SUPERINTENDENCIA DE INDUSTRIA Y COMERCIO	
RAD: 13-41753- -4	**FECHA**: 2013-10-25 10:56:49
DEP: 2020 DIRECCION DE NUEVAS CREACIONES	**EVE:** 1 REGISTRO/DEPOSITO/CONCESION/DEPOSITO
TRA: 3 PATENTES DE MODELO DE UTILIDAD	**FOLIOS**: 5
ACT: 519 PRESENTACION	

DIRECCIÓN DE NUEVAS CREACIONES

2020
Bogotá, D.C.,

Abogado(a)/Señor(a)
JESUS RAMIRO OCHOA SEGURA

Asunto: Radicación: 13-41753- -4
Trámite: 3
Evento: 1
Actuación: 519
Oficio: 20336
Folios: 5

Patente de Invención				Patente de Modelo de Utilidad	X
Vía Nacional	**X**				
Vía PCT (Fase Nacional)		Capítulo I		Capítulo II	
No. Solicitud Internacional					
Fecha de Presentación Internacional					

Como resultado del Examen de Fondo realizado, con fundamento en el artículo 85 y en concordancia con el artículo 45 de la Decisión 486 de la Comisión de la Comunidad Andina, se le comunica:

1. Documentos estudiados

Descripción:	Rad. N° 13-041753-00000-0000	01/Marzo/2013
Reivindicaciones:	Rad. N° 13-041753-00002-0000	27/Mayo/2013
Dibujos:	Rad. N° 13-041753-00000-0000	01/Marzo/2013

2. Objeto de la invención

En el presente documento se aplicará lo establecido en la Circular Única en su Título X, con respecto a que cuando la solicitud contenga más de diez (10) reivindicaciones y no se haya pagado la tasa complementaria, sólo se estudiarán las cubiertas por la tasa pagada al momento de realizar el examen de patentabilidad consagrado en el artículo 45 de la Decisión 486.

Título de la solicitud: “Recibidor de los excrementos de los perros” (Fl. 1).

El problema planteado en esta solicitud, consiste en la necesidad de facilitar recoger la deposición de las mascotas, evitando molestias como ensuciarse o, inclusive, movimientos incomodos como agacharse.

Para resolver este problema técnico, la solicitud en estudio propone un dispositivo manual, que comprende un bastón con un extremo inferior, donde lleva soldado un primer aro semicircular. Adicionalmente, dicho dispositivo cuenta con otro aro semicircular que se introduce en dicho primer aro para ajustar una bolsa plástica.

El objeto de la presente Solicitud se relaciona con la Clasificación Internacional de Patentes (CIP): A 61 K 29/00.

3. De la Solicitud de Patente

Reivindicaciones (Art 30 D 486, Art 22 PCT)

El capítulo reivindicatorio no es claro porque:

1– Con el fin de facilitar la identificación de las características técnicas reclamadas en los dibujos y en el resto de la solicitud, se sugiere al solicitante asignar un número de referencia a cada una de las características incluidas en las reivindicaciones. De igual manera, el solicitante debe incluir los números de referencia asignados a las características mencionadas en la descripción y a las mostradas en los dibujos. Por lo tanto, se recomienda verificar que los números de referencia que se incluyan en las reivindicaciones, concuerden con los presentados en la descripción y en los dibujos de la solicitud.

2– Las expresiones *“en donde se ajusta por su borde una bolsa plástica receptora de excreta”* y *“que aprisiona con el primer aro soldado la bolsa receptora de excreta”* (reivindicación 1); describen funciones, efectos, ventajas o resultados a alcanzar, de los elementos que conforman la creación reclamada, los cuales no son aspectos susceptibles de patente. Cabe aclarar, que el producto reclamado se debe definir técnicamente mediante sus características estructurales. Se sugiere al solicitante eliminar las reivindicaciones citadas, o en su defecto, replantearlas de tal manera que expongan las características estructurales de la invención. Por ejemplo, las expresiones citadas podrían replantearse de la siguiente manera: “lleva soldado un primer aro semicircular, en el cual se introduce un segundo aro semicircular. En medio de dichos dos aros se dispone una bolsa”.

3– El término *“ligeramente”* es de carácter relativo, debido a que no menciona valor o un rango concreto de la curvatura del bastón de la creación reclamada. En consecuencia, dicho término no permite distinguir la invención del estado de la técnica. De acuerdo con lo expuesto, se sugiere al solicitante eliminar el término citado.

4– El término *“movible”* es de carácter general, toda vez que no permite comprender la configuración estructural del dispositivo reclamado. Es decir, el término citado no permite identificar cómo interactúan los dos aros que componen la creación en estudio. De acuerdo con lo anterior, se sugiere al solicitante eliminar dicho término y seguir el ejemplo expuesto en el punto 2, para las objeciones de claridad de las reivindicaciones, con el fin de que en la reivindicación se describan de forma clara las características estructurales del dispositivo.

Descripción (Art 28 D 486)

En este punto, cabe recalcar la importancia de los números de referencia dentro de la descripción. Lo anterior, debido a que dichos números facilitan la comprensión de la

configuración del dispositivo reclamado. De acuerdo con lo anterior, se sugiere al solicitante seguir las recomendaciones expuestas en las objeciones de claridad de las reivindicaciones. Es importante aclarar, que cada característica debe tener un único número de referencia. Es decir, dos características diferentes no pueden tener un mismo número de referencia.

Se recomienda seguir las aclaraciones y recomendaciones expuestas en los anexos 1 y 2 de la presente comunicación, donde se presentan ejemplos guía de como presentar tanto el capítulo descriptivo, como el reivindicatorio.

4. Determinación del Estado de la Técnica

El estado de la técnica se determinó con base en la fecha de presentación de la solicitud de patente nacional: marzo 1 de 2013 y se encontraron los siguientes documentos que anticipan el objeto de esta solicitud:

Item	Documento	Título	Fecha de Publicación
D1	US 6'149.214	'Implement for disposing of dung of a pet animal'	21/Noviembre/2000
D2	US 2010/0072765	'Portable collection device for collecting pet feces'	25/Marzo/2010

El documento D1 [1] divulga un dispositivo diseñado para recibir la deposición de un animal, antes de que ésta toque el piso. Dicho dispositivo comprende dos anillos, uno de los cuales se introduce en el otro para sostener la bolsa en donde caen los desechos (resumen).

El documento D2 [2] divulga un dispositivo para recibir los desechos de una mascota, que comprende una barra elongada, en cuyo extremo superior se dispone un mango y, en el extremo opuesto se dispone un soporte para una bolsa. Dicho soporte, comprende dos anillos, los cuales interactúan entre sí como una mordaza para aprisionar dicha bolsa (resumen).

5. **Examen de Patentabilidad** (Art 14 D486)

Novedad (Art 16 D486)

La reivindicación 1 consiste en un recibidor de excrementos *"…caracterizado por un dispositivo manual que comprende un bastón curvado ligeramente en su extremo superior cerca de un mango o asa…"* (Ver página 2 incluida en el radicado bajo No. Rad. N° 13-041753-00002-0000).

Comparación de las características técnicas **esenciales**, con las del Estado de la Técnica:

Características esenciales	D1	D2
Recibidor de excrementos caracterizado por	Recibidor de excrementos caracterizado por:	Recibidor de excrementos caracterizado por:
Dispositivo manual que comprende un bastón curvado en el extremo superior cerca de un mango o asa.	Dispositivo manual que comprende un elemento cilíndrico elongado (14)	Dispositivo manual que comprende una barra soporte (12) en cuyo extremo superior se dispone un

1 https://www.google.com/patents/US6149214?pg=PA1&dq=6149214&hl=es&sa=X&ei=cb1VUpXrE4Pe8wT_9oGoBg&ved=0CDoQ6AEwAA
2 https://www.google.com/patents/US20100072765?pg=PA2&dq=20100072765&hl=es&sa=X&ei=RL1VUo4jhvr1BMqmgNgH&ved=0CDoQ6AEwAA

	(Fig. 1; Col. 4, líneas 17 y 18).	mango (24) [Fig. 1, Párr. 0024]
En su extremo opuesto inferior lleva soldado un primer aro semicircular.	En su extremo inferior se dispone de forma fija un aro (20) mediante la porción cilíndrica (22) (Figs. 1 y 2; Col. 4, líneas 36 a 48).	En su extremo inferior (16) se dispone fijo un aro (30) [Fig. 1, Párr. 0025]
Un segundo aro semicircular movible.	Un segundo anillo (30) que aprisiona una bolsa junto con el anillo (20) (Figs. 1 y 2; Col. 4, líneas 49 a 67)	Un aro (28) que se dispone en el interior del aro (30) [Figs. 1 y 2, Párr. 0025].

Las características **esenciales** del dispositivo que recibe la deposición de la mascota de la reivindicación 1 habían sido divulgadas previamente en D1. En consecuencia, la reivindicación 1 no es nueva.

Cabe agregar, que esta Oficina considera que un aro semicircular es un equivalente técnico de un aro circular. Lo anterior, debido a que los aros circulares divulgados en los documentos D1 y D2, cumplen el mismo efecto técnico que los aros reclamados en la solicitud actualmente estudiada. Por lo tanto, los aros semicirculares reclamados no aportarían una ventaja técnica frente a lo divulgado en el estado de la técnica. En consecuencia, el hecho de que los aros sean semicirculares no aporta novedad a la creación para la que se solicita protección. De igual manera, cabe precisar que en el documento D2 se divulga que los aros pueden ser de cualquier forma (Párr. [0032]), lo importante es que sigan cumpliendo con su función.

Por otro lado, el hecho de que el bastón sea curvado en su extremo superior tampoco da novedad al producto reclamado, toda vez que un bastón recto y un bastón curvado, cumplen el mismo efecto técnico. En cualquier caso, el usuario podría utilizar un bastón recto o un bastón curvado indistintamente, teniendo en cuenta que ambos permiten manipular cómodamente el dispositivo. De acuerdo con lo anterior, se considera que dicha curvatura no puede hacer nuevo el producto reclamado. De igual manera, los bastones de los dispositivos divulgados en los documentos D1 y D2 (D1: Fig. 1 y D2: Fig. 1) presentan un grado de inclinación respecto al aro fijo en su extremo inferior, lo que permite evitar posiciones incomodas en el momento de posicionar la invención debajo de la mascota.

Finalmente, cabe aclarar que aunque el documento D1 no revele explícitamente un mango, esta Oficina considera que dicho elemento es implícito, toda vez que es un elemento imprescindible en el manejo manual del dispositivo. Es decir, el usuario no podría manejar fácil y cómodamente el dispositivo, si no tuviera el mango en el bastón.

6. Conclusión

Los requisitos de Patentabilidad de la presente Solicitud están afectados así:

Ítem	Documento	Reivindicaciones afectadas	Requisito que afecta
D1	US 6’149.214	1	Novedad
D2	US 2010/0072765	1	Novedad

En cumplimiento del artículo 45 de la Decisión 486 de la Comisión de la Comunidad Andina, se le indica que debe dar respuesta dentro del término de treinta (30) días contados a partir del día siguiente de la fecha de notificación de la presente comunicación. En caso de no dar respuesta al presente requerimiento, o si a pesar de la respuesta subsistieran los impedimentos para la concesión, se denegará la patente.

Se invita al solicitante se sirva indicar, si así lo considera, su renuncia al término faltante de treinta (30) días para dar respuesta a este requerimiento y presentarla por escrito.

Finalmente, se le recuerda al solicitante que si como respuesta a este requerimiento llegara a modificar el capítulo reivindicatorio y éste contenga más de diez (10) reivindicaciones, no pagará la tasa de modificación voluntaria pero sí la correspondiente al pago por reivindicación adicional.

Notifíquese el presente oficio conforme a lo dispuesto en el numeral 5.2, literal e), del capítulo quinto del título primero de la Circular Única No. 10 de 2001.

JOSÉ LUIS SALAZAR LÓPEZ
Director de Nuevas Creaciones (c)

El anterior requerimiento fue notificado por fijación en lista, de fecha 2013-10-29

Elaboró: Monica Andrea Gutierrez Almonacid
Revisó: Rosa Patricia Tellez Chavarro

US006149214A

United States Patent [19]

Kipka et al.

[11] **Patent Number: 6,149,214**

[45] **Date of Patent: Nov. 21, 2000**

[54] **IMPLEMENT FOR DISPOSING OF DUNG OF A PET ANIMAL**

[76] Inventors: **John A. Kipka**; **Wendy J. Kipka**, both of 1055 Bloor Street East #1704, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada, L4Y 2N5

[21] Appl. No.: **09/397,262**

[22] Filed: **Sep. 16, 1999**

[51] **Int. Cl.**[7] **A01K 29/00**; E01H 1/12

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **294/1.5**

[58] **Field of Search** 294/1.1, 1.3–1.5, 294/19.1, 19.2, 25, 55, 57, 58; 15/257.1, 257.3, 257.4, 257.7; 119/161, 867; 248/99, 101

[56] **References Cited**

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4,466,647	8/1984	Spevak .	
4,717,186	1/1988	Yoshioka .	
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5,344,200	9/1994	Yoshioka .	
5,676,411	10/1997	Kwok .	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

3938482	5/1991	Germany	294/1.5

Primary Examiner—Johnny D. Cherry

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A implement for disposing of dung of a pet animal for catching feces before it falls to the ground. The implement for disposing of dung of a pet animal includes an elongate cylindrical member, a ring for supporting a disposal container wherein the ring has a coupler adapted to couple the ring to the elongate cylindrical member. The connection of the ring to the cylindrical member defines an obtuse angle between a plane of the ring and a longitudinal axis of the cylindrical member. A generally annular member, for holding the disposal container to the support, has an open side defined by two ends that each extends outward away from the annular member. The annular member is adapted to fit over the first ring wherein each of the two ends is adapted to fit on each side of the coupler. A pin is used for securing the annular member to the coupler. The pin fits in a bore in each of the ends of the annular member and a bore of the coupler. A bag is used for catching and carrying feces.

8 Claims, 1 Drawing Sheet

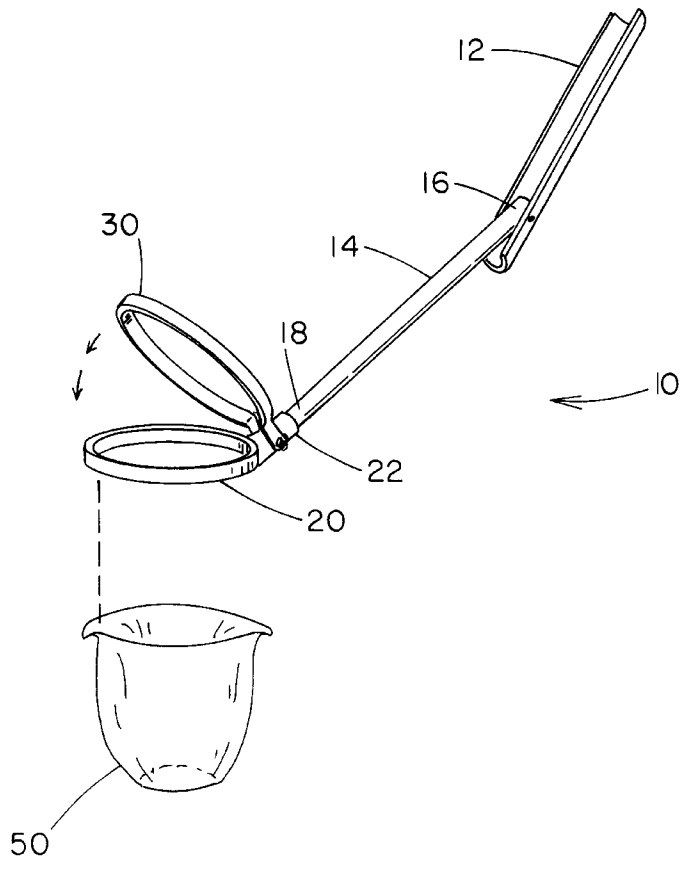

FIG. 1

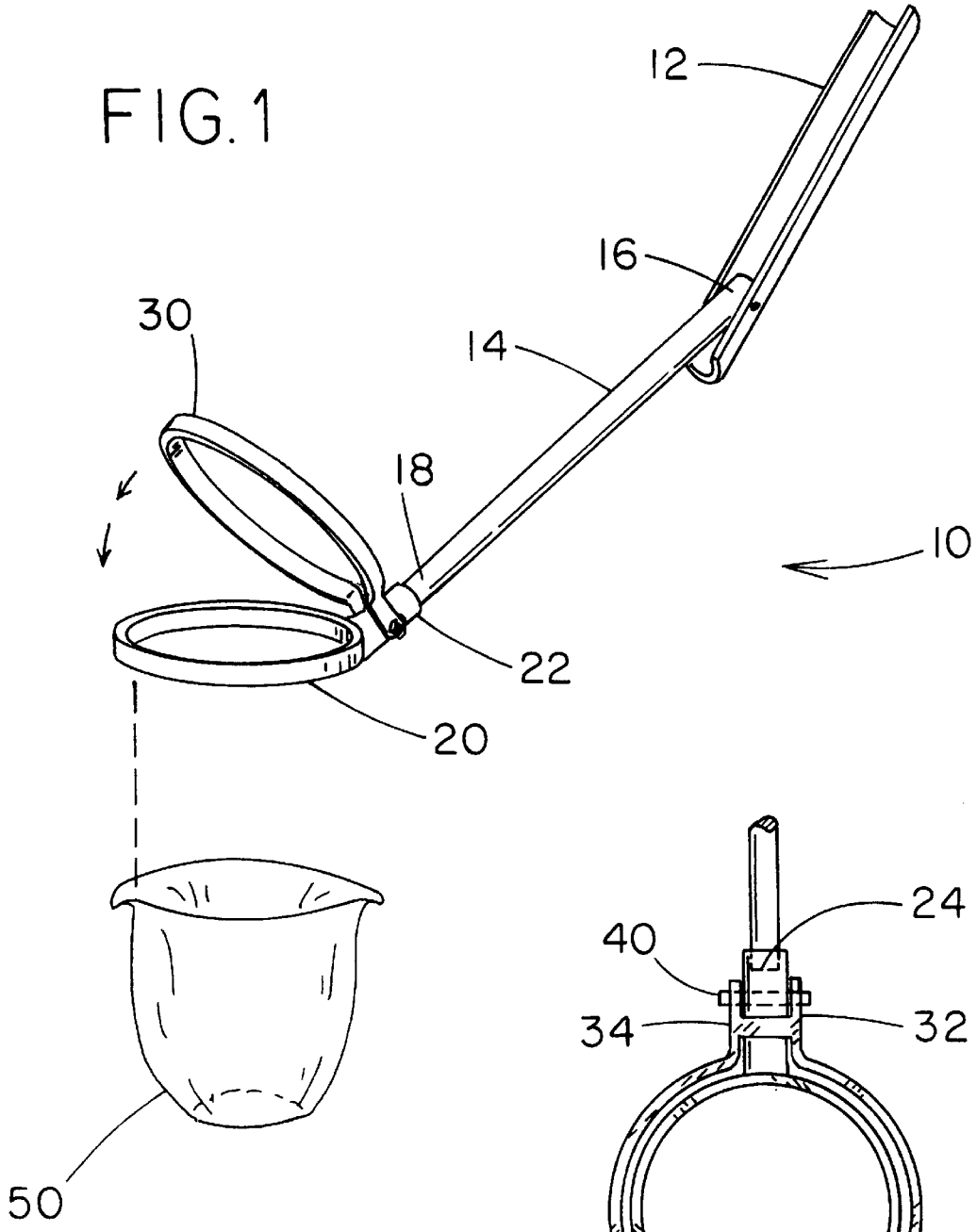

FIG. 2

IMPLEMENT FOR DISPOSING OF DUNG OF A PET ANIMAL

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to feces disposal devices and more particularly pertains to a new implement for disposing of dung of a pet animal for catching feces before it falls to the ground.

2. Description of the Prior Art

The use of feces disposal devices is known in the prior art. More specifically, feces disposal devices heretofore devised and utilized are known to consist basically of familiar, expected and obvious structural configurations, notwithstanding the myriad of designs encompassed by the crowded prior art which have been developed for the fulfillment of countless objectives and requirements.

Known prior art includes U.S. Pat. No. 4,878,703; U.S. Pat. No. 4,466,647; U.S. Pat. No. 4,717,186; U.S. Pat. Des. No. 355,280; U.S. Pat. No. 5,676,411; and U.S. Pat. No. 5,344,200.

While these devices fulfill their respective, particular objectives and requirements, the aforementioned patents do not disclose a new implement for disposing of dung of a pet animal. The inventive device includes an elongate cylindrical member, a ring for supporting a disposal container wherein the ring has a coupling means adapted to couple the ring to the elongate cylindrical member. The connection of the ring to the cylindrical member defines an obtuse angle between a plane of the ring and a longitudinal axis of the cylindrical member. A generally annular member, for holding the disposal container to the support, has an open side defined by two ends that each extends outward away from the annular member. The annular member is adapted to fit over the first ring wherein each of the two ends is adapted to fit on each side of the coupling means. A pin is used for securing the annular member to the coupling means. The pin fits in a bore in each of the ends of the annular member and a bore of the coupling means. A disposal means, or bag, is used for catching and carrying feces.

In these respects, the implement for disposing of dung of a pet animal according to the present invention substantially departs from the conventional concepts and designs of the prior art, and in so doing provides an apparatus primarily developed for the purpose of catching feces before it falls to the ground.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In view of the foregoing disadvantages inherent in the known types of feces disposal devices now present in the prior art, the present invention provides a new implement for disposing of dung of a pet animal construction wherein the same can be utilized for catching feces before it falls to the ground.

The general purpose of the present invention, which will be described subsequently in greater detail, is to provide a new implement for disposing of dung of a pet animal apparatus and method which has many of the advantages of the feces disposal devices mentioned heretofore and many novel features that result in a new implement for disposing of dung of a pet animal which is not anticipated, rendered obvious, suggested, or even implied by any of the prior art feces disposal devices, either alone or in any combination thereof.

To attain this, the present invention generally comprises an elongate cylindrical member, a ring for supporting a disposal container wherein the ring has a coupling means adapted to couple the ring to the elongate cylindrical member. The connection of the ring to the cylindrical member defines an obtuse angle between a plane of the ring and a longitudinal axis of the cylindrical member. A generally annular member, for holding the disposal container to the support, has an open side defined by two ends that each extends outward away from the annular member. The annular member is adapted to fit over the first ring wherein each of the two ends is adapted to fit on each side of the coupling means. A pin is used for securing the annular member to the coupling means. The pin fits in a bore in each of the ends of the annular member and a bore of the coupling means. A disposal means, or bag, is used for catching and carrying feces.

There has thus been outlined, rather broadly, the more important features of the invention in order that the detailed description thereof that follows may be better understood, and in order that the present contribution to the art may be better appreciated. There are additional features of the invention that will be described hereinafter and which will form the subject matter of the claims appended hereto.

In this respect, before explaining at least one embodiment of the invention in detail, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited in its application to the details of construction and to the arrangements of the components set forth in the following description or illustrated in the drawings. The invention is capable of other embodiments and of being practiced and carried out in various ways. Also, it is to be understood that the phraseology and terminology employed herein are for the purpose of description and should not be regarded as limiting.

As such, those skilled in the art will appreciate that the conception, upon which this disclosure is based, may readily be utilized as a basis for the designing of other structures, methods and systems for carrying out the several purposes of the present invention. It is important, therefore, that the claims be regarded as including such equivalent constructions insofar as they do not depart from the spirit and scope of the present invention.

Further, the purpose of the foregoing abstract is to enable the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and the public generally, and especially the scientists, engineers and practitioners in the art who are not familiar with patent or legal terms or phraseology, to determine quickly from a cursory inspection the nature and essence of the technical disclosure of the application. The abstract is neither intended to define the invention of the application, which is measured by the claims, nor is it intended to be limiting as to the scope of the invention in any way.

It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide a new implement for disposing of dung of a pet animal apparatus and method which has many of the advantages of the feces disposal devices mentioned heretofore and many novel features that result in a new implement for disposing of dung of a pet animal which is not anticipated, rendered obvious, suggested, or even implied by any of the prior art feces disposal devices, either alone or in any combination thereof.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a new implement for disposing of dung of a pet animal which may be easily and efficiently manufactured and marketed.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide a new implement for disposing of dung of a pet animal which is of a durable and reliable construction.

An even further object of the present invention is to provide a new implement for disposing of dung of a pet

animal which is susceptible of a low cost of manufacture with regard to both materials and labor, and which accordingly is then susceptible of low prices of sale to the consuming public, thereby making such implement for disposing of dung of a pet animal economically available to the buying public.

Still yet another object of the present invention is to provide a new implement for disposing of dung of a pet animal which provides in the apparatuses and methods of the prior art some of the advantages thereof, while simultaneously overcoming some of the disadvantages normally associated therewith.

Still another object of the present invention is to provide a new implement for disposing of dung of a pet animal for catching feces before it falls to the ground.

Yet another object of the present invention is to provide a new implement for disposing of dung of a pet animal which includes an elongate cylindrical member, a ring for supporting a disposal container wherein the ring has a coupling means adapted to couple the ring to the elongate cylindrical member. The connection of the ring to the cylindrical member defines an obtuse angle between a plane of the ring and a longitudinal axis of the cylindrical member. A generally annular member, for holding the disposal container to the support, has an open side defined by two ends that each extends outward away from the annular member. The annular member is adapted to fit over the first ring wherein each of the two ends is adapted to fit on each side of the coupling means. A pin is used for securing the annular member to the coupling means. The pin fits in a bore in each of the ends of the annular member and a bore of the coupling means. A disposal means, or bag, is used for catching and carrying feces.

Still yet another object of the present invention is to provide a new implement for disposing of dung of a pet animal that can be folded for easier transportation and unfolded to allow extension of the feces catch.

Even still another object of the present invention is to provide a new implement for disposing of dung of a pet animal that will allow the user to avoid bending over and prevent back strain especially in those groups such as the elderly who are more susceptible to back strain.

Yet still another object of the present invention is to provide a new implement for disposing of dung of a pet animal that promotes environmental health by efficiently removing animal feces.

These together with other objects of the invention, along with the various features of novelty which characterize the invention, are pointed out with particularity in the claims annexed to and forming a part of this disclosure. For a better understanding of the invention, its operating advantages and the specific objects attained by its uses, reference should be made to the accompanying drawings and descriptive matter in which there are illustrated preferred embodiments of the invention.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The invention will be better understood and objects other than those set forth above will become apparent when consideration is given to the following detailed description thereof. Such description makes reference to the annexed drawings wherein:

FIG. **1** is a schematic perspective view of a new implement for disposing of dung of a pet animal according to the present invention.

FIG. **2** is a schematic plan view of the present invention.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

With reference now to the drawings, and in particular to FIGS. **1** and **2** thereof, a new implement for disposing of dung of a pet animal embodying the principles and concepts of the present invention and generally designated by the reference numeral **10** will be described.

As best illustrated in FIGS. **1** and **2**, the implement for disposing of dung of a pet animal **10** generally comprises a channel member **12**. The tube is hollow and has an open face such that a cross-section of the tube forms a semicircle.

An elongate cylindrical member **14** having a first end **16** and second end **18**, has an outside surface whereby a radius of a cross section of the cylindrical member measured to the outside surface is substantially equal to a radius measured to an inner surface of the tube such that the cylindrical member rests in the tube.

The first end of the elongate cylindrical member is preferably coupled to an end of the channel member such that the second end of the elongate cylindrical member is adapted to swing between a stored position nested in the channel member and an operative position extending away from the channel member. This can be accomplished by any number of hinging means; however, a pin placed in a bore in the cylindrical member **14** and tube **12** will work well and will be easy to manufacture. Preferably, when the cylindrical member is extended fully, the cylindrical member and tube will form a substantially straight line enjoying a shared longitudinal axis.

A ring **20** is utilized for supporting a disposal means. The ring is made from a band and preferably the ring has a cross-sectional width approximately equal to a diameter of the cylindrical member. Preferably, the ring has a diameter greater than two inches.

A cylindrical rod **22** extends from the ring. The rod has a well **24** therein adapted for reception of the second end **18** of the cylindrical member. Preferably, the rod extends upwardly away from the ring. Ideally, the connection of the ring to the cylindrical member via the rod defines an angle between a plane of the ring and a longitudinal axis of the cylindrical member measuring approximately 120 degrees to 150 degrees.

A generally annular member **30** is used for holding the disposal means to the support ring. The annular member has a break defined by two ends **32, 34**. Each of the ends extends radially outward away from the annular member. The annular member is adapted to fit over the first ring wherein each of the two ends is pivotally mounted on opposite sides of the rod **22**.

A pin **40** for pivotally mounting the annular member to the rod fits in a bore in each of the ends of the annular member. The pin also fits through a bore of the rod, thereby securing the annular member to the ring.

A disposal container, preferably a bag **50**, is used for carrying or collecting feces. The bad has an opening with a marginal portion on the perimeter of the opening. The marginal portion is drapable over the ring when the bag is inserted through the hole in the ring. The bag is placed in the ring **20** and the annular member **30** is lowered over the ring such that the bag is cinched between the ring and the annular member and is restricted from falling through the ring.

In use, the user extends the device by allowing the cylindrical member **14** to extend away from the tube **12** via the hinge. A bag **50** is placed in the ring **20** and the annular member **30** is lowered over it to catch the bag between the annular member and the ring, thus holding the bag in place. Ideally, the connection between the ring and the cylindrical member is angled slightly so that the user may place the bag under the animal to catch the feces before it falls to the earth. The bag is then removed, thrown away and replaced with a new bag.

As to a further discussion of the manner of usage and operation of the present invention, the same should be apparent from the above description. Accordingly, no further discussion relating to the manner of usage and operation will be provided.

With respect to the above description then, it is to be realized that the optimum dimensional relationships for the parts of the invention, to include variations in size, materials, shape, form, function and manner of operation, assembly and use, are deemed readily apparent and obvious to one skilled in the art, and all equivalent relationships to those illustrated in the drawings and described in the specification are intended to be encompassed by the present invention.

Therefore, the foregoing is considered as illustrative only of the principles of the invention. Further, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction and operation shown and described, and accordingly, all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the invention.

We claim:

1. An animal feces disposal device, comprising:

an elongate cylindrical member;

a ring for supporting a disposal container, said ring having a coupling means adapted to couple said ring to said cylindrical member;

wherein a connection of said ring to said cylindrical member defines an angle between a plane of said ring and a longitudinal axis of said cylindrical member, said angle being generally between 120 and 150 degrees;

a generally annular member for holding said disposal container on said ring, said annular member being pivotally mounted to said ring, said annular member having a break therein between two ends of said annular member, each of said ends extending radially outward away from said annular member, said annular member being adapted to fit over said ring such that said ring nests in said annular member, each of said two ends being pivotally mounted on opposite sides of said coupling means;

a pin for pivotally mounting said annular member to said coupling means, said pin fitting in a bore in each of said ends of said annular member, said pin fitting through a bore in said coupling means; and

a disposal container for carrying feces.

2. The animal feces disposal device of claim **1**, further comprising:

a channel member, said channel member is hollow and has an open face such that a cross-section of said tube forms a semicircle;

wherein said cylindrical member has a first end and second end, said cylindrical member having an outside surface, wherein a radius of a cross section of said cylindrical member measured to said outside surface is substantially equal to a radius measured to an inner surface of said channel member such that said cylindrical member may be rested in the open face of said channel member; and

wherein said first end of said elongate cylindrical member is hingedly coupled to an end of said channel member such that said second end of said elongate cylindrical member is adapted to swing between a stored position nested in said channel member and an operative position extending away from said channel member.

3. The animal feces disposal device of claim **1**, wherein said ring has a cross-section width approximately equal to a diameter of said cylindrical member.

4. The animal feces disposal device of claim **1**, wherein said coupling means comprises a rod extending from an outer surface of said ring, said rod having a well therein adapted for reception of a second end of said cylindrical member, said rod extending upwardly away from said ring.

5. The animal feces disposal device of claim **1**, wherein said disposal container comprises a bag, said bag having an opening with a marginal portion about said opening, said marginal portion being drapable over said ring when said bag is inserted through a hole in said ring.

6. An animal feces disposal device, comprising:

a channel member, said channel member is hollow and has an open face such that a cross-section of said channel member forms a semicircle;

an elongate cylindrical member, said cylindrical member having a first end and second end, said cylindrical member having an outside surface, wherein a radius of a cross section of said cylindrical member measured to said outside surface is substantially equal to a radius measured to an inner surface of said channel member such that said cylindrical member may be rested in the open face of said channel member;

wherein said first end of said elongate cylindrical member is hingedly coupled to an end of said channel member such that said second end of said elongate cylindrical member is adapted to swing between a stored position nested in said channel member and an operative position extending away from said channel member;

a ring for supporting a disposal container, said ring being formed by a band, said band having a cross-section width approximately equal to a diameter of said cylindrical member, said ring having a diameter greater than two inches;

said ring including a cylindrical rod extending from an outer surface of said ring, said rod having a well therein adapted for reception of said second end of said cylindrical member, said rod extending upwardly away from said ring;

wherein a connection of said ring to said cylindrical member via said rod defines an angle between a plane of said ring and a longitudinal axis of said cylindrical member, said angle being generally between 120 and 150 degrees;

a generally annular member for holding said disposal container on said ring, said annular member being pivotally mounted to said ring, said annular member having a break therein between two ends of said annular member, each of said ends extending radially outward away from said annular member, said annular member being adapted to fit over said ring such that said ring nests in said annular member, each of said two ends being pivotally mounted on opposite sides of said rod;

a pin for pivotally mounting said annular member to said rod, said pin fitting in a bore in each of said ends of said annular member, said pin fitting through a bore in said rod;

a disposal container for carrying feces, said disposal container comprising a bag, said bag having an opening with a marginal portion about said opening, said marginal portion being drapable over said ring when said bag is inserted through a hole in said ring; wherein said bag is adapted to be placed in said ring, said annular member being adapted to be lowered over said ring such that a marginal part of said bag is cinched between said ring and said annular member, and said bag is restricted from falling through said ring.

7. An animal feces disposal device, comprising: an elongate member;

a ring for supporting a disposal container, said ring having a coupling means adapted to couple said ring to said elongate member;

wherein a connection of said ring to said elongate member defines an angle between a plane of said ring and a longitudinal axis of said elongate member, said angle being generally between 120 and 150 degrees;

a generally annular member for holding said disposal container on said ring, said annular member being pivotally mounted to said ring, said annular member having a break therein between two ends of said annular member, each of said ends extending radially outward away from said annular member, said annular member being adapted to fit over said ring such that said ring nests in said annular member, each of said two ends being pivotally mounted on opposite sides of said coupling means; and

a disposal container for carrying feces.

8. The animal feces disposal device of claim **7**, further comprising a pin for pivotally mounting said annular member to said coupling means, said pin fitting in a bore in each of said ends of said annular member, said pin fitting through a bore in said coupling means.

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US 20100072765A1

(19) **United States**

(12) **Patent Application Publication**

Granado

(10) **Pub. No.: US 2010/0072765 A1**

(43) **Pub. Date: Mar. 25, 2010**

(54) **PORTABLE COLLECTION DEVICE FOR COLLECTING PET FECES**

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(21) Appl. No.: **12/232,563**

(22) Filed: **Sep. 19, 2008**

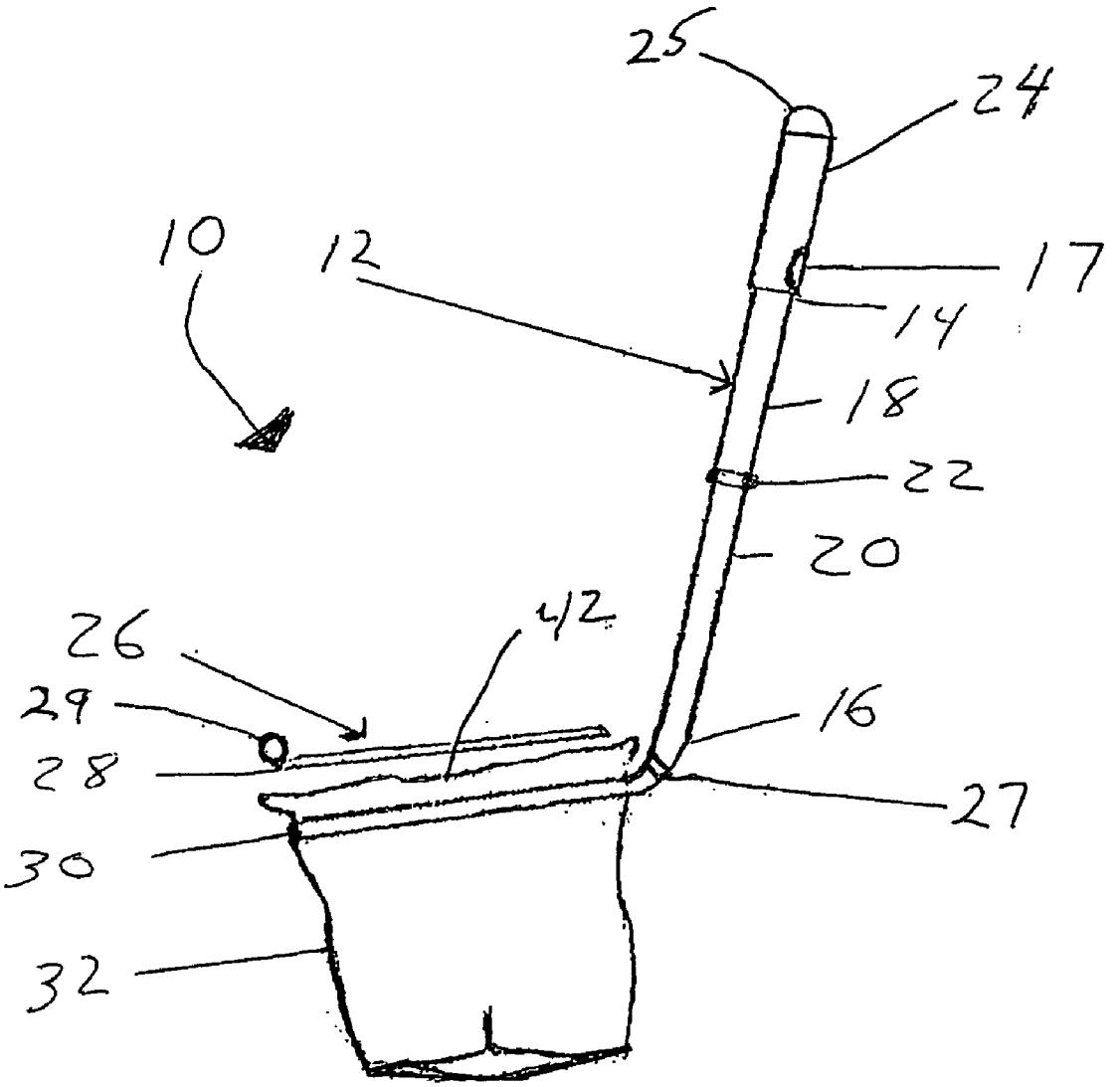
Publication Classification

(51) **Int. Cl.**
A01K 29/00 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **294/1.4**

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A portable device for collecting pet feces includes an elongated, support bar having a first end and a second end. The first end of the support bar is provided with a handle for gripping by a user and the second end of the support bar is provided with a bag holder adjustably connected thereto. The bag holder is composed of an inner first ring and an outer second ring that cooperate to function as a clamp to secure a collection bag therebetween for collection of pet feces.



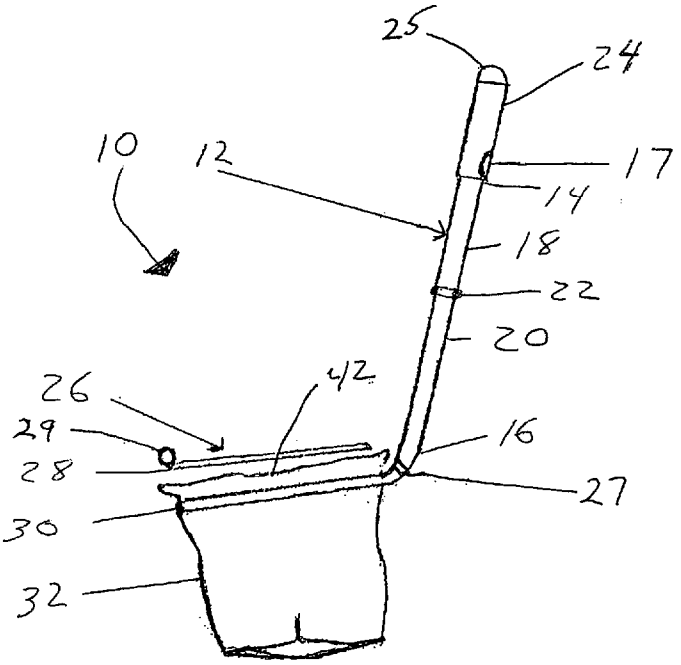


FIG. 1

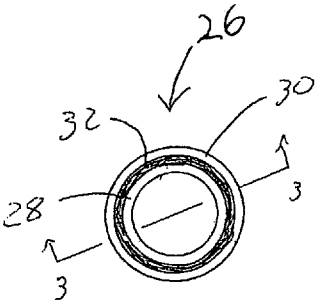


FIG. 2

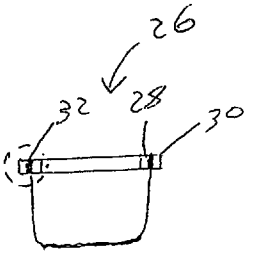


FIG. 3

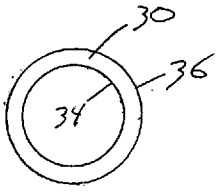


FIG. 4

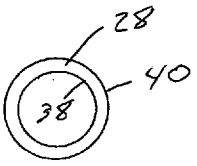


FIG. 5

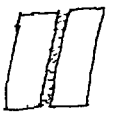


FIG. 6

FIG. 6A

PORTABLE COLLECTION DEVICE FOR COLLECTING PET FECES

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0001] 1. Field of the Invention

[0002] The invention relates to a portable device for collecting pet feces. In particular, the invention relates to a portable device for collecting pet feces before they hit the ground through the utilization of a disposable bag holder that may be positioned for collection thereof.

[0003] 2. Description of the Related Art

[0004] Dogs provide great pleasure to many people. However, with the ownership of a dog, comes the responsibility of cleaning up after your dog so that the feces do not present a highly undesirable environmental and create health concerns. As such, many devices have been developed for picking up after one's pet. However, many of these devices are cumbersome, expensive or just down right non-functional. As such, a need currently exists for an improved "pooper scooper". The present invention provides such a device.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0005] It is, therefore, an object of the present invention to provide a portable device for collecting pet feces. The device includes an elongated, support bar having a first end and a second end. The first end of the support bar is provided with a handle for gripping by a user and the second end of the support bar is provided with a bag holder adjustably connected thereto. The bag holder is composed of an inner first ring and an outer second ring that cooperate to function as a clamp to secure a collection bag therebetween for collection of pet feces.

[0006] It is also an object of the present invention to provide a portable device for collecting pet feces wherein the support bar is adjustable in length.

[0007] It is also another object of the present invention to provide a portable device for collecting pet feces wherein the support bar is telescopically adjustable.

[0008] It is also a further object of the present invention to provide a portable device for collecting pet feces wherein the inner first ring includes an inner surface and an outer surface, and the outer surface of the inner first ring is provided with a profile that mates with an inner profile of the outer second ring to enhance the interaction between the outer second ring and the inner first ring to help in retaining a collection bag between the inner first ring and the outer second ring.

[0009] It is a further object of the present invention to provide a portable device for collecting pet feces wherein the inner first ring and outer second ring are concentrically oriented and maintained in a position such that the inner first ring and the outer second ring stay within the same plane to hold a collection bag therebetween.

[0010] It is another object of the present invention to provide a portable device for collecting pet feces wherein the outer second ring is substantially rigid and is coupled to the second end of the support bar, and the inner first ring is substantially compliant and resilient allowing the inner first ring to be selectively placed within the outer second ring, wherein when a collection bag is positioned within the outer second ring, the inner first ring is actuated to its smaller diameter orientation for placement within the outer second ring and released to seat within the outer second ring, the force existing between the inner first ring and the outer second rings retains the collection bag therebetween.

[0011] It is also an object of the present invention to provide a portable device for collecting pet feces wherein the outer second ring includes an inner surface and an outer surface, and the inner surface is shaped and dimensioned for receiving and supporting the inner first ring as it expands to contact the inner surface of the outer second ring.

[0012] It is still another object of the present invention to provide a portable device for collecting pet feces wherein the handle includes a battery operated light.

[0013] Other objects and advantages of the present invention will become apparent from the following detailed description when viewed in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, which set forth certain embodiments of the invention.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0014] FIG. **1** is a side view of the present portable device for collecting pet feces.

[0015] FIG. **2** is a top view showing the bag positioned between the inner first ring and the outer second ring.

[0016] FIG. **3** is a cross sectional view along the line **3-3** in FIG. **2**.

[0017] FIG. **4** is a top view of the outer second ring.

[0018] FIG. **5** is a top view of the inner first ring.

[0019] FIG. **6** is a detailed view of the area designated by broken lines in FIG. **3**.

[0020] FIG. **6**A is an alternative embodiment to that shown in FIG. **6**.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

[0021] The detailed embodiment of the present invention is disclosed herein. It should be understood, however, that the disclosed embodiment is merely exemplary of the invention, which may be embodied in various forms. Therefore, the details disclosed herein are not to be interpreted as limiting, but merely as a basis for teaching one skilled in the art how to make and/or use the invention.

[0022] With reference to FIGS. **1** to **5**, a portable collection device **10** for collecting pet feces is disclosed. The portable collection device **10** provides a mechanism for collecting pet feces before they hit the ground by positioning a portion of the portable collection device **10** beneath the pet as the pet stops to defecate. As a result the feces are caught by the present portable collection device **10** without having to scoop or otherwise remove the feces from a surface upon which they have landed. In addition, by collecting the feces before they hit the ground, the surface is not even minimally affected by contact with the feces.

[0023] Referring to the various figures, the portable collection device **10** generally includes an elongated, telescopically adjustable support bar **12** having a first end **14** and a second end **16**. In accordance with a preferred embodiment, the support bar **12** is composed of first and second telescoping members **18**, **20** selectively held together at different relative positions via a conventional compression lock member **22** positioned between the first and second telescoping members **18**, **20**. The use of first and second telescoping members **18**, **20** allows the user to selectively extend and retract the support bar **12** for usage by different sized people and retract for storage in a compact manner. While a telescoping support bar

is disclosed in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the present invention as a mechanism for adding improved functionality to the present collection device, those skilled in the art will appreciate other support bar constructions could be employed without departing from the spirit of the present invention.

[0024] The first end **14** of the support bar **12** is provided with a handle **24** for gripping by a user. The second end **16** of the support bar **12** is connected to a disposable bag holder **26** adjustably connected thereto via a pivotal joint **27**, which permits the angle of the bag holder **26** to be adjusted relative to the support bar **12**. The bag holder **26** is composed of a pair of cooperating rings **28**, **30** which function as a clamp to secure a conventional plastic shopping bag, which functions as a collection bag **32**, therebetween for collection of pet feces in the manner discussed below in greater detail. The handle **24** is further equipped with a battery operated light **17** which permits the portable collection device **10** to be more easily manipulated in the dark.

[0025] With reference to the various figures, the disposable bag holder **26** includes an inner first ring **28** and an outer second ring **30**. When in use, the first and second rings **28**, **30** are concentrically oriented and maintained in a position such that the first and second rings **28**, **30** stay within the same plane to hold a collection bag **32** therebetween. The outer second ring **30** is substantially solid and is fixedly connected to the second end **16** of the support bar **12**, while the inner first ring **28** is substantially compliant allowing the inner first ring **28** to be selectively flexed and placed within the outer second ring **30**. The inner first ring **28** is shaped and dimensioned such that it fits within the outer second ring **30** in a manner creating pressure therebetween. As such, when a collection bag **32** is positioned within the outer second ring **30**, the inner first ring **28** is actuated to its smaller diameter orientation for placement within the bag **32** and the outer second ring **30** and released to seat within the outer second ring **30**, the force existing between the first and second rings **28**, **30** retains the plastic collection bag **32** therebetween. As such, one may readily and conveniently remove and replace plastic bags from between the first and second rings **28**, **30** through simple actuation of the inner first ring. It is further contemplated that the inner first ring **28** may include a raised portion **29** to permit the inner first ring **28** to be more easily grasped by the user of the device. As shown in FIG. **1**, this is a ring which allows for finger insertion.

[0026] More particularly, the outer second ring **30** is a substantially rigid member including an inner surface **34** and an outer surface **36**. The inner surface **34** is shaped and dimensioned for receiving and supporting the inner first ring **28** as it expands to contact the inner surface **34** of the outer second ring **30**. With this in mind, and in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the present invention, the inner surface **34** has an arcuate profile, although those skilled in the art will appreciate that other profiles may be employed without departing from the spirit of the present invention. It is believed the arcuate profile provides for a tight clasping of the first and second rings **28**, **30** with any type of bag therebetween.

[0027] With regard to the inner first ring **28**, it is substantially resilient and includes an inner surface **38** and an outer surface **40**. In accordance with a preferred embodiment, the inner first ring **28** is composed of a plastic material. While plastic is disclosed as a preferred material, those skilled in the art will appreciate other materials such as metal could be employed without departing from the spirit of the present invention.

[0028] As mentioned above, the inner surface **34** of the outer second ring **30** includes a profile specifically suited for receiving and supporting the inner first ring **28** when it is expanded within the outer second ring **30**. With this in mind, the outer surface **40** of the inner first ring **28** is provided with a mating profile. This enhances the interaction between the outer second ring **30** and the inner first ring **28** to help in retaining a collection bag **32** between the first and second rings **28**, **30**. The mating profile may be in the form of a groove in the outer ring in which the inner ring is positioned. Further, the profile of the outer surface of the inner first ring **28** may be of a raised texture and the inner surface of the outer ring is a mating textured surface. The textured surface could perforate bag **32** and thereby hold more securely therebetween.

[0029] In practice, the portable collection device **10** is utilized in the following manner. Prior to walking your dog, a plastic collection bag **32** is secured between the first and second rings **28**, **30**. In particular, the inner first ring **28** is removed from its position within the outer second ring **30** by compressing, or otherwise, manipulating the resilient inner first ring **28** such that it may be removed from its position frictionally engaged with the inner surface **34** of the outer second ring **30**. One such manipulation would be to simply press the inner first ring **28** up out of the outer second ring **30** with your thumbs as your fingers hold the outer second ring **30** down. Once the inner first ring **28** is removed, a collection bag **32** is placed within the space defined by the outer second ring **30**. In particular, the collection bag **32** is placed within the space defined by the outer second ring **30** such that the open end **42** of the collection bag **32** is positioned adjacent the inner surface **34** of the outer second ring **30** in a position such that the collection bag **32** may be securely held between the inner first ring **28** and the outer second ring **30**. Thereafter, the first inner ring **28** is compressed put into the open end **42** of bag **32**, press fit back into the outer second ring **30**, or otherwise manipulated, to its smaller configuration such it is adapted to be place within the space defined by the outer second ring **30**. The inner first ring **28** is then placed within the outer second ring **30** and released such that the outer surface **40** of the inner first ring **28** seats within the inner surface **34** of the outer second ring **30** in a manner clamping the collection bag **32** between the first and second rings **28**, **30**.

[0030] At this time, the user may follow his dog and when the dog is ready to poop, position the collection bag **32** beneath the dog for collection of the feces. Once the feces are collected, the collection bag **32** may be readily removed from the present device by simply removing the inner first ring **28** from within the outer second ring **30**. The collection bag **32** will then be free to slip out from its position within the space defined by the outer second ring **30** and the user may then tie the bag off and dispose of it. Once the used bag is removed, another bag may be secured to the present collection device for later use.

[0031] Additional bags may be stored in handle **24**. The handle is hollow and includes an end **25** which may be pivoted or rotated to expose an opening in the **24** in which unused bags may be stored.

[0032] As those skilled in the art will certainly appreciate, circular rings are disclosed in accordance with a preferred

embodiment. However, the rings may be formed in a variety of shapes without departing from the spirit of the present invention.

[0033] While the preferred embodiments have been shown and described, it will be understood that there is no intent to limit the invention by such disclosure, but rather, is intended to cover all modifications and alternate constructions falling within the spirit and scope of the invention.

1. A portable collection device for collecting pet feces, comprising:

an elongated, support bat having a first end and a second end;

the first end of the support bat is provided with a handle for gripping by a user;

the second end of the support bar is provided with a bag holder adjustably connected thereto;

the bag holder is composed of an inner first ring and an outer second ring that cooperate to function as a clamp to secure a collection bag therebetween for collection of pet feces.

2. The device according to claim **1**, wherein the support bar is adjustable in length.

3. The device according to claim **2**, wherein the support bar is telescopically adjustable.

4. The device according to claim **1**, wherein the inner first ring includes an inner surface and an outer surface, and the outer surface of the inner first ring is provided with a profile that mates with an inner profile of the outer second ring to enhance the interaction between the outer second ring and the inner first ring to help in retaining a collection bag between the inner first ring and the outer second ring.

5. The device according to claim **4**, wherein the profile of the outer surface of the inner first ring is a raised textured surface and the inner surface of the outer second ring is a mating textured surface.

6. The device according to claim **4**, wherein the inner first ring and outer second rings are concentrically oriented and maintained in a position such that the inner first ring and the outer second ring stay within the same plane to hold a collection bag therebetween.

7. The device according to claim **6**, wherein the outer second ring is substantially rigid and is coupled to the second end of the support bar, and the inner first ring is substantially compliant and resilient allowing the inner first ring to be selectively placed within the outer second ring, wherein when a collection bag is positioned within the outer second ring, the inner first ring is actuated to its smaller diameter orientation for placement within the outer second ring and released to seat within the outer second ring, the force existing between the inner first ring and the outer second ring retains a collection bag therebetween.

8. The device according to claim **7**, wherein the outer second ring includes an inner surface with a groove and an outer surface, and the groove of the inner surface is shaped and dimensioned for receiving and supporting the inner first ring therein as it expands to contact the inner surface of the outer second ring.

9. The device according to claim **1**, wherein the handle includes a battery operated light.

10. The device according to claim **1**, wherein the profile of the outer surface of the inner first ring is a raised textured surface and the inner surface of the outer second ring is a mating textured surface.

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