

Description

The invention concerns a toy building set for building tree-like models, e.g. of the type known from the GB-A-969 717, and comprising elements having primary and secondary coupling means adapted for interconnection.

This known building set comprises some trunk portions and a plurality of leaf-like plates which can be coupled between the trunk portions.

The object of the invention is to provide a building set of the above-mentioned type which is considerably more flexible and allows more compact building of a tree-like model.

This is obtained in that the building set includes the elements stated in the characterizing portion of claim 1.

Preferably, the coupling means are constructed as stated in claim 2.

The invention will be explained more fully by the following description of an embodiment with reference to the drawing, in which

fig. 1 shows a building element known per se, which may serve as a trunk element for the invention,

fig. 2 shows a preferred trunk element belonging to the building set of the invention,

figs. 3 and 4 are perspective top and bottom views, respectively, of a preferred embodiment of a branch element, while

fig. 5 is a schematic view of a model of a tree-like structure built by means of the building set of the invention.

Fig. 1 shows a building element which is known per se and which is also useful in connection with the building set of the invention. This element is elongate, and its ends are formed with a coupling stud 1 and a recess to receive a coupling stud from an adjacent element, respectively.

The building element shown in fig. 2 comprises a trunk portion 2 like the one shown in fig. 1, said trunk portion being provided with some obliquely projecting branches 3, 4, whose ends are formed with coupling studs 5, 6 of the above-mentioned type. It will be appreciated that the projecting branches might also be provided with complementary coupling means corresponding to a recess in the bottom of the trunk portion 2, cf. the explanation of fig. 1. Figs. 3 and 4 show a preferred embodiment for the building set of the invention. The explanation will mainly be given with reference to fig. 3, as fig. 4 shows the same as fig. 3, seen from below. The branch element comprises a plurality of bars 7-11, whose ends are formed with both a primary and a secondary coupling means in the form of a coupling bushing 12-16. The axis of the bushings is perpendicular to a common plane for the bars 7-11 and has at one end 17 an outside

diameter which corresponds to the inside diameter of the opposite end 18 (fig. 4). Since the length of the bushings is greater than the thickness of the bars, it will be appreciated that such branch elements may be mutually assembled in many different plane-parallel positions. Moreover, the primary and the secondary coupling means in the bushings correspond entirely to the coupling means mentioned in connection with fig. 2, so that the branch element may be built together with the trunk element.

As appears from fig. 3, the bars 7-11 include additional branching portions, such as the branching portions 19, 20, all of which have a bushing at the end, such as the bushings 21, 22 which substantially correspond to the portion of the coupling bushings 12-16 which serves as the coupling stud 17. The additional branching portions are instrumental in giving the branch element greater similarity to a branch or a leaf, and the additional bushings contribute to the total impression of the leaf or the branch so that the primary and secondary coupling means are well camouflaged.

Fig. 5 schematically shows a model of a brush, built by means of the building set of the invention. The model comprises two trunk elements 23, 24 interconnected via a branch element 25. Branch elements 26, 27 are also provided at the ends of the branching portions from the trunk elements, and a pair of additional branch elements 28, 29 are secured to the branch element 26 via a building element like the one shown in fig. 1. Additional branch elements 30, 31 are also shown.

Accordingly, it will be appreciated that the building set of the invention lends itself to building models of varied appearance regarding the shape and also with respect to whether it is to resemble a thick growth of shrubs or an open tree crown.

Claims

1. A toy building set for building tree-like models and including elements having primary and secondary coupling means adapted for interconnection, comprising a plurality of elongated trunk elements (2), each of which having a male and a female coupling means, respectively, at its opposed ends, at least some of said trunk elements having elongated branching portions (3, 4) formed with coupling means (5, 6) of the aforementioned type at the ends thereof, and a plurality of branch elements, each comprising a plurality of integral branch bars (7 - 11), at least some of which have a plurality of branching portions, the branch bars having male and female coupling means (12 - 16), characterized in that each branch element substantially extends in a plane, the coupling

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fig. 5 is a schematic view of a model of a tree-like structure built by means of the building set of the invention.

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diameter which corresponds to the inside diameter of the opposite end 18 (fig. 4). Since the length of the bushings is greater than the thickness of the bars, it will be appreciated that such branch elements may be mutually assembled in many different plane-parallel positions. Moreover, the primary and the secondary coupling means in the bushings correspond entirely to the coupling means mentioned in connection with fig. 2, so that the branch element may be built together with the trunk element.

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Fig. 5 schematically shows a model of a brush, built by means of the building set of the invention. The model comprises two trunk elements 23, 24 interconnected via a branch element 25. Branch elements 26, 27 are also provided at the ends of the branching portions from the trunk elements, and a pair of additional branch elements 28, 29 are secured to the branch element 26 via a building element like the one shown in fig. 1. Additional branch elements 30, 31 are also shown.

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means of the branch elements being adapted to be connected with the coupling means on the trunk elements, wherein the male and female coupling means of a branch element extending from a primary side and a secondary side of the branch element, respectively.

2. A building set according to claim 1, characterized in that at least the coupling means on the branch elements are constructed as a short bushing whose one end has an outside diameter corresponding to the inside diameter at the opposed end of the bushing.

Patentansprüche

1. Bauspielsatz zum Nachbilden von baumartigen Modellen und mit Elementen mit primären und sekundären Kupplungseinrichtungen zur gegenseitigen Verbindung, aufweisend eine Mehrzahl von länglichen Schaftelementen (2), von denen jedes mit einer vorstehenden bzw. einer aufnehmenden Kupplungseinrichtung an den gegenüberliegenden Enden ausgebildet ist und wenigstens einige der Schaftelemente längliche Ast- oder Zweigelemente (3, 4) aufweisen, die mit Kupplungseinrichtungen (5, 6) der vorgenannten Art an ihren Enden ausgebildet sind, und aufweisend eine Mehrzahl von Ast- oder Zweigelementen, die jeweils eine Mehrzahl von einstückigen Zweig-Stangen (7 - 11) aufweisen, von denen wenigstens einige eine Mehrzahl von Zweigteilen aufweisen, wobei die Zweigteile vorstehende und aufnehmende Kupplungseinrichtungen (12 - 16) haben, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß die Zweigelemente sich im wesentlichen in einer Ebene erstrecken, die Kupplungseinrichtungen der Zweigelemente so ausgebildet sind, daß sie mit den Kupplungseinrichtungen der Schaftelemente verbindbar sind, und die aufnehmenden und vorstehenden Kupplungseinrichtungen eines Zweigelementes jeweils von einer ersten und einer zweiten Seite des Zweigelementes vorstehen.

2. Bauspielsatz nach Anspruch 1, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß wenigstens die Kupplungseinrichtungen an den Zweigelementen als kurze Buchsen ausgebildet sind, deren eines Ende einen Außendurchmesser hat, der dem Innendurchmesser am gegenüberliegenden Ende der Buchse entspricht.

Revendications

1. Jeu de construction pour construire des modèles imitant des arbres et comprenant des éléments

comprenant des moyens de liaison primaires et secondaires adaptés à être reliés ensemble, constitués par une pluralité d'éléments allongés de tronc (2) ayant chacun un organe de liaison mâle et un organe de liaison femelle à ses extrémités opposées, au moins certains desdits éléments de tronc ayant des branches allongées (3,4) comportant des organes de liaison (5,6) du type précité à leurs extrémités, et une pluralité d'éléments de branches comprenant chacun plusieurs rameaux (7-11) qui en sont solidaires et dont au moins quelques uns comportent plusieurs rameaux, les branches ayant des organes de liaison mâles et femelles (12-16), caractérisé en ce que chaque élément de branche s'étend sensiblement dans un plan, les moyens de liaison des éléments de branches étant adaptés à être reliés aux moyens de liaison des éléments de tronc, les moyens de liaison mâles et femelles d'un élément de branche s'étendant sur un côté primaire et sur un côté secondaire de l'élément de branche, respectivement.

2. Jeu de construction suivant la revendication 1, caractérisé en ce qu'au moins les éléments de liaison des éléments de branches sont constitués par une courte douille dont une extrémité a un diamètre externe qui correspond au diamètre interne à l'extrémité opposée de la douille.

