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(54) **DEVICE FOR COLLECTING ANIMAL EXCREMENT**

(57) This consists of a cardboard container or box, whose opening marks the start of at least one front extension (3) as a continuation of one of the lateral walls of the container, an elongate element also being included and attaching to said front extension (3) in order to cause it to fold down, once the excrement (14) is located on said extension (3), for subsequent insertion inside the container. The remains are located on said front extension (3), pushing the container forwards when it is resting on the ground near the remains via its front extension and lateral wall (1) that is coplanar with said extension (3). To assist positioning of the remains on the front extension, provision has been made for the incorporation of a laminar element that forms part of the container and is joined thereto by means of a perforated line for allowing its detachment.

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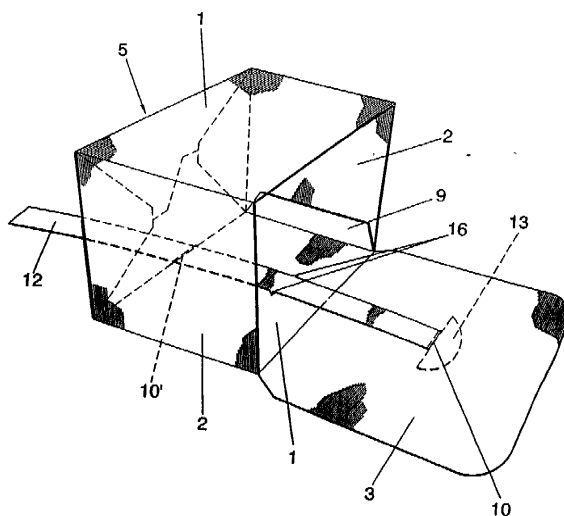


FIG. 1

Description

OBJECT OF THE INVENTION

[0001] The present invention, as is stated in the title of this specification, is related to a device for collecting animal excrement, this is for serving for the purpose of collecting the remains, essentially of pets and among them the excrements of dogs.

[0002] Thus, the objective of the invention is a convenient, practical collecting device such that, when used, there is no contact between the hand of the user and the excrement, not even by means of inserting a plastic or similar element in between the same as has conventionally been the case of using gloves or other types of similar collecting devices.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0003] For collecting animal excrement, especially dog excrement, bags, gloves, etc. have currently been being used, such that the hand of the user comes into contact, albeit indirectly, with the excrement, this being a rather uncomfortable feeling. Many times, these systems are not used by users due to their being inconvenient, the streets therefore being cleaned using specialized machinery giving rise to a high cost and a great deal of inconvenience for pedestrians, especially when they step on these remains.

DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0004] For the purpose of achieving the objectives and preventing the drawbacks mentioned in the preceding paragraphs hereinabove, this invention proposes a device for collecting animal excrement which is **characterized in that** it comprises a small container or box made of cardboard of similar, whose opening marks the start of a front extension as a continuation of one of the lateral walls of the container. Other extensions or flaps might also start from this opening.

[0005] During the practical use of this collecting device, it is to be placed on the ground with the front extension and coplanar wall resting on the ground with the front edge of the aforesaid extension placed near the excrement to be collected.

[0006] In another phase, the container assembly is moved forward until the remains are located on top of the front extension with the help of a laminar body previously separated from the container and initially joined thereto by means of a perforated line.

[0007] In the following stage, the front extension is folded up by tilting the container upward in the direction of closing the container so that the excrement is located inside the collecting device.

[0008] This tilting is performed by means of an elongate element which is to be joined by one end to the front extension, whilst this elongate element will also run

through a slit located in another area of the container and running through the same, preferably in the back, such that once the excrement is located on the aforementioned front extension, one pulls on the elongate element from outside of the container by grasping it from behind the back in order to make the front extension tilt so that the remains will be finally inside the container or box.

[0009] That which is stated in the immediately preceding paragraph hereinabove also comprises characteristics of the invention.

[0010] Preferably, the elongate operating element for tilting the front extension in the direction of closing the container is determined by a strip or portion of the same material as the rest of the container, such that this elongate portion will have a widening at one end to ensure its anchoring to the front extension during its folding when this strip is pulled for collecting the excrement.

[0011] The possibility also exists of the aforesaid strip being joined to the container assembly by means of a perforated line, previously being separated when one is going to make use of the container.

[0012] In this specific case of the elongate strip, this strip will run through some slits, one being located in the front extension which not does allow the widened end to pass through so as to assure the joining of the elongate portion during the process of its being pulled in the direction of closing the front extension.

[0013] The other paired slit through which the elongate strip will run will be preferably located at the meeting point or folding line joining the back to the lateral wall of the container.

[0014] The box made of cardboard or another laminar material may be foldable, taking up minimal space, the different parts of which will practically be contained within one same plane, which will be highly convenient for transporting for which use is going to be made of the collecting device.

[0015] When the time comes to use the collecting device, one will simply proceed to unfold the aforesaid box, which will fold out into a small box structure including the front extension and also the elongate element, now run through the pair of guide slits.

[0016] Thus, the box comprising the collecting device is easy to manufacture, given that it is made in one single piece, and all of the components of which it is comprised are going to preferably be of one same material, with the possibility of including some other different material, such as cords, string, plastic, etc.

[0017] In another embodiment, provision has been made for the incorporation of a top flap which also starts from the opening, this flap serving as an aid for pushing the excrement, when necessary, into the inside of the container. This flap comprises the aforementioned laminar body.

[0018] Considering more this embodiment stated in the Immediately preceding paragraph hereinabove, when collecting the excrement, the box is opened and the excrement pushed into the inside by means of the

aforementioned flap, such that once the excrement is located on the front extension, the elongate strip is pulled until the box is closed with the aforementioned front extension. The closing of the container is assured by means of the overlapping of the front extension, this overlapping being assured by means of the grasping of the elongate strip from which the container assembly will hang with the excrement inside, continuing to grasp the same up to the point of depositing the container assembly into a garbage container or wastepaper basket.

[0019] Following, in order to provide for a better comprehension of this specification and comprising an integral part thereof, some figures are attached depicting the object of the invention for illustrative and non-limiting purposes.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0020]

Figure 1. Shows a perspective view of the device for collecting animal excrement object of the invention. Figures 2 and 3. Show views of the application of the collecting device of the invention.

Figure 4. Shows a plan view of a die-cut cardboard sheet from which the container or collecting device of the invention is obtained.

DESCRIPTION OF THE REFERRED EMBODIMENT

[0021] Considering the numbering adopted in the figures, the device for collecting animal excrement is determined from a parallelepiped-shape cardboard container of box which includes at least four lateral walls, two larger walls (1) and two smaller walls (2), a back (5) and a front extension (3) which is a continuation of one of the larger lateral walls, whilst it is joined to the aforesaid lateral wall by means of the corresponding fold line (4). From the other larger paired lateral wall, a top flap (15) also starts as a pushing element for helping the excrement (14) for placing the excrement onto the aforementioned front extension (3). This flap (15) is previously separated from the container. For this purpose, the container is joined by means of a perforated line.

[0022] The back (5) comprises two larger sections 6 generally rectangular in shape which start from the larger lateral walls (1) and two smaller trapezoidal sections (7) which start from the smaller lateral walls (2). In turn, the larger sections include some trapezium notches (8) along their free edges in order to thus facilitate constructing the back (5) by means of the aforesaid four sections comprising said back (5).

[0023] Additionally, one of the four lateral walls includes a small flap (9) for facilitating the complete constructing of the container.

[0024] Moreover, the front extension incorporates a straight cut (10) paired with another straight cut 10' located on a fold line (11) which joins one larger section

(6) of the back (5) to a larger lateral wall (1), an elongate strip (12) of the same material being run through the aforesaid cuts for facilitating the folding of the front extension (3) in the direction of closing the container so that the excrement (14) previously placed on the aforesaid extension are moved inside the container. This elongate strip (12) is initially connected to the flap (15) by means of another perforated line (18) for facilitating its separation.

10 [0025] To ensure the anchoring of the elongate strip (12) to the front extension (3) during its folding, the aforesaid strip (12) incorporates a widening at the end (13) and a brake or stop (16) which assures the closing or anchoring, once the box-closing operation has been completed, such that it prevents it from coming open, unless it is unnecessarily forced. This stop consists of some small appendages located along both lengthwise edges of the strip (12).

20 [0026] In order to previously place the excrement (14) on the front extension (3), the constructed container is placed resting on the ground with the front edge of the extension (3) near the excrement, then moving the container assembly forward until the excrement is located inside said extension (3).

25 [0027] To carry out the aforesaid operation, one may also do so with the aid of the flap or laminar body.

Claims

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1. **DEVICE FOR COLLECTING ANIMAL EXCREMENT**, which, being for the purpose of collecting animal excrement deposited on the ground, is **characterized in that** it comprises a laminar container, essentially made of cardboard, from whose opening starts at least one lower front extension (3) as a continuation of one of the lateral walls of the container, further comprising an elongated element which couples into the front extension (3) for the folding thereof once the excrement (14) are placed on said lower extension (3) so that they may be placed inside the container; the excrement being located on this front extension (3) at least by pushing the container forward when it is resting on the ground along its front extension and a lateral wall (1) coplanar with said extension (3).

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2. **DEVICE FOR COLLECTING ANIMAL EXCREMENT** according to Claim 1, **characterized in that** the elongated element consists of a laminar strip (12) which is inserted through some open slits (10 and 10') respectively located in the front extension (3) and in a fold line (11) which joins a back (5) to the lateral wall (1), of which the lower front extension (3) is a continuation.

3. **DEVICE FOR COLLECTING ANIMAL EXCREMENT** according to Claim 2, **characterized in that**

the elongated strip (12) incorporates a widened end portion (13) which assures the anchoring of the elongated strip (12) over the front extension (3).

4. **DEVICE FOR COLLECTING ANIMAL EXCRE-** 5
MENT according to anyone of the preceding claims,
characterized in that the opening of the container
incorporates a top flap (15) as a continuation of an-
other lateral wall (1), this flap (15) serving as an el- 10
ement for aiding in dragging the excrement (14) up
to the front extension (3), this flap (15) having previ-
ously been separated from the container.
5. **DEVICE FOR COLLECTING ANIMAL EXCRE-** 15
MENT according to anyone of the preceding claims,
characterized in that the container comprises an
essentially parallelepiped structure, the back of
which includes two larger sections (6) with some tra-
pezium notches (8) along longer free edges thereof 20
and two trapezium sections (7), the container being
complemented with four lateral walls (1 and 2) and
a small flap (9) for completing the constructing of the
container, the top flap (15) and the strip (12), these
two elements being joined to the container by means 25
of perforated lines (17 and 18).
6. **DEVICE FOR COLLECTING ANIMAL EXCRE-**
MENT according to anyone of claims 2 to 5,
characterized in that the elongate strip (12) incor- 30
porates some small retaining and stopping append-
ages (16) along the lengthwise edges thereof in or-
der to assure that the container remains shut once
it has been closed.

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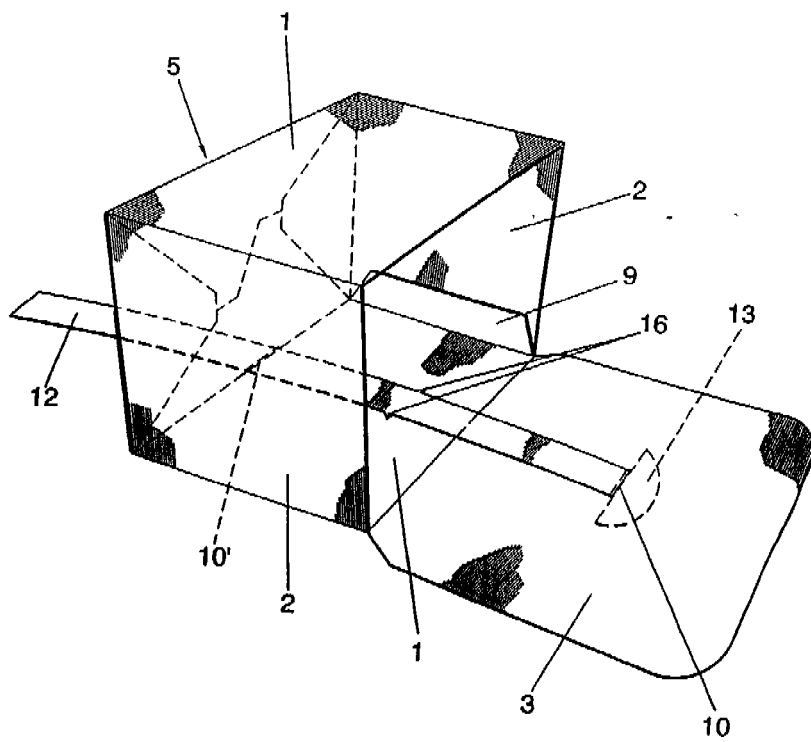
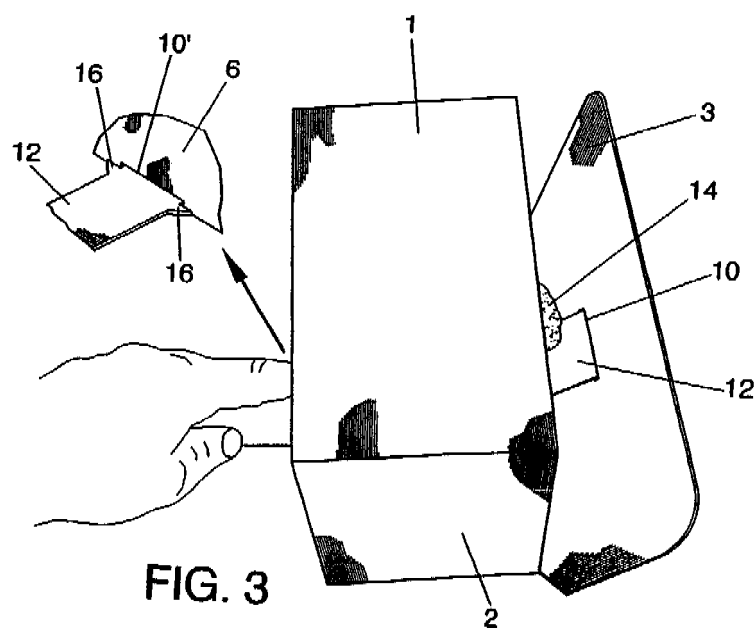
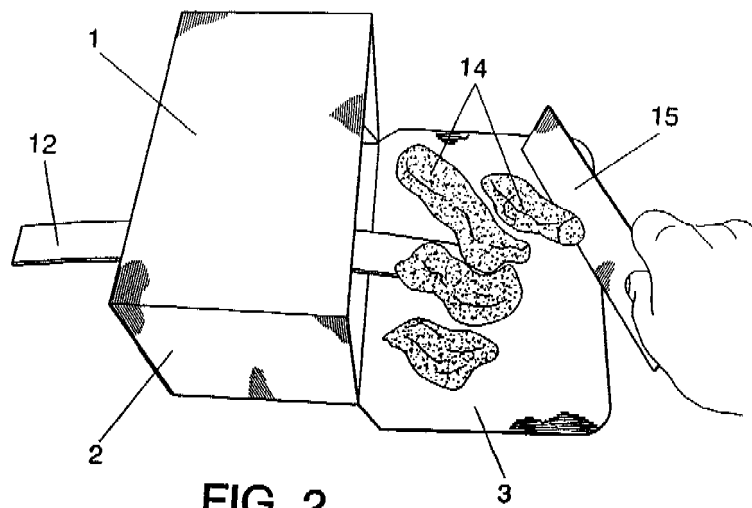
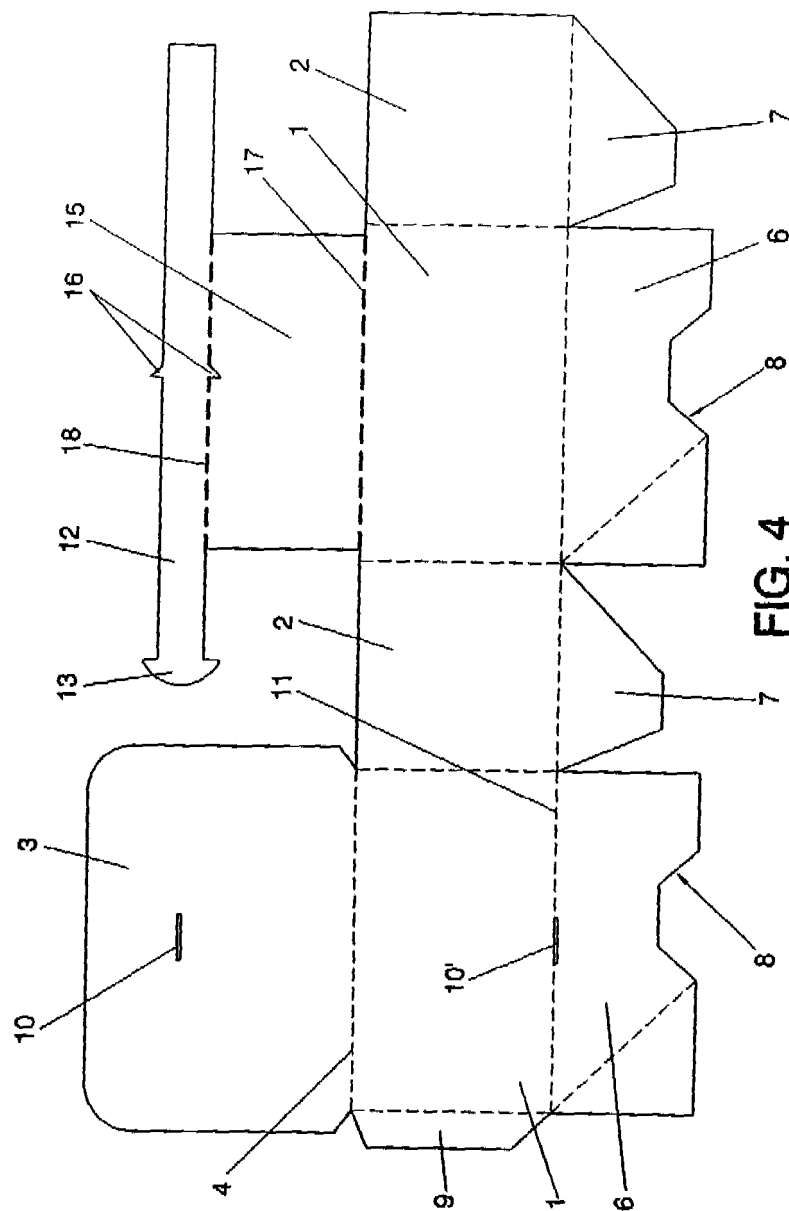


FIG. 1





INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/ ES 2007/000458

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

see extra sheet

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

E01H1/12, B65D5,

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

CIBEPAT, EPODOC, WPI

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 3830423 A (PRESCOTT et al.) 20.08.1974, figures 7 a 10 and abstract.	1-6
A	US 4222598 A (ULLGER et al.) 16.09.1980, figures 1 a 5, abstract and column 3.	1-6
A	DE 29709895 U1 (USCHKEREIT GERD PROF) 18.09.1997, figures 1 a 5 and abstract.	1-6
A	US 4830419 A (WATANABE et al.) 16.05.1989, figures 1 a 7, abstract and column 4.	1-6
A	ES 1046223 U (SALUTREGUI MOURE EUGENIO) 01.12.2000, figures 1 a 4.	1-6
A	US 6527320 B1 (GREGG et al.) 04.03.2003, figure 1 and abstract.	1-6
A	EP 1054109 A1 (DBD SRL) 22.11.2000, figures 5a,5b and abstract.	1-6

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☒ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

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"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y"

document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

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document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/ ES 2007/000458

Patent document cited in the search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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US 4222598 A	16.09.1980	NONE	-----
DE 29709895 U U	18.09.1997	NONE	-----
US 4830419 A	16.05.1989	WO 8906089 A	13.07.1989 13.07.1989 13.07.1989
US 6527320 B	04.03.2003	NONE	-----
EP 1054109 A	22.11.2000	EP 19990109839	19.05.1999 19.05.1999 19.05.1999
ES 1046223 U	01.12.2000	NONE	-----

Form PCT/ISA/210 (patent family annex) (April 2007)

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CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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