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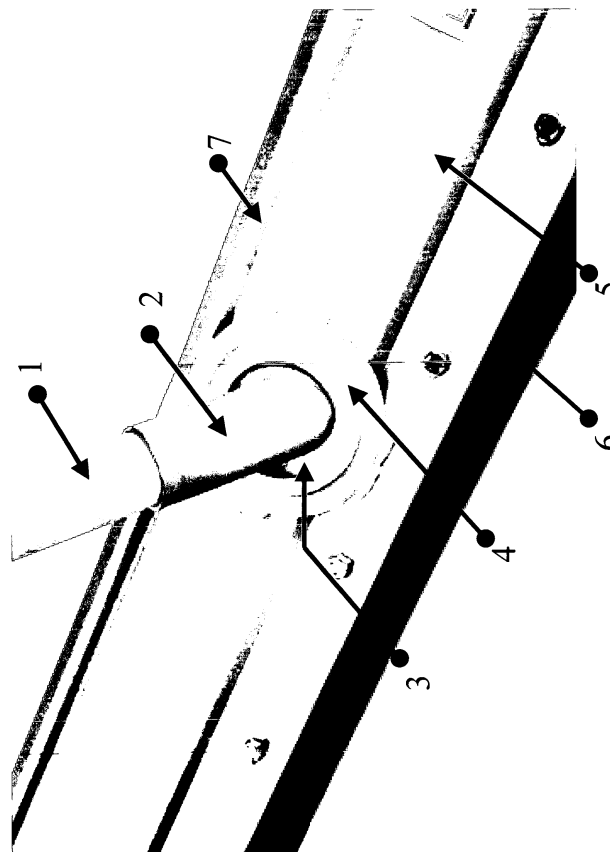
(54) **Manure shovel with rotating handle holder**

(57) The invention relates to a mechanism in which the shovel blade (5) of a manure shovel can rotate flexibly about the handle (1) of this manure shovel.

The handle holder (2) is constructed in such a way that the manure shovel follows the movements of the

handle (1) and therefore remains in contact with the ground surface. The rotating function of the handle holder (2) means it is possible to move the handle (1) at an angle in relation to the shovel blade (5). The rotatability of the handle holder (2) means that the shovel blade (5) can be turned over.

Fig. 1



Description

[0001] The invention relates to a mechanism for the purpose of manually turning a manure shovel, so that both edges of the manure shovel can be used and it is also possible to position the handle at an angle.

Construction

[0002] The mechanism consists of a round handle holder and a fitting ring. The handle holder is a steel tube, one end of which is fitted with a round metal disc. The end of the handle holder is sawn off diagonally, so that it is attached to the disc at an angle. The other side of the holder is open; the end of the handle is inserted here. The fitting ring is placed over the handle holder and covers the disc completely, with the disc being completely free of the fitting ring. The fitting ring is permanently attached to the shovel blade by means of four welds. In the resulting construction, the handle holder can rotate freely inside the fitting ring.

[0003] The manure shovel consists of a shovel blade to which a rotatable handle holder is welded; a handle can be fitted into this holder.

[0004] The current manure shovels have the following disadvantages:

[0005] The handle holder is fitted by means of a rigid connection to the shovel blade. The handle of the manure shovel is fitted into the handle holder. This construction results in a rigid implement in which the handle is fixed perpendicular to the shovel blade. During use, the handle must be held at the smallest possible angle in relation to the ground, in order to propel the manure shovel forwards as effectively as possible. If the angle between the handle and the ground becomes too large, the rubber at the base of the shovel blade will make less contact with the ground and will flap about, which has a detrimental effect on the cleaning operation.

[0006] By fitting the handle holder to the shovel blade at an angle, the problem described above will be reduced. However, there is a disadvantage to this construction, which is that the manure shovel cannot be turned over. The top edge, also known as the scraper edge, is often used to scrape the ground surface clean.

[0007] The invention is intended to solve the problems described above and will be described in detail below, on the basis of a model version of the construction in accordance with the invention, illustrated diagrammatically.

[0008] The handle holder (2) is sawn off diagonally at the bottom and then welded to the round metal disc (3). The round disc (3) at the bottom of the handle holder (2) is covered by a fitting ring (4), which is welded to the shovel blade (5). This construction means that the handle holder (2) can rotate within the fitting ring (4). Because the ring is attached to the shovel blade, a construction is created in which the shovel blade (5) can rotate around the handle holder (2). By inserting a handle (1) in the

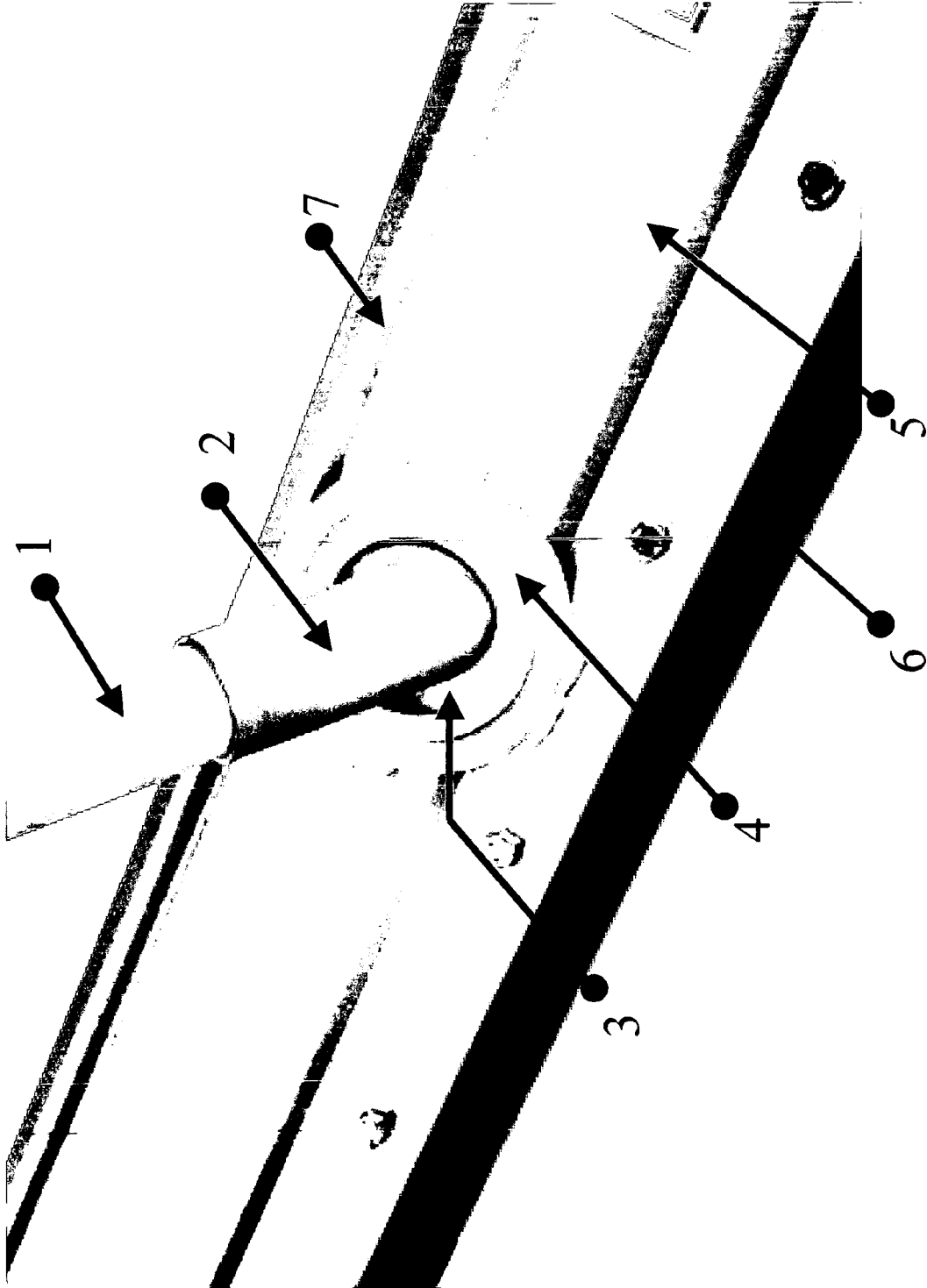
handle holder, the shovel blade (5) can be propelled and rotated, which means that both the rubber edge (6) and the scraper edge (7) of the manure shovel can be used.

Claims

1. A mechanism for the purpose of a rotatable manure shovel. The manure shovel consists of a handle (1) and a rotatable handle holder (2) to which a shovel blade (5) is attached. The end of the handle holder is fitted with a round disc (3), which is covered by a fitting ring (4), which is permanently attached to the shovel blade (5). Because the handle holder (2) can move freely within the fitting ring (4), the shovel blade (5) will follow the movements of the handle (1). Since the shovel blade (5) can rotate around the handle holder (2), it becomes possible to use both the rubber edge (6) and the scraper edge (7) of the shovel blade (5), while the handle (1) can be held at various angles.

The overall result is that the manure shovel makes better contact with the ground surface.

Fig. 1





DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			B25G
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague		10 February 2006	Popma, R
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		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 & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
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EPO FORM 1503 03 82 (P04C01)

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

EP 05 07 7408

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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10-02-2006

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