PLANT PATENT DIRECTORY

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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF NURSERYMEN
1250 I STREET, N.W.
SUITE 500
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005
202/789-2900

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PREFACE

The American Association of Nurserymen (AAN) and the National Association of Plant Patent Owners (NAPPO) are pleased to present the Plant Patent Directory as a service to plant breeders, patent attorneys, the horticulture industry and the general public. This directory covers plant patents granted by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) from 1931 through 1989.

Although great care was used to compile this data from documents and sources believed to be reliable, the information contained herein spans several decades. As a result, we cannot guarantee the accuracy of the information contained herein. For instance, prior to the adoption of more standardized nomenclature rules, the historical use of denominations was varied by the PTO and the horticulture industry. Such use sometimes included cultivars, common names, fancy or brand names.

One should also exercise special care in looking up "plant types" in this directory due to possible idiosyncrasies in name variance noted in the original patents as granted. For example, if one is searching for apple in this directory, it may be found under "apple," "apple tree," "apple rootstock" or "apple tree-columnar." Similarly, strawberry may be listed under "strawberry" or "strawberry plant." And as a final example, amelanchier may be found under "amelanchier," "amelanchier tree," "amelanchier canadensis" or "amelanchier grandiflora." There are many such instances found in this directory.

In addition, this directory may not reflect amendments to the original patents granted. Therefore, the information contained in this directory must not be considered necessarily current unless confirmation (e. g. title examinations) is secured with the PTO, the plant patent owners and/or its assignees.

Any propagation, marketing or sale of patented plant varieties prior to the expiration of their respective patents -- without permission of the current patent owners and/or assignees -- constitutes infringement. This subjects the infringer to liability for damages under United States patent laws. Plant patents expire at the end of 17 years from the date granted by the PTO.

The Plant Patent Directory has been prepared for the reader's maximum utility and ease of reference. It contains five separate tables. It is suggested that the reader familiarize himself with the Table of Contents for the various tables and their cross-references. When no information is noted, such was not readily available.

A brief explanation of the terms employed herein is useful at this juncture. The term "patent number" refers to the sequential number assigned by the PTO. These numbers follow a chronological sequence. The term "date" refers to the actual calendar date when the patent was granted by the PTO. For reasons noted above, the term "plant" in this directory can mean family, plant type, or a subgroup in a plant type. (For example: rose; floribunda rose; hybrid tea rose; miniature rose). The term "denomination" is addressed above. The term "originator" refers to the individual, who is noted by the PTO at the time the patent was granted, as having originated that denomination. The term "assignee" refers to the individual or firm, which is noted by the PTO at the time the patent was granted, as holding the rights to that patent.

Neither AAN nor NAPPO may be held responsible or liable in any way for any omissions or inaccuracies with respect to this directory, or the information contained herein, or for any actions resulting therefrom. Any additional information or corrections related to the data contained in this directory should be addressed to: Plant Patent Directory, 1250 I Street, N. W., Suite 500, Washington, D. C. 20005. Such corrections will appear in the next edition of this directory.