CLAIMS

1. Humidifying apparatus comprising:

a housing comprising a water reservoir;

a water tank mounted on the housing for supplying water to the reservoir;

air flow generating means for generating an air flow over water in the reservoir;

an air outlet for emitting at least part of the air flow:

atomizing means for atomizing water in the reservoir;

irradiating means for irradiating water in the reservoir with ultraviolet radiation; and

guide means for guiding a flow of water entering the reservoir adjacent to the irradiating means.

2. Humidifying apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the guide means comprises one or more baffles.

3. Humidifying apparatus as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the guide means are located adjacent to the irradiating means.

4. Humidifying apparatus as claimed in any preceding claim, comprising a chamber for conveying water from the water tank to the reservoir, and wherein the guide means are located adjacent to a water outlet of the chamber.

5. Humidifying apparatus as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the irradiating means is located at least partially within the reservoir.

6. Humidifying apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein the irradiating means comprises an ultraviolet radiation transparent tube located at least partially within the reservoir.

7. Humidifying apparatus as claimed in claim 6, wherein the guide means is arranged to guide water entering the reservoir along the tube.

8. Humidifying apparatus as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the atomizing means comprises a transducer, and the apparatus comprises control means for controlling the frequency of vibration of the transducer.

9. Humidifying apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein the transducer is located on the opposite side of the reservoir to the irradiating means.

10. Humidifying apparatus as claimed in any preceding claim, comprising an inlet duct for conveying the air flow to the reservoir, and an outlet duct for conveying the air flow away from the reservoir.

11. Humidifying apparatus as claimed in claim 10, wherein the inlet duct comprises an outlet port shaped to emit the air flow in such a direction as to generate a swirling movement of the water stored in the reservoir.

12. Humidifying apparatus as claimed in claim 10 or claim 11, wherein the inlet duct extends along at least part of the outlet duct.

13. Humidifying apparatus as claimed in any of claims 10 to 12, wherein the housing comprises the inlet duct, and the water tank comprises the outlet duct.

14. Humidifying apparatus as claimed in any preceding claim, comprising a nozzle for receiving the air flow, the nozzle comprising said air outlet, the nozzle extending about an opening through which air from outside the apparatus is drawn by air emitted from the nozzle.

CLAIMS

1. Humidifying apparatus comprising:

a housing comprising a water reservoir;

a water tank mounted on the housing for supplying water to the reservoir;

air flow generating means for generating an air flow over the reservoir;

an air outlet for emitting at least part of the air flow:

atomizing means for atomizing water in the reservoir;

irradiating means located within the reservoir for irradiating water in the reservoir with ultraviolet radiation; and

guide means for guiding a flow of water entering the reservoir to flow along the irradiating means before being atomized by the atomizing means.

2. Humidifying apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the guide means comprises one or more baffles.

3. Humidifying apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the guide means are located adjacent to the irradiating means.

4. Humidifying apparatus as claimed in any preceding claim, comprising a water treatment chamber for conveying water from the water tank to the reservoir, and wherein the guide means are located opposite to a water outlet of the chamber.

5. Humidifying apparatus as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the irradiating means is located within an ultraviolet radiation transparent tube within the reservoir.

6. Humidifying apparatus as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the reservoir comprises a reflective surface located adjacent to the irradiating means.

7. Humidifying apparatus as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the atomizing means comprises a transducer and control means for controlling the frequency of vibration of the transducer.

8. Humidifying apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein the transducer is located on the opposite side of the reservoir to the irradiating means.

9. Humidifying apparatus as claimed in any preceding claim, comprising an inlet duct for conveying the air flow to the reservoir, and an outlet duct for conveying the air flow away from the reservoir.

10. Humidifying apparatus as claimed in claim 9, wherein the inlet duct comprises an outlet port shaped to emit the air flow into the reservoir in such a direction as to generate a swirling movement of the water stored in the reservoir.

11. Humidifying apparatus as claimed in claim 10, wherein the outlet port of the inlet duct is located adjacent to the irradiating means.

12. Humidifying apparatus as claimed in any of claims 9 to 11, wherein the inlet duct extends along at least part of the outlet duct.

13. Humidifying apparatus as claimed in any of claims 9 to 12, wherein the housing comprises the inlet duct, and the water tank comprises the outlet duct.

14. Humidifying apparatus as claimed in any preceding claim, comprising a nozzle for receiving the air flow, the nozzle comprising said air outlet, the nozzle extending about an opening through which air from outside the apparatus is drawn by air emitted from the nozzle.

15. Humidifying apparatus as claimed in claim 14, wherein the air outlet is located at the front of the nozzle.

16. Humidifying apparatus as claimed in claim 14 or claim 15, wherein the air outlet extends about the opening of the nozzle.

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