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BIRD FEEDER HAVING INTEGRATED PERCHES

Abstract

The present disclosure provides a bird feeder having a seed container, seed tray, shroud, cover as well as integrated perches. The integrated perches provide less breakage and easier handling of the bird feeder, as the pivot point of the perches is not easily accessible by an operator or a bird.

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Background/Summary

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION [0001] The present application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application No. 63/552, 392, entitled “BIRD FEEDER HAVING

INTEGRATED PERCHES" filed on Feb. 12, 2024, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.

FIELD

[0002] The disclosure relates generally to the field of bird feeders, and more specifically to a bird feeder having integrated perches and an improved seed tray.

BACKGROUND

[0003] Bird feeders have been around for quite some time for bird watchers and animal lovers. However, many problems exist with current bird feeders, including but not limited to flimsy bird perches that can break easily. Indeed, the existing bird perches on bird feeders can easily be removed from notches on the shroud and therefore be lost or loosen or break under the weight of the bird.

[0004] As such, there is a need for a novel type of bird feeder that can overcome the problems of the prior art.

SUMMARY

[0005] In an aspect, the present disclosure provides a bird feeder comprising: a seed container to contain seeds; a seed tray connected to the seed container and adapted to provide access to the seeds; a shroud engaged with the seed tray, the shroud moveable between a first position to provide access to the seeds and a second position to deny access to the seeds; at least one integrated perch to facilitate bird access to the seeds; and, a cover releasably secured to the seed container.

[0006] In another aspect the present disclosure provides a shroud having a base for use with a bird feeder, the shroud comprising: at least one integrated perch to facilitate bird access to bird seeds; at least one opening through which is fitted the at least one integrated perch; wherein the at least one integrated perch is pivotally engaged with the shroud.

Description

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0007] The following figures serve to illustrate various embodiments of features of the disclosure. These figures are illustrative and are not intended to be limiting.

[0008] FIG. **1** is a perspective view of a bird feeder, according to an embodiment of the present disclosure;

[0009] FIG. **2** is an enlarged perspective cross-sectional view of integrated perches projecting out of a shroud of the bird feeder of FIG. **1**, according to an embodiment of the present disclosure;

[0010] FIG. **3** is a perspective view of a base having integrated perches of the bird feeder of FIG. **1** in a first extended position, according to an embodiment of the present disclosure;

[0011] FIG. **4** is a perspective of a base having integrated perches of the bird feeder of FIG. **1** in a second folded position, according to an embodiment of the present disclosure; and,

[0012] FIG. **5** is an exploded view of the base interconnected with an upper and lower crimp member of the bird feeder of FIG. **1**, according to an embodiment of the present disclosure.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0013] The following embodiments are merely illustrative and are not intended to be limiting. It will be appreciated that various modifications and/or alterations to the embodiments described herein may be made without departing from the disclosure and any modifications and/or alterations are within the scope of the contemplated disclosure.

[0014] With reference to FIGS. **1** and **2** and according to an embodiment of the present disclosure, a bird feeder **10** is shown, preferably comprising a seed container **15** to contain seeds and capped by a cover **17**, a seed tray **20** adapted to hold and provide access to the seeds, a shroud **25**, the shroud **25** moveable from a first position, where access to the seeds is permitted, to a second position, where access to the seeds is denied. The bird feeder **10** is also comprised of integrated

perches **40** on which a bird can perch to eat the seeds. The shroud **25** is further comprised of apertures **50** through which protrude the integrated perches **40**. In a preferred embodiment, the apertures **50** are configured in pairs such that the perches **40** go in and out of each pair of apertures **50**, as best shown in FIG. **1**. In another embodiment, the perches **40** could form a loop and go in and out of the same aperture **50**.

[0015] With reference to FIGS. **3**, **4** and **5** and according to an embodiment of the present disclosure, the perches **40** are shown in greater detail, pivotably secured to a base **55** of the shroud (not shown) of the bird feeder (not shown). In an embodiment, the base **55** is secured to the shroud (not shown). Each one of the perches **40** terminates in a U-shape **60**, each U-shape **60** pivotably engaged with a pivot point **65** of the base **55**. The perches **40** are configured to pivot between a first extended position where the birds can perch on the perches **40** (shown in FIG. **3**), to a second folded position, where birds cannot perch (shown in FIG. **4**). In the second position, the bird feeder (not shown) is more easily able to be stored with a box and shipped out to consumers. In an embodiment, the base **55** is comprised of upper and lower crimp members **67**, **69**. The upper and lower crimp members **67**, **69** are securable to the base **55** by means of screws **68** or other fastening means. In this way, the perches **40** are pivotally locked to the base **55**, more specifically in between the upper and lower crimp members **67**, **69**.

[0016] With further reference to FIGS. **2** and **3** and according to an embodiment of the present disclosure, the base **55** is securable to the shroud **25** by means of screw **80** tightened around a rod **82**, although the base **55** may simply be attached to the shroud **25**, or the base **55** and shroud **25** may be formed as one integral component. Importantly, the shroud **25** has at least one opening **50** to accommodate the perches **40**. In another embodiment, the shroud **25** is not comprised of pairs of openings but rather a plurality of singular openings (not shown) and the perches **40** would have a semi-circular or other suitable shape and pivotably secured in only the singular openings (not shown). The shroud **25** is comprised of a plurality of recessed portions **70** surrounding the openings **50**, on which can more easily rest the perches **40** in the first position. Additionally, when a bird sits on the perches **40**, which in turn rest on the shroud, this causes additional stress on the shroud **25** due to the weight of the bird. As such, the recessed portions **70** also reinforce the shroud **25**. The perches **40** are configured to have a pair of indentations **75** configured to rest on the recessed portions **70** in the first position. In a preferred configured, each perch **40** has a first end **85** pivotally engaged with a first pivot point **87**, the first end **85** extending out of the shroud **25** through a first opening **50** and into a second opening (not shown) and terminating in a second end **90** pivotally engaged with a second pivot point **92** such that the perch **40** pivots about both the first pivot point **87** and the second pivot point **92**.

[0017] With reference to FIG. **5** and according to an embodiment of the present disclosure, the lower crimp member **69** is comprised of a plurality of saddles **95** adapted to receive each end of the perch (not shown). Meanwhile, the upper crimp member **67** is comprised of concave walls **97**. When the upper crimp member **67** is fastened to the lower crimp member **69**, the saddles **95** are positioned below the concave walls **97**. Together, the saddles **95** and concave walls **97** form the pivot points (not shown) around which can pivot the perches (not shown). Indeed, the perches (not shown) terminate in U-shapes (not shown) and are trapped in between the saddles **95** and concave walls **97**. Although the base **55**, upper crimp member **67** and lower crimp member **69** are three separate pieces, a worker skilled in the art would appreciate that the lower crimp member **69** and base **55** could be formed of or moulded in a singular piece. Alternatively, the base **55**, lower crimp member **69** and upper crimp member **67** could be formed of or moulded in a singular piece.

[0018] Many modifications of the embodiments described herein as well as other embodiments may be evident to a person skilled in the art having the benefit of the teachings presented in the foregoing description and associated drawings. It is understood that these modifications and additional embodiments are captured within the scope of the contemplated disclosure which is not to be limited to the specific embodiment disclosed.

Claims

1. A bird feeder comprising: a seed container to contain seeds; a seed tray connected to the seed container and adapted to provide access to the seeds; a shroud engaged with the seed tray, the shroud moveable between a first position to provide access to the seeds and a second position to deny access to the seeds; at least one integrated perch to facilitate bird access to the seeds; and, a cover releasably secured to the seed container.
2. The bird feeder of claim 1 wherein the shroud is further comprised of at least one opening through which is fitted the at least one integrated perch.
3. The bird feeder of claim 1 wherein the at least one integrated perch is pivotally engaged with the shroud.
4. The bird feeder of claim 1 further comprised of a crimp secured within the shroud.
5. The bird feeder of claim 4 wherein the at least one integrated perch is pivotally engaged with the crimp.
6. The bird feeder of claim 5 wherein the crimp is further comprised of an upper crimp and a lower crimp sandwiched to one another.
7. The bird feeder of claim 6 wherein the at least one integrated perch is pivotally engaged in between the lower and upper crimps.
8. The bird feeder of claim 5 wherein the crimp is further comprised of an upper crimp and a base.
9. The bird feeder of claim 8 wherein the at least one integrated perch is pivotally engaged in between the upper crimp and the base.
10. The bird feeder of claim 1 wherein the at least one integrated perch terminates in a U-shape allowing the at least one integrated perch to pivot about a pivot point.
11. The bird feeder of claim 1 wherein the at least one integrated perch has at least one indentation configured to rest on the shroud.
12. The bird feeder of claim 2 wherein the shroud is comprised of a plurality of recessed portions surrounding the at least one opening.
13. The bird feeder of claim 2 wherein the at least one integrated perch has a first end pivotally engaged with a first pivot point, the first end extending out of the shroud through a first opening of the at least one opening and into a second opening of the at least one opening, and terminating in a second end pivotally engaged with a second pivot point such that the at least one integrated perch pivots about the first and second pivot points.
14. The bird feeder of claim 4 wherein the crimp is further comprised of at least one concave wall cooperating with at least one saddle to form at least one pivot point around which can pivot the at least one integrated perch.
15. The bird feeder of claim 6 wherein the upper crimp is further comprised of at least one concave wall, and the lower crimp is further comprised of at least one saddle, the at least one concave wall cooperating with the at least one saddle to form at least one pivot point around which can pivot the at least one integrated perch.
16. A shroud having a base for use with a bird feeder, the shroud comprising: at least one integrated perch to facilitate bird access to bird seeds; at least one opening through which is fitted the at least one integrated perch; wherein the at least one integrated perch is pivotally engaged with the shroud.
17. The shroud of claim 16 further comprising a crimp, wherein the at least one integrated perch is pivotally engaged with the crimp.
18. The shroud of claim 16 wherein the at least one integrated perch terminates in a U-shape allowing the at least one integrated perch to pivot about a pivot point.
19. The shroud of claim 16 wherein the at least one integrated perch has a first end pivotally engaged with a first pivot point, the first end extending out of the shroud through a first opening of the at least one opening and into a second opening of the at least one opening, and terminating in a

second end pivotally engaged with a second pivot point such that the at least one integrated perch pivots about the first and second pivot points.

20. The shroud of claim 16 wherein the at least one integrated perch has at least one indentation configured to rest on the shroud.