wind can blow it away from the surface of the screen cover. The dried leaves can be also removed from the surface of the screen using a garden vacuum cleaner or an artificial air jet. Prior to storing the screen cover it is possible to easily remove the remaining debris by washing in an ordinary washing machine.

Examples

Example 1

[0004] A mesh screen cover with the width of 500cm and length of 220cm is made from knitted mesh netting with square meshes with the dimensions of 10×10mm, made from a cotton string with the diameter of 1mm. The screen cover is rimmed with a rubber band with the width of 50mm. It is fitted with fastening strings spaced in 50cm intervals along the rim. The ends of the fastening strings are anchored in the adjacent terrain using ordinary tent pegs.

Example 2

[0005] A mesh screen cover for covering a circular aboveground swimming pool is made from flexible polyamide mesh netting with 5mm meshes. The screen has a circular shape with the diameter of 310cm. It is fitted with a strong rubber rim along the edge, which makes it possible to fasten and tension the screen by pulling it over the pool edges.

Example 3

[0006] A mesh screen cover made from the same material as the screen cover in example 3, with the width of 5m and length of 7.5m, is rimmed with a tunnel of solid fabric with the width of 40mm, through which an elastic string is pulled along the whole length. The tunnel is fitted with holes in 500mm spacings, which make it possible to pull the string through it and tension the screen.

Utility of the invention

[0007] A mesh screen cover in the present invention can be used for the protection of garden swimming pools and garden and other outdoor pools against leaves and larger organic debris and, protection of fry in fish hatcheries and protection of children's playgrounds and sandboxes.

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Claims

1. A mesh screen cover for garden pools, **characterized in that** it is comprising knitted mesh netting of cotton or a synthetic material, with square meshes of 2mm to 30mm, fitted with a flexible rim along the edge, with the dimensions of the mesh screen cover being adjusted to the size and shape of the pool. 15
2. The mesh screen cover according to claim 1, wherein the screen cover is fitted with fastening and fixing means along the edge. 20
3. The mesh screen cover according to claim 2, wherein the fastening and fixing means are fastening elastic strings. 25
4. The mesh screen cover according to claims 1 to 3, wherein the screen cover is fitted with a tunnel of a solid fabric with the minimum width of 1cm along the whole edge, with an elastic string pulled through the tunnel. 30
5. The mesh screen cover according to claims 1 to 4, wherein the tunnel is fitted with holes in regular intervals that make it possible to pull the elastic string for the fixing to the terrain through the tunnel. 35
6. The mesh screen cover according to claim 5, wherein the elastic string is fitted with plastic or metal fastening or tightening means in regular intervals along its length. 40
7. Application of the mesh screen cover according to claims 1 to 6 for the protection of outdoor swimming pools and other pools against debris. 45
8. Application of the mesh screen cover according to claims 1 to 6 for the protection of fry in fish hatcheries. 50
9. Application of the mesh screen cover according to claims 1 to 6 for the protection of children's playgrounds and sandboxes against debris. 55



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 04 46 6019

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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