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**United States Patent** [19][11] **Patent Number:** **5,546,698****Rock**[45] **Date of Patent:** **Aug. 20, 1996**[54] **SELF-ROTATING HANGING PLANT SUPPORT**[76] **Inventor:** **Terry R. Rock**, 2551 Paw Paw, Apt. 2B, Benton Harbor, Mich. 49022*Primary Examiner*—Terry Lee Melius*Assistant Examiner*—Joanne C. Downs*Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—David H. Baker; Rhodes & Ascolillo[21] **Appl. No.:** **427,164**[22] **Filed:** **Apr. 24, 1995**[51] **Int. Cl.<sup>6</sup>** ..... **A01G 9/02; A47G 7/02**[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... **47/67; 47/39**[58] **Field of Search** ..... 47/67 H, 67 R, 47/39 M; 248/324, 318

[57]

**ABSTRACT**

An apparatus for supporting and rotating a hanging plant, including a housing with an upper hook fixedly attached to a top surface thereon. A lower hook extends from a bottom surface of the housing, and is for hanging and supporting a plant thereon. There is a light sensing mechanism, disposed on the outside of the housing, for detecting the amount of ambient light incident upon the housing, along with a rotary mechanism, disposed within the housing, for periodically rotating the lower hook whenever the amount of ambient light detected by the light sensing mechanism exceeds a threshold value. The rotary mechanism further includes a DC motor stationed within the housing, a reduction gearing assembly connected to an output shaft of the motor, and a vertically disposed shaft, rotatably coupled to the reduction gearing assembly and connected to the lower hook.

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**10 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets**