

US008528250B2

(12) United States Patent

Nelson et al.

(10) Patent No.: US 8,528,250 B2 (45) Date of Patent: Sep. 10, 2013

(54) FABRIC PLANT CONTAINER

(75) Inventors: Miguel Eric Nelson, Los Angeles, CA (US); Sherry Lorraine Walsh, Los Angeles, CA (US); Rodney Lee Nelson, Phoenix, AZ (US)

(73) Assignee: Woolly Pocket Corporation, Los

Angeles, CA (US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this

patent is extended or adjusted under 35

U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: 13/066,948

(22) Filed: **Apr. 28, 2011**

(65) Prior Publication Data

US 2011/0203176 A1 Aug. 25, 2011

Related U.S. Application Data

- (63) Continuation-in-part of application No. PCT/US2010/000743, filed on Mar. 10, 2010.
- (60) Provisional application No. 61/209,768, filed on Mar. 10, 2009, provisional application No. 61/336,985, filed on Jan. 29, 2010.
- (51) **Int. Cl.** *A01G 9/02* (2006.01)

(56) References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

2,621,142	Α	*	12/1952	Wetherell 428/74
3,011,689	Α	*	12/1961	Korn et al 383/119
3,857,934	Α		12/1974	Bernstein et al.

4,439,950	A	4/1984	Kelley
6,637,155	B1 *	10/2003	Butler et al 47/73
6,766,817	B2	7/2004	da Silva
7,387,823	B2 *	6/2008	Waterford 428/17
2003/0035598	A1*	2/2003	Hiraiwa et al 383/205
2004/0074142	A1*	4/2004	Busby et al 47/65.8
2004/0200141	A1	10/2004	Whitcomb
2005/0144841	A1*	7/2005	Hjorth 47/66.3
2005/0166451	A1	8/2005	Stachnik
2005/0265636	A1*	12/2005	Michalsky 383/104
2006/0059775	A1	3/2006	L'Estrange
2007/0269275	A1	11/2007	Kimberlin
2009/0013598	A1*	1/2009	Mileto 47/48.5
2009/0020446	A1	1/2009	Frankenstein et al.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

International Search Report and Written Opinion mailed on Jun. 29, 2010 by the European Patent Office, completed Jun. 17, 2010 in counterpart foreign application No. PCT/US10/00743.

* cited by examiner

Primary Examiner — Rob Swiatek
Assistant Examiner — Lisa Tsang

(74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm — The Noblitt Group, PLLC

(57) ABSTRACT

A plant container or planter fabricated from a breathable, flexible, geo-textile, material such as recycled polyester needle-punched felt, which is self-supporting without an internal support structure. The geo-textile material is porous to both air and water, which allows air-born nutrients to pass to the roots and inhibit the ability of mold species to grow and harm the plant. The geo-textile material is configurable to various container designs that permit the non-conventional plant placement including the mounting of the plant containers on vertical surfaces, flat surfaces, and by suspension from ceilings and walls. The inclusion of a flexible, durable, impermeable, water-retaining, recycled rubber, vinyl, or plastic bottom and/or backing liner in the construction of the plant containers/hangers allow the planters to be placed on indoor and outdoor surfaces such as wood, stucco, wallboard, carpet, and various other surfaces which might otherwise be damaged by moisture.

22 Claims, 19 Drawing Sheets

