an overcap having a lid having an attachment mechanism attached to a portion of a surface of the lid and a scoop attached to the attachment mechanism, a rim hingedly attached to the lid and including a gripper constructed and arranged to hold the scoop, and a container attached to the rim of the overcap and holding a product.

[0038] The method further comprises opening the lid and removing the scoop from the attachment mechanism. The scoop can be used to remove product from the storage device. The scoop can be inserted into the gripper for easy access the next time the product needs to be removed and dispensed. The handle is dimensioned and positioned in such a way that the access to any content of the container is restricted without removal of the scoop. This is achieved when the scoop needs to be removed from the gripper to gain access to the container.

[0039] The lid and rim of the overcap, scoop and container can be made of any suitable material. For example, the lid and rim of the overcap, scoop and container can be made from a suitable polyethylene material, random copolymer, polypropylene copolymer and the like. The lid and rim of the overcap, scoop and container can be made of the same material as each other or each can be made of a separate material that matches the objections of that particular component.

[0040] It should be understood that various changes and modifications to the presently preferred embodiments described herein will be apparent to those skilled in the art. Such changes and modifications can be made without departing from the ~~spirit and~~ scope of the present subject matter and without diminishing its intended advantages. It is therefore intended that such changes and modifications be covered by the appended claims.

CLAIMS

The invention is claimed as follows:

1. A dispensing apparatus (10) comprising:

an overcap (30) comprising a lid (32) having an attachment mechanism (50) on a portion of surface of the lid (32) and a rim (34) hingedly attached to the lid (32) and comprising a gripper (60) so constructed and arranged to receive a scoop (20),~~.~~

wherein the scoop (20) comprising a handle which comprises at least one guiding member (140) on a portion of the handle.

2. The dispensing apparatus (10) of Claim 1, wherein the attachment mechanism (50) comprises a first support member (52), a second support member (54) and a snap peg (56) positioned between the first support member (52) and the second support member (54).

3. The dispensing apparatus (10) of Claim 1, wherein the attachment mechanism (50) comprises a support member and a snap post.

4. The dispensing apparatus (10) of Claim 1, wherein the lid (32) defines at least one raised curve member.

5. The dispensing apparatus (10) of Claim 1, wherein the gripper (60) comprises a curved portion (62) constructed and arranged to partially surround the scoop (20).

6. The dispensing apparatus (10) of Claim 5, wherein the curved portion (62) comprises at least one protrusion (64).

7. The dispensing apparatus (10) of Claim 5, wherein the gripper (60) is configured in such a way that the scoop (20) is detachable without contact with a content of the container (40).

8. The dispensing apparatus (10) of Claim 1, wherein the rim (34) is constructed and arranged to be attached to a container (40).

9. The dispensing apparatus (10) of Claim 1, wherein the lid (32) comprises a first locking member (42) and the rim (34) comprises a second locking member (44) that attaches to the first locking member (42).

10. The dispensing apparatus (10) of Claim 1 ~~further comprising a~~wherein the scoop (20) ~~including a handle (24) and~~ comprising a cup (22) attached to the handle (24).

11. The dispensing apparatus (10) of Claim 10, wherein a portion of the cup (22) defines at least one aperture (126).

~~12. The dispensing apparatus (10) of Claim 9, wherein a portion of the handle (24) comprises at least one guiding member (140).~~

~~13~~12. The dispensing apparatus (10) of Claim 10 wherein the handle (24) is dimensioned and positioned in such a way that the access to any content of the container (40) is restricted without removal of the scoop (20).

~~14~~13. A dispensing apparatus (10) comprising:

an overcap (30) comprising a lid (32) and a rim (34) hingedly attached to the lid (32) and comprising a gripper (60) so constructed and arranged to receive and hold a scoop (20).

~~15~~14. A storage device for storing particulate material, the apparatus (10) comprising:

a scoop (20) comprising a cup (22) and a handle (24) attached to the cup (22), wherein a portion of the handle (24) comprises at least a guiding member (140);

an overcap (30) comprising a lid (32) having an attachment mechanism (50) on a portion of a surface of the lid (32) and a rim (34) hingedly attached to the lid (32) and comprising a gripper (60) so constructed and arranged to receive the scoop (20); and

a container (40) coupled to the rim (34) of the overcap (30).

~~16~~15. The storage device of Claim ~~15~~14, wherein the attachment mechanism (50) comprises a first support member (52), a second support member (54) and a snap peg (56)

positioned between the first support member (52) and the second support member (54).

~~17~~16. The storage device of Claim ~~15~~14, wherein the attachment mechanism (50) comprises a support member and a snap post.

~~18~~17. The storage device of Claim ~~15~~14, wherein the lid (32) defines at least one raised curve member.

~~19~~18. The storage device of Claim ~~15~~14, wherein the gripper (60) comprises a curved portion (62) constructed and arranged to partially surround the scoop (20).

~~20~~19. The storage device of Claim ~~19~~18, wherein the curved portion (62) comprises at least one protrusion (64).

~~21~~20. The storage device of Claim ~~15~~14, wherein the lid (32) comprises a first locking member (42) and the rim (34) comprises a second locking member (44) that attaches to the first locking member (42).

~~22~~21. The storage device of Claim ~~15~~14, wherein a portion of the cup (22) defines at least one aperture (126).

~~23. The storage device of Claim 15, wherein a portion of the handle (24) comprises at least one guiding member (140).~~

~~24~~22. The storage device of Claim ~~15~~14, wherein the container (40) comprises a recessed gripping portion.

~~25~~23. A method of dispensing a product, the method comprising:

providing a storage device comprising an overcap (30) including a lid (32) having an attachment mechanism (50) and a scoop (20) attached to the attachment mechanism (50), the scoop (20) comprising a handle (24) which comprises at least a guiding member (140) on a portion of the handle, a rim (34) hingedly attached to the lid (32) and comprising a gripper (60), and a container (40);

opening the lid (32) and removing the scoop (20) from the attachment mechanism (50);

using the scoop (20) to remove a product from the storage device; and

inserting the scoop (20) into the gripper (60).