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(54) **PARASOL ACCESSORY**

(57) Parasol accessory that comprises a laminar body (4) provided with a fold (5) in the lower part thereof, for the insertion of a ballasting piece, and with means for the association thereof with the rib structure of the parasol in the upper part thereof. The laminar body (4) covers

the distance from the upper canopy (3) to the ground. The fastening means comprise eyelets (6) and cords (7) for connecting the laminar body (4) to the ribs. In the central part thereof, there is an extension (8) for the association thereof to the supporting pole (2), which may comprise a bag or the like at the free end thereof.

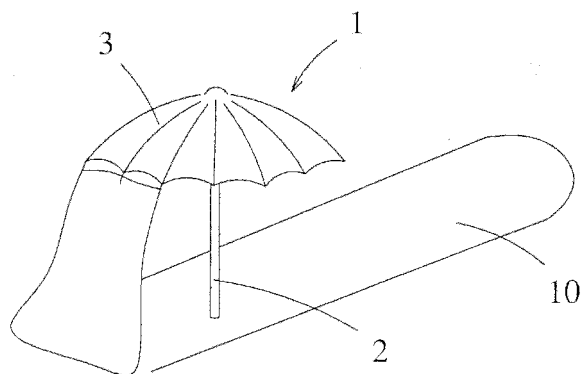


Fig. 2

Description

Object of the invention

[0001] The object of the present Utility Model application is the registration of a parasol accessory which allows the increase in the area of shade in open spaces, compared with other sunscreens of the known art.

[0002] Specifically, the accessory comprises a laminar body which attaches to the body of a conventional parasol, such that the gap between the ground and the top cover of the parasol is covered by said laminar body.

Background of the invention

[0003] As is well known, conventional parasols used on beaches or the like comprise, in their configuration, a supporting pole fixing the parasol to the surface where it is placed, an umbrella frame-like structure connected to the support pole and a top cover connected to the rod structure, aimed at creating a shade in open spaces.

[0004] The main drawback of conventional parasols as described is their lack of adaptability to the movement of the sun, and consequently, to the constant change in the projected shadow. As a result, the user of the parasol is constantly changing the orientation or even the position of the parasol.

[0005] Another drawback no less important is the fact that in situations with a gusty wind parasols and their poles may roll across the beach, potentially causing harm to beach-goers.

Description of the invention

[0006] The parasol accessory object of the present registration presents a series of advantages which will become apparent from the following description.

[0007] Indeed, the accessory of the invention aims to improve protection from the sun's rays in open spaces, as it considerably increases the area of shade compared with parasols or similar devices heretofore known.

[0008] For this, more specifically, the accessory is specially designed for connection to parasols of the type which comprise a support pole, an umbrella frame-like structure and a top cover, and is characterised in that it comprises a laminar body equipped in the lower part with a fold for the insertion of a ballast, and in the upper part with a means of association to the rod structure of the parasol, so that the height of the laminar body is such that it covers the gap between the ground and the top cover of the parasol.

[0009] According to the described characteristics, the means for association of the laminar body to the structure of the parasol rods are fitted in the centre and at the edges of the upper part of said laminar body.

[0010] Preferably, the aforementioned means of association consists of eyelets through each of which a cord runs and attaches to the rod structure.

[0011] Furthermore, leading from the centre of the laminar body is an extension which is associated to the parasol's support pole, so that the connection between the accessory and the parasol is secure.

[0012] In turn, said extension is equipped with a bag or the like for the insertion of personal items, or for storing the laminar body itself.

[0013] According to another feature of the accessory, the laminar body may hold on its inner side at least one pocket or the like for the insertion of small, lightweight items that the user may need to keep within sight or at hand, or stowed away.

[0014] The form of the laminar body may have any shape, however, one of the preferred forms is rectangular.

[0015] Taking into account the manufacturing material of the laminar body, it must be lightweight and low volume to facilitate the transportation of the accessory. Furthermore, the material must provide protection from UV rays, and could even be biodegradable.

[0016] The crease created in the inner part when the laminar body is folded over will act as a ballast when filled with sand from the beach or the like.

[0017] According to one last feature of the accessory of the invention, the laminar body is suitable for presenting portions for the placement of advertising ornamentation, such that the accessory could be a highly attractive promotional product.

[0018] Conveniently, due to the configuration features of the invention set forth, we have a parasol accessory, light and easily to handle, which considerably increases the area of shade in open spaces when compared with other sunscreens of the known art.

[0019] Furthermore, the user may maintain their initial position, because, as is common knowledge, the sun's movement implies constant movement of the shade provided by known sunscreens.

[0020] In addition, the accessory of the invention acts as a safety element against possible accidents that may be caused by a gust of wind, as the accessory acts as a ballast for the parasol.

[0021] To complete the description that follows, and with the aim of facilitating understanding of its characteristics, this descriptive summary is accompanied by a set of drawings which include, but are not limited to, the most significant details of the invention.

Brief description of the drawings

[0022]

Figure 1 is an elevation view of the parasol accessory according to the features of the invention; and

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the parasol accessory of the invention in use.

Description of a preferred embodiment

[0023] In view of the figures mentioned and in accordance with the adopted numbering, we can see therein a preferred but not limitative embodiment of the invention, which consists of an accessory applicable to any conventional parasol (1) that comprises a support pole (2), an umbrella frame-like structure and a top cover (3).

[0024] As shown in Figure 1, the accessory comprises a laminar body (4) equipped in the lower part with a fold (5) for the insertion of a ballast, such as beach sand or the like, and in the upper part with a means for its association to the rod structure of the parasol (1).

[0025] The means of association comprises three eyelets (6), arranged in the centre and the edges of the upper part of the laminar body (4), through each of which a cord runs and attaches to the rod structure. However it will be apparent to one skilled in the art that other suitable means may be used for the association of the laminar body (4) to the parasol's rod structure (1).

[0026] Leading from the centre of the laminar body (4) is an extension (8) which is associated to the parasol's support pole (2), such that the connection between the extension (8) and the parasol (1) is completely secure.

[0027] Furthermore, the end of the extension (8) is equipped with a bag or the like (9) for the insertion of personal items, or for storing the accessory itself.

[0028] According to another feature of the accessory, the inner side of the laminar body (4) is equipped with at least one pocket for the insertion of items that need to be kept at hand, or protected (feature not shown).

[0029] The shape of the laminar body (4) has a rectangular form, however, said body may take any shape that increases the area of shade (10) (see clearly Figure 2).

[0030] Taking into account the manufacturing material of the laminar body (4), it must provide protection from UV rays and moreover must be lightweight and low volume, to facilitate transportation of the accessory.

[0031] Additionally, according to a final feature of the accessory of the invention, the laminar body (4) presents a portion for placement of advertising ornamentation (11).

[0032] As clearly seen in Figure 2, the laminar body (4) has a height that allows it to cover the gap between the floor on which the parasol (1) is placed and the top cover (3) of the parasol (1).

[0033] Due to the configuration features of the parasol accessory above, the area of shade (10) in open spaces is significantly increased when compared with other sun-screens of the known art.

[0034] Furthermore, it allows the user to maintain their initial position independently of the movement of the sun.

[0035] It also acts as a safety element against possible accidents that may be caused by a gust of wind, as the accessory acts as a ballast for the parasol.

[0036] The details, shapes, dimensions and other incidental elements, and the material used in the manu-

facturing of the accessory of the invention may conveniently be replaced by others which are technically equivalent and do not depart from the essence of the invention nor the scope defined by the claims included below.

Claims

1. Parasol accessory for parasols (1) of the type which comprise a support pole (2), an umbrella frame-like structure and a top cover (3), **characterised in that** it comprises a laminar body (4) equipped in the lower part with a fold (5) for the insertion of a ballast, and in the upper part with a means of association to the rod structure of the parasol (1), and so that the height of the laminar body (4) is sufficient to cover the gap between the ground and the top cover (3) of the parasol (1).
2. Parasol accessory, according to claim 1, **characterised in that** the means for association of the laminar body to the rod structure of the parasol comprises eyelets (6) through each of which runs a cord (7) that attaches to the rod structure.
3. Parasol accessory, according to claim 2, **characterised in that** the means for the association of the laminar body to the rod structure of the parasol (1) are set out in the centre and at the edges of the upper part.
4. Parasol accessory according to claim 1, **characterised in that** the means for the association of the laminar body to the rod structure of the parasol set out in the centre present an extension (8) which attaches to the support pole (2) of the parasol (1).
5. Parasol accessory, according to claim 4, **characterised in that** the extension (8) is equipped, on its free edge, with a bag or the like (9).
6. Parasol accessory, according to claim 1, **characterised in that** the laminar body (4) has a rectangular contour.
7. Parasol accessory, according to claim 1, **characterised in that** the laminar body (4) presents a portion for placement of advertising ornamentation (11).
8. Parasol accessory, according to claim 1, **characterised in that** the laminar body (4) presents on its inner side at least one pocket or the like.

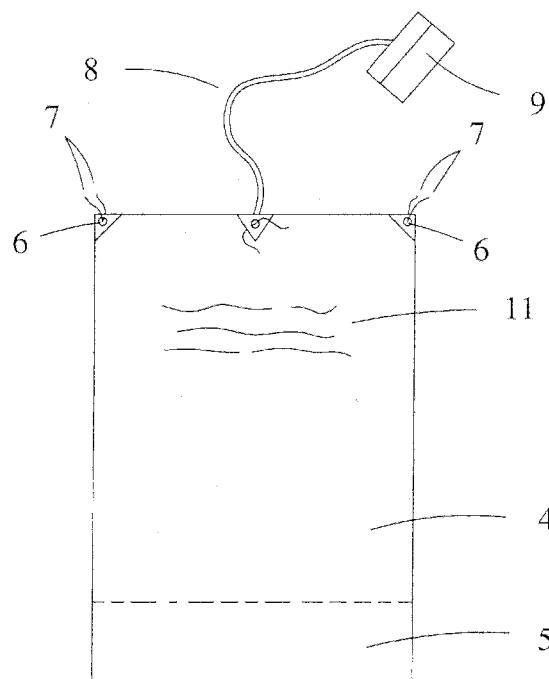


Fig. 1

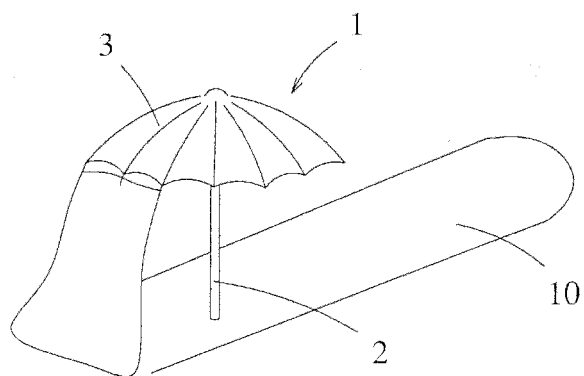


Fig. 2

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/ES2010/000432

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

A45B25/00 (01.01.2006)

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)

A45B, E04H

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)

EPODOC, INVENES

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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Y		3
X	US 574091 A (R IRVINE) 29/12/1896, page 1, line 84 - page 2, line 86; figures.	1-2,6-7
Y		3
X	US 2004020522 A1 (JAMES RODNEY) 05/02/2004, paragraphs [17 - 23]; figures.	1
A	US 2008163909 A1 (MCCULLOUGH DEBORAH D) 10/07/2008, figures 1 - 3. paragraphs [25 - 34];	1,4-6
A	US 2007251557 A1 (CARTER PHILIP R ET AL.) 01/11/2007, paragraphs [11, 18]; figure 1.	1,3

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

* Special categories of cited documents:	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance.	
"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date	
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"X" 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
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure use, exhibition, or other means.	"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
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

16/02/2011

Date of mailing of the international search report

(22/02/2011)

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/ES2010/000432

C (continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of documents, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 1774909 A (WELLS WILLIAM H) 02/09/1930, page 1, lines 34 - 53; figures.	1
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/ES2010/000432

Information on patent family members

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