US 20170229218A1

(19) **United States**

(12) **Patent Application Publication** (10) **Pub. No.: US 2017/0229218 A1**

Bergsieker (43) **Pub. Date: Aug. 10, 2017**

(54) **ELECTRIC FENCE COUPLER ASSEMBLY**

(71) Applicant: **Robert Bergsieker**, Higginsville, MO (US)

(72) Inventor: **Robert Bergsieker**, Higginsville, MO (US)

(21) Appl. No.: **15/040,689**

(22) Filed: **Feb. 10, 2016**

Publication Classification

(51) **Int. Cl.**

H01B 17/16 (2006.01)

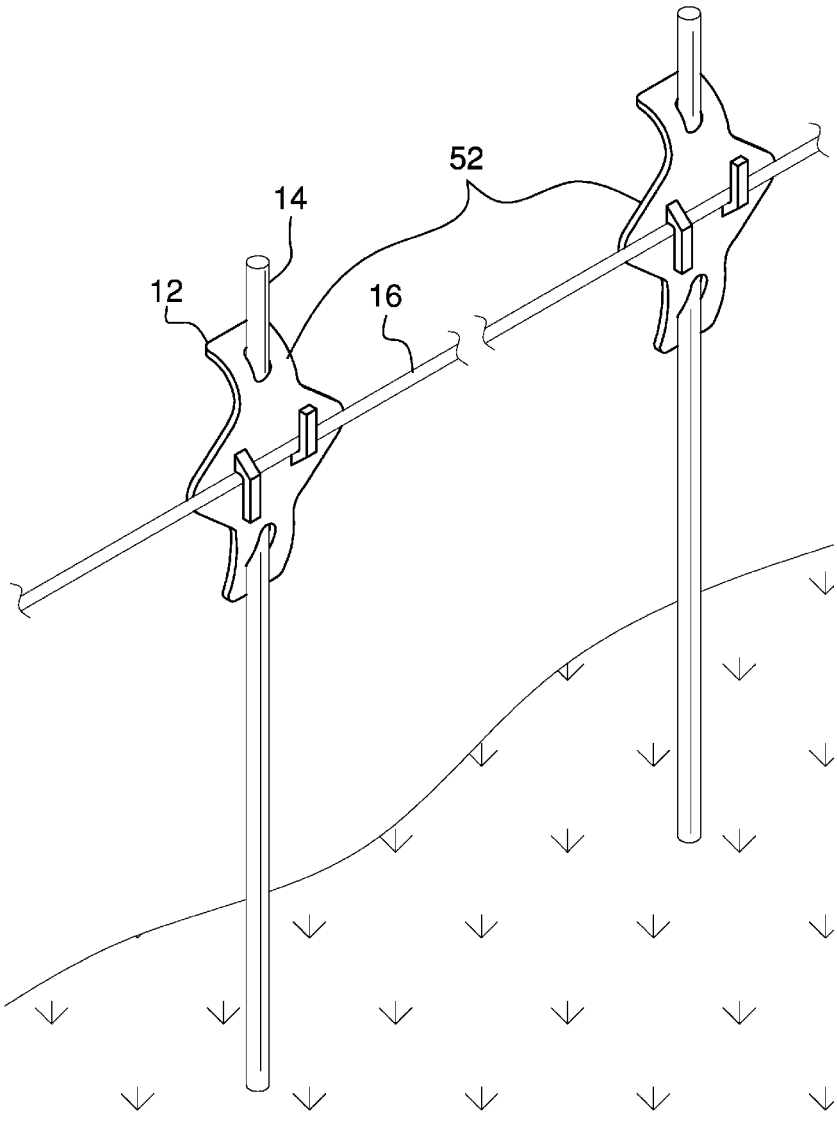
H01B 17/14 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC ***H01B 17/16*** (2013.01); ***H01B 17/145*** (2013.01)

(57) **ABSTRACT**

An electric fence coupler assembly includes an insulator that may be removably coupled to a fence post. The insulator may engage an electric fence thereby facilitating the electric fence to be retained on the fence post. The insulator is comprised of a resiliently bendable material. Thus, the insulator frictionally engages the fence post thereby facilitating the insulator to be removably retained on the fence post. A pair of clips is coupled to the insulator and each of the clips engages the electric fence.



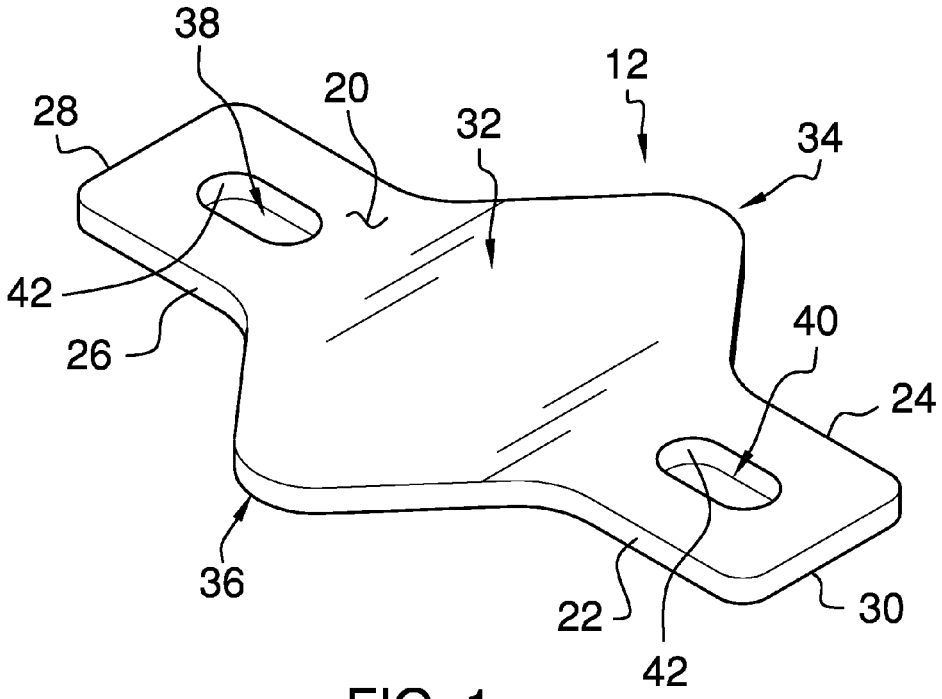


FIG. 1

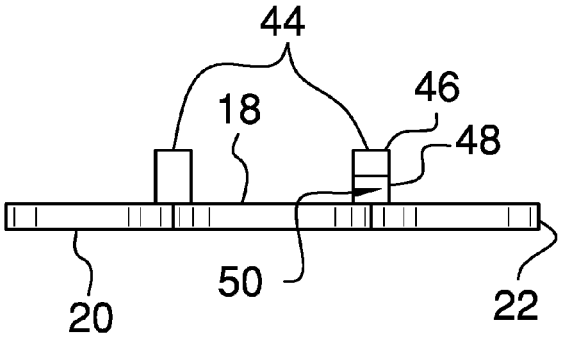


FIG. 2

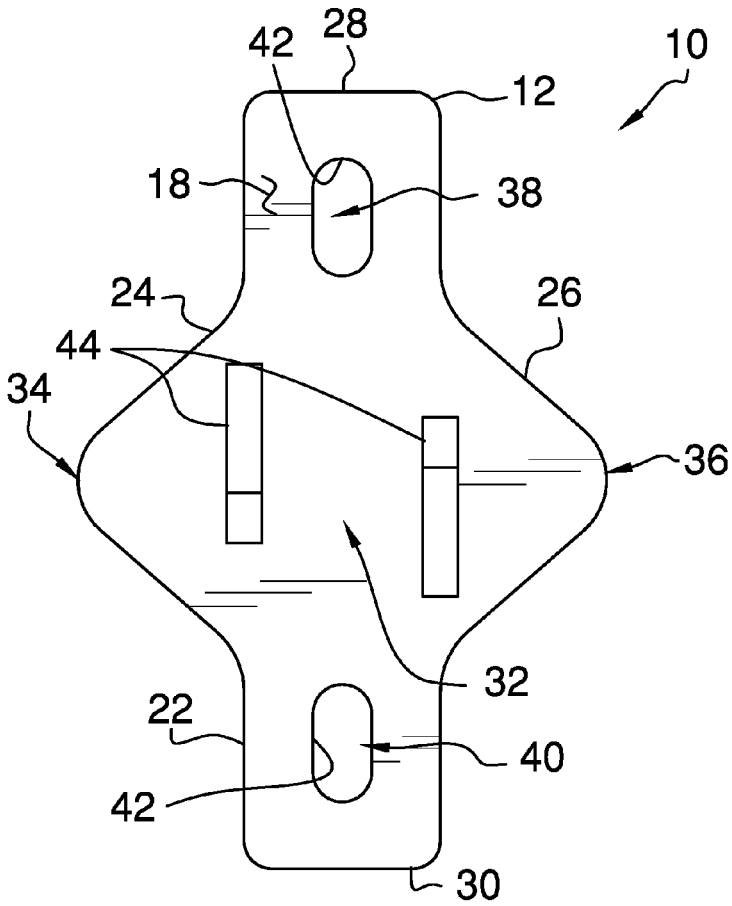


FIG. 3

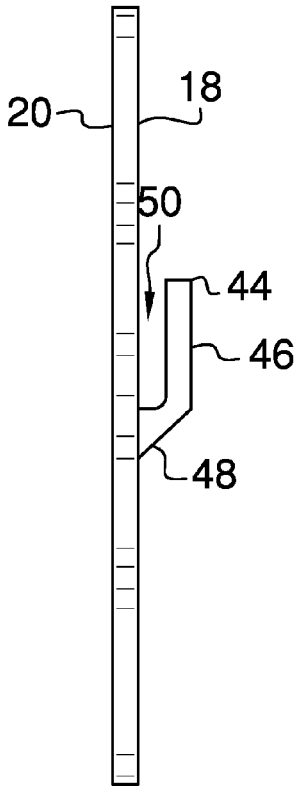
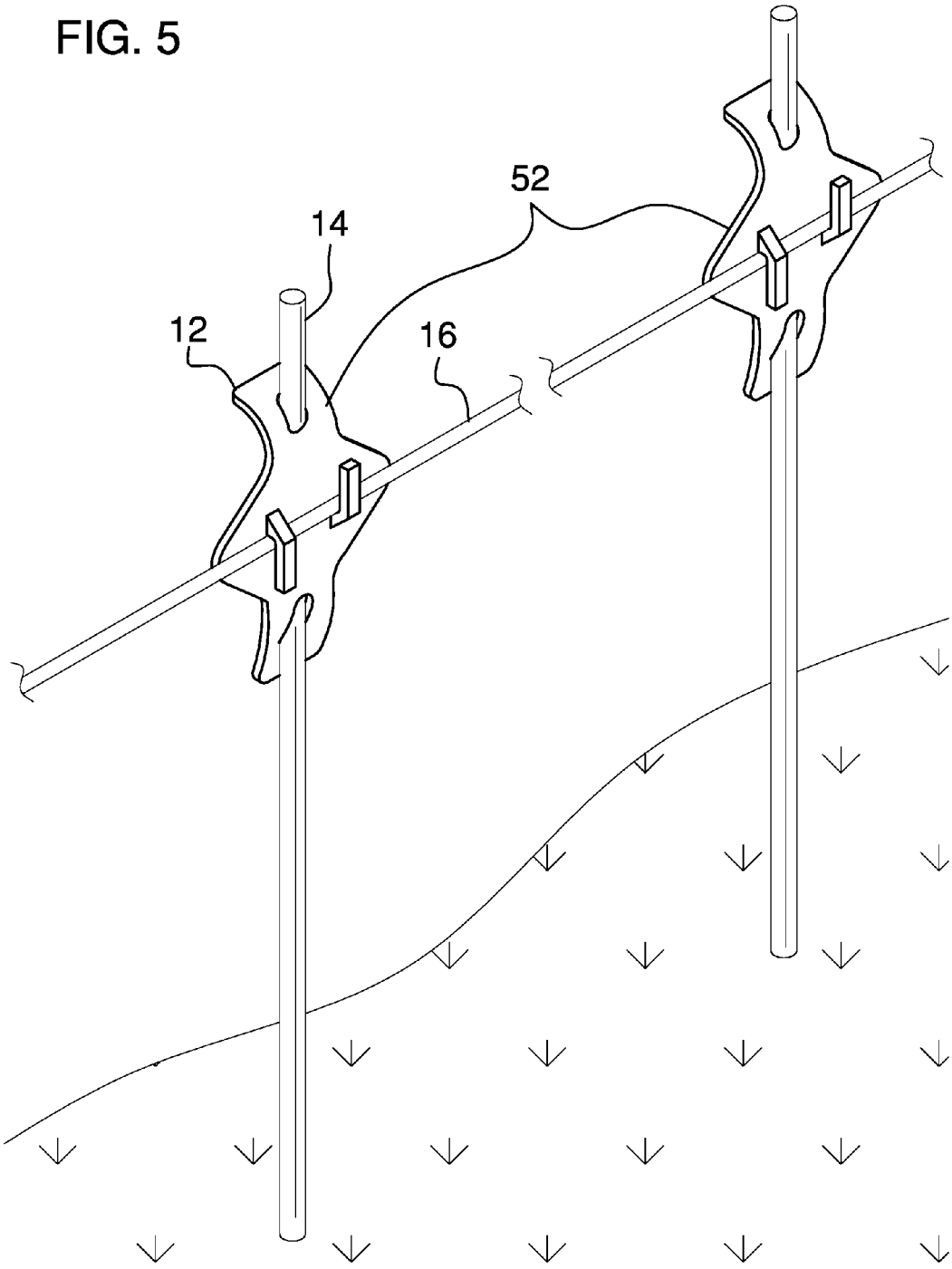


FIG. 4

FIG. 5



ELECTRIC FENCE COUPLER ASSEMBLY

BACKGROUND OF THE DISCLOSURE

Field of the Disclosure

[0001] The disclosure relates to coupler devices and more particularly pertains to a new coupler device for coupling an electric fence to a fence post.

SUMMARY OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0002] An embodiment of the disclosure meets the needs presented above by generally comprising an insulator that may be removably coupled to a fence post. The insulator may engage an electric fence thereby facilitating the electric fence to be retained on the fence post. The insulator is comprised of a resiliently bendable material. Thus, the insulator frictionally engages the fence post thereby facilitating the insulator to be removably retained on the fence post. A pair of clips is coupled to the insulator and each of the clips engages the electric fence.

[0003] There has thus been outlined, rather broadly, the more important features of the disclosure in order that the detailed description thereof that follows may be better understood, and in order that the present contribution to the art may be better appreciated. There are additional features of the disclosure that will be described hereinafter and which will form the subject matter of the claims appended hereto.

[0004] The objects of the disclosure, along with the various features of novelty which characterize the disclosure, are pointed out with particularity in the claims annexed to and forming a part of this disclosure.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0005] The disclosure will be better understood and objects other than those set forth above will become apparent when consideration is given to the following detailed description thereof. Such description makes reference to the annexed drawings wherein:

[0006] FIG. **1** is a front perspective view of an electric fence coupler assembly according to an embodiment of the disclosure.

[0007] FIG. **2** is a bottom view of an embodiment of the disclosure.

[0008] FIG. **3** is a back view of an embodiment of the disclosure.

[0009] FIG. **4** is a right side view of an embodiment of the disclosure.

[0010] FIG. **5** is a perspective view of an embodiment of the disclosure.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

[0011] With reference now to the drawings, and in particular to FIGS. **1** through **5** thereof, a new coupler device embodying the principles and concepts of an embodiment of the disclosure and generally designated by the reference numeral **10** will be described.

[0012] As best illustrated in FIGS. **1** through **5**, the electric fence coupler assembly **10** generally comprises an insulator **12** that may be removably coupled to a fence post **14**. The fence post **14** may comprise a metallic rod utilized in the convention of electric fences. The insulator **12** may to engage an electric fence **16** thereby facilitating the electric fence **16** to be retained on the fence post **14**. The electric fence **16** may comprise an un-insulated electric conductor or the like. The insulator **12** is comprised of an electrically insulating material. Thus, the fence post **14** is electrically insulated from the electric fence **16**.

[0013] The insulator **12** has a first surface **18**, a second surface **20** and a peripheral edge **22** extending between the first surface **18** and the second surface **20**. The peripheral edge **22** has a first lateral side **24**, a second lateral side **26**, a top side **28** and a bottom side **30**. The first lateral side **24** curves outwardly from a center **32** of the insulator **12** to define a first lobe **34**. The second lateral side **26** curves outwardly from the center **32** of the insulator **12** to define a second lobe **36**.

[0014] The insulator **12** has a first slot **38** extending through the first surface **18** and the second surface **20**. The first slot **38** is positioned closer to the top side **28** than the bottom side **30**. The insulator **12** has a second slot **40** extending through the first surface **18** and the second surface **20**. The second slot **40** is positioned closer to the bottom side **30** than the top side **28**. Each of the first slot **38** and the second slot **40** are positioned on a bisecting longitudinal axis of the insulator **12**.

[0015] The insulator **12** is comprised of a resiliently bendable material. Thus, the insulator **12** is bendable having each of the top side **28** and the bottom side **30** being urged toward each other. The first slot **38** is aligned with the second slot **40** when the insulator **12** is bent. Thus, each of the first slot **38** and the second slot **40** may have the fence post **14** extended therethrough.

[0016] Each of the first slot **38** and the second slot **40** has a bounding edge **42**. The insulator **12** is biased into a flattened position. The bounding edge **42** of each of the first slot **38** and the second slot **40** frictionally engages the fence post **14**. Thus, the insulator **12** is removably retained on the fence post **14**.

[0017] A pair of clips **44** is provided. Each of the clips **44** is coupled to the insulator **12** and each of the clips **44** engages the electric fence **16**. Each of the clips **44** comprises a leg **46** and a foot **48**. The foot **48** of each of the clips **44** is coupled to the first surface **18** of the insulator **12**. The leg **46** of each of the clips **44** is spaced from the first surface **18** to define a space **50** between the clips **44** and the insulator **12**.

[0018] Each of the clips **44** is spaced apart from the center **32** of the insulator **12**. The leg **46** corresponding to one of the clips **44** is directed toward the top side **28**. The leg **46** corresponding to one of the clips **44** is directed toward the bottom side **30**. One of the clips **44** is positioned closer to the top side **28** than the bottom side **30**. One of the clips **44** is positioned closer to the bottom side **30** than the top side **28**.

[0019] The space **50** corresponding to each of the clips **44** may have the electric fence **16** positioned therein. Thus, the electric fence **16** is removably coupled to the insulator **12**. The electric fence **16** rests on each of the first lobe **34** and the second lobe **36** when the electric fence **16** is removably coupled to the insulator **12**. Thus, the insulator **12** orients the electric fence **16** perpendicular to the fence post **14**. The insulator **12** is one of a plurality of insulators **52**. Each of the plurality of insulators **52** is positioned on an associated one of a plurality of fence posts **14**.

[0020] In use, the insulator **12** is bent to align the first slot **38** with the second slot **40**. The fence post **14** is inserted through each of the first slot **38** and the second slot **40**. The

insulator **12** is released when the fence post **14** is inserted through each of the first slot **38** and the second slot **40**. Thus, the bounding edge **42** corresponding to each of the first slot **38** and the second slot **40** frictionally engages the fence post **14**. The electric fence **16** is positioned in the space **50** corresponding to each of the clips **44**. The above described process is repeated on each of the plurality of insulators **52**.

[0021] With respect to the above description then, it is to be realized that the optimum dimensional relationships for the parts of an embodiment enabled by the disclosure, to include variations in size, materials, shape, form, function and manner of operation, assembly and use, are deemed readily apparent and obvious to one skilled in the art, and all equivalent relationships to those illustrated in the drawings and described in the specification are intended to be encompassed by an embodiment of the disclosure.

[0022] Therefore, the foregoing is considered as illustrative only of the principles of the disclosure. Further, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the disclosure to the exact construction and operation shown and described, and accordingly, all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the disclosure. In this patent document, the word "comprising" is used in its non-limiting sense to mean that items following the word are included, but items not specifically mentioned are not excluded. A reference to an element by the indefinite article "a" does not exclude the possibility that more than one of the element is present, unless the context clearly requires that there be only one of the elements.

I claim:

1. An electric fence coupler assembly comprising:

an insulator being configured to be removably coupled to a fence post, said insulator being configured to engage an electric fence thereby facilitating the electric fence to be retained on the fence post, said insulator being comprised of a resiliently bendable material wherein said insulator is configured to frictionally engage the fence post thereby facilitating said insulator to be removably retained on the fence post; and

a pair of clips, each of said clips being coupled to said insulator wherein each of said clips is configured to engage the electric fence.

2. The assembly according to claim **1**, wherein said insulator has a first surface, a second surface and a peripheral edge extending between said first surface and said second surface, said peripheral edge having a first lateral side, a second lateral side, a top side and a bottom side, each of said first lateral side and said second lateral side curving outwardly from a center of said insulator.

3. The assembly according to claim **2**, wherein:

said insulator has a first slot extending through said first surface and said second surface, said first slot being positioned closer to said top side than said bottom side; and

said insulator has a second slot extending through said first surface and said second surface, said second slot being positioned closer to said bottom side than said top side.

4. The assembly according to claim **3**, wherein said insulator is bendable having each of said top side and said bottom side being urgeable toward each other such that said first slot is aligned with said second slot wherein each of said first slot and said second slot are configured to have the fence post extended therethrough.

5. The assembly according to claim **3**, wherein each of said first slot and said second slot has a bounding edge, said insulator being biased into a flattened position such that said bounding edge of each of said first slot and said second slot frictionally engages the fence post.

6. The assembly according to claim **2**, wherein each of said clips comprises a leg and a foot, said foot of each of said clips being coupled to said first surface of said insulator, said leg of each of said clips being spaced from said first surface to define a space between said clips and said insulator, each of said clips being spaced apart from said center of said insulator.

7. The assembly according to claim **6**, wherein said leg corresponding to one of said clips being directed toward said top side, said leg corresponding to one of said clips being directed toward said bottom side.

8. The assembly according to claim x, wherein one of said clips is positioned closer to said top side than said bottom side, one of said clips being positioned closer to said bottom side than said top side, said space corresponding to each of said clips being configured to have the electric fence being positioned therein thereby facilitating the electric fence to be removably coupled to said insulator.

9. An electric fence coupler assembly comprising:

an insulator being configured to be removably coupled to a fence post, said insulator being configured to engage an electric fence thereby facilitating the electric fence to be retained on the fence post, said insulator being comprised of a resiliently bendable material wherein said insulator is configured to frictionally engage the fence post thereby facilitating said insulator to be removably retained on the fence post, said insulator having a first surface, a second surface and a peripheral edge extending between said first surface and said second surface, said peripheral edge having a first lateral side, a second lateral side, a top side and a bottom side, each of said first lateral side and said second lateral side curving outwardly from a center of said insulator, said insulator having a first slot extending through said first surface and said second surface, said first slot being positioned closer to said top side than said bottom side, said insulator having a second slot extending through said first surface and said second surface, said second slot being positioned closer to said bottom side than said top side, said insulator being bendable having each of said top side and said bottom side being urgeable toward each other such that said first slot is aligned with said second slot wherein each of said first slot and said second slot are configured to have the fence post extended therethrough, each of said first slot and said second slot having a bounding edge, said insulator being biased into a flattened position such that said bounding edge of each of said first slot and said second slot frictionally engages the fence post; and

a pair of clips, each of said clips being coupled to said insulator wherein each of said clips is configured to engage the electric fence, each of said clips comprising a leg and a foot, said foot of each of said clips being coupled to said first surface of said insulator, said leg of each of said clips being spaced from said first surface to define a space between said clips and said insulator, each of said clips being spaced apart from said center

of said insulator, said leg corresponding to one of said clips being directed toward said top side, said leg corresponding to one of said clips being directed toward said bottom side, one of said clips being positioned closer to said top side than said bottom side, one of said clips being positioned closer to said bottom side than said top side, said space corresponding to each of said clips being configured to have the electric fence being positioned therein thereby facilitating the electric fence to be removably coupled to said insulator.

* * * * *