

PATENT SPECIFICATION

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DRAWINGS ATTACHED.

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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

Improvements in or relating to Colanders.

We, REXALL DRUG AND CHEMICAL COMPANY, a Corporation organised and existing under the Laws of the State of Delaware, United States of America, of 8480 Beverly Boulevard, Los Angeles 54, State of California, United States of America, do hereby declare the invention for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

The invention relates to colanders of the kind which are well known for use in draining liquids from solids, for washing fruits and vegetables, and other similar operations in the kitchen.

The invention provides the combination of a colander and a lid for the colander which lid has a rim of resilient flexible material which fits around the top of the colander to hold the lid to the colander.

Preferably the lid is an open grille.

The rim may taper inwardly downwardly and the outside of the top of the cover may be flared outwardly upwardly to fit inside the rim. Preferably the outside of the top of the colander is flared outwardly at an angle of 5° to 13° to the vertical.

In one embodiment the colander comprises an open hemispherical bowl, a plurality of drainage holes in the wall of the bowl, and legs on the underside of the bowl and preferably the axes of the drainage holes are parallel to the axis of symmetry of the bowl.

In a further embodiment the rim comprises an inverted U-shape, the legs of the U being engaged tightly on either side of the top of the container wall.

A specific colander and lid according to the invention will now be described with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the colander and lid.

Figure 2 is a side elevation of the colander with the lid partly removed.

Figure 3 is a plan view of the colander with part of the lid removed for clarity.

Figure 4 is a cross-section taken on the line 4—4 of Figure 3.

Figure 5 is a cross-section taken on the line 5—5 of Figure 2, and

Figure 6 is a cross-section taken on the line 6—6 of Figure 2.

The colander 10 includes a hollow container having a hemispherical continuous side and bottom wall 11. The upper edge of the side wall is slightly flared outwardly at 15. The side and bottom wall 11 is perforated by a plurality of drainage holes 12 formed in a distinctive pattern as shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3. This pattern is decorative and useful in permitting free draining of the colander. The perforations 12 are made directly through the hemispherical wall 11 from a top position as viewed in Figure 3. Stated in another way, the axes of rotation of the holes 12 are substantially parallel with the axis of symmetry of the hemispherical container.

The colander is preferably fabricated from linear polyethylene or a blend of high and low density polyethylene, and is therefore rigid.

A continuous scalloped leg 13 is formed integrally with the under side of the container. The scallops in the leg are decorative and permit draining of the colander when it is positioned on a supporting surface. The legs 13 maintain the colander in an upright position as shown in Figure 2 when positioned on a supporting surface.

A continuous peripheral handle 14 is integral with the outside surface of the walls 11 near the upper edge of the wall. This handle

14 adds rigidity to the upper edge of the colander and provides a handle for manually lifting the colander.

5 A lid or grille 16 of moulded plastic material includes a central open grille 17. The openings in the grille are each approximately $3/8"$ by $3/8"$ and the approximate thickness of the ribs is $3/32"$ by $1/16"$. The grille has a sealing rim with an inside upwardly directed wall 18, a connecting wall 19, and an outside downwardly directed wall 20. The lower edge of wall 20 has an outwardly directed flange 21 which is useful for removing the grille from the colander. The walls 18, 15 19 and 20 form an inverted "U" shaped sealing rim which is positionable over the top of the flared portion 15 of the side wall 11. The flared portion is inclined at about 5° to 13° , preferably 7° to 12° and best of all 10° to 20 12° from the vertical. The inside surfaces of walls 18 and 20 are substantially parallel to the flared portion 15 and engage the surfaces of the flared portions 15 thereby effecting a tight seal to the wall and maintaining the grille on the top of the colander. This type of connecting arrangement to an upper edge is well known as illustratively shown in British Patent No. 662,219.

The specific dimensions of the ribs and grille openings are important in this invention in providing optimum stretch and flexibility to the grille since the entire grille and rim must be sufficiently stretchable to permit easy placement of the grille over the top edge of wall 11, but still to maintain the grille in tight engagement with the upper edge so that the grill does not fall off when the colander is inverted during use. The grille must be flexible to permit easy removal of the grille from the colander as shown in Figure 2. In removing the grille, a portion of the rim is grasped between the fingers and an upward bending force is exerted by pulling up on flange 21 while pushing down on wall 18. In this manner, a portion of the rim is released from the top edge of wall 11 and the remainder of the rim is readily stripped off by pulling upward on the grille as shown in Figure 2.

50 In the assembled unit, it is important that

the grille be stretched tautly across the opening in the colander. This is achieved by proper opening and rib dimensions.

While a preferred embodiment is described and illustrated, the invention may be embodied otherwise within the scope of the following claims. 55

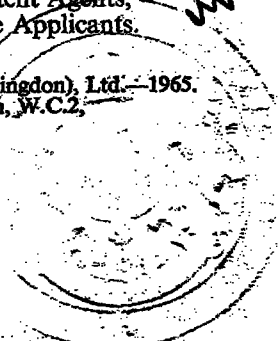
WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. The combination of a colander and a lid for the colander which lid has a rim of resilient flexible material which fits around the top of the colander to hold the lid to the colander. 60
2. The combination as claimed in claim 1 in which the lid is an open grille. 65
3. The combination as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 in which the rim tapers inwardly downwardly and the outside of the top of the colander is flared outwardly upwardly to fit inside the rim. 70
4. The combination as claimed in claim 3 in which the outside of the top of the colander is flared outwardly at an angle of 5° to 13° to the vertical. 75
5. The combination as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4 in which the colander comprises an open hemispherical bowl, a plurality of drainage holes in the wall of the bowl, and legs on the underside of the bowl. 80
6. The combination as claimed in claim 5 in which the axes of the drainage holes are parallel to the axis of symmetry of the bowl. 85
7. The combination as claimed in any of claims 1 to 6 in which the rim comprises an inverted U-shape, the legs of the U being engaged tightly on either side of the top of the container wall. 90
8. The combination as claimed in any of the preceding claims wherein the container and the lid are of moulded plastic material.
9. The combination of a colander and a lid substantially as herein described with reference to and as shown in the accompanying drawings.

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upward



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2. The combination as claimed in claim 1 in which the lid is an open grille.
3. The combination as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 in which the rim tapers inwardly downwardly and the outside of the top of the colander is flared outwardly upwardly to fit inside the rim.
4. The combination as claimed in claim 3 in which the outside of the top of the colander is flared outwardly at an angle of 5° to 13° to the vertical.
5. The combination as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4 in which the colander comprises an open hemispherical bowl, a plurality of drainage holes in the wall of the bowl, and legs on the underside of the bowl.
6. The combination as claimed in claim 5 in which the axes of the drainage holes are parallel to the axis of symmetry of the bowl.
7. The combination as claimed in any of claims 1 to 6 in which the rim comprises an inverted U-shape, the legs of the U being engaged tightly on either side of the top of the container wall.
8. The combination as claimed in any of the preceding claims wherein the container and the lid are of moulded plastic material.
9. The combination of a colander and a lid substantially as herein described with reference to and as shown in the accompanying drawings.

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