



US006381900B1

(12) **United States Patent**
Crowley

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 6,381,900 B1**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **May 7, 2002**

(54) **HANGING PLANTER**

(76) **Inventor:** **Gerald J. Crowley**, 535 Hill Church Rd., Boyertown, PA (US) 19512

(*) **Notice:** Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

5,020,274 A * 6/1991 Wong 47/67
5,333,409 A * 8/1994 Mendes 47/67
5,477,460 A * 12/1995 Holtkamp, Jr. 47/66.6
D369,122 S 4/1996 Lowe, Jr.
5,622,004 A * 4/1997 Gidge 47/71

(List continued on next page.)

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

GB 2222063 2/1990
GB 2259842 3/1993

Primary Examiner—Charles T. Jordan

Assistant Examiner—Stephen A Holzen

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Richard C. Litman

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A hanging planter includes a bowl-like lower portion and a ring-like upper portion, with the upper portion nesting within the rim of the lower portion to provide a plant holding assembly. The upper edge of the lower portion and lower edge of the upper portion are crenelated, with the mating edges defining a series of plant growth openings there-through when the two components are assembled. The crenelations are preferably of variable depths in each section, to define at least two different levels of plant growth openings through the sides of the assembly, with the upper edge of the upper portion defining a third plant growth opening for the device. Plants are selected according to their growth habits, with trailing plants being placed low in the planter, long flowering plants being placed at an intermediate level, and more upright plants being placed atop the others. The result is an essentially unbroken array of plant life covering the present planter, after the plants have grown out. The present planter is suspended by a single central hanger rod which secures through the bottom of the lower portion of the container, which provides a leakproof seal and yet allows the planter to rotate due to breezes or other effects. A fertilizer wick is placed upon the central rod, with the wick serving to deliver fertilizer to the generally centrally disposed roots of the plants, and also to wick up water from the lower portion of the planter to the plant roots.

17 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets

(21) **Appl. No.:** **09/642,637**

(22) **Filed:** **Aug. 22, 2000**

(51) **Int. Cl.⁷** **A01G 9/02**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **47/66.1; 47/81; 47/48.5; 47/29.1; 47/29.2; 47/29.3; 47/29.4; 47/29.5; 47/29.6; 47/65.7; 47/65.8; 47/65.9; 47/66.1; 47/66.2; 47/66.3; 47/66.4; 47/66.5; 47/66.6**

(58) **Field of Search** **47/81, 485, 66.1–66.7, 47/29.1–29.6, 65.7, 65.8, 65.9**

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

303,543 A * 8/1884 Prentiss 47/31.1
599,996 A * 3/1898 Engle 47/67
1,624,504 A 4/1927 Pfarr 47/65.8
1,951,642 A * 3/1934 Augustin et al. 229/110
2,033,627 A * 6/1936 Gardner 206/423
2,491,124 A * 12/1949 Martin 239/44
2,605,588 A * 8/1952 Lindstaedt 47/67
2,996,841 A * 8/1961 Loree 47/48.5
3,304,653 A * 2/1967 Zadarnowski 119/268
3,990,179 A * 11/1976 Johnson et al. 47/67
4,102,081 A * 7/1978 Morrow 47/67
4,145,841 A * 3/1979 Woolpert 47/66.1
4,175,355 A * 11/1979 Dedolph 47/64
4,349,172 A 9/1982 Banks, Jr. 248/318
4,389,813 A * 6/1983 Jaques et al. 47/67
4,392,327 A * 7/1983 Sanders 47/59
D283,992 S 5/1986 Tendrup et al. D11/148
4,592,166 A 6/1986 Tendrup et al. 47/67
4,635,394 A * 1/1987 Brown 47/67
4,912,875 A 4/1990 Tardif 47/71
4,932,159 A * 6/1990 Holtkamp, Sr. 47/81
D316,686 S 5/1991 Tardif

