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(12) **United States Plant Patent**
Horvath

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(54) **LOBELIA PLANT NAMED 'GOLDEN TORCH'**

(51) **Int. Cl.**
A01H 5/00 (2006.01)

(50) Latin Name: **Lobelia cardinalis**
Varietal Denomination: **Golden Torch**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./451**

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(58) **Field of Classification Search** Plt./451
See application file for complete search history.

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct *Lobelia cardinalis* plant characterized by
yellow to lime green foliage.

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(22) Filed: **Jan. 23, 2008**

1 Drawing Sheet

1

2

Botanical denomination: *Lobelia cardinalis*.
Variety designation: 'Golden Torch'.

Plant:

Form.—Herbaceous perennial.
Hardiness.—USDA Zone 3 to 9.
Size.—45 cm to 80 cm tall from top of the flower to the
ground and 30 cm to 40 cm wide.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of *Lobelia* and given the cultivar name of 'Golden Torch'.
Lobelia is in the family Campanulaceae. *Lobelia cardinalis*
'Golden Torch' originated as a seedling from a *Lobelia car-*
dinalis sowing.

Habit.—Upright.
Vigor.—Excellent.

Basal leaf:

Compared to *Lobelia cardinalis*, the new cultivar has yel-
low foliage rather than green. This is the first known yellow
foliage *Lobelia cardinalis*.

Type.—simple.
Arrangement.—Rosulate.
Shape.—Narrowly ovate.
Venation.—Pinnate.
Margins.—Toothed.
Apex.—Obtuse to acute.
Base.—Attenuate.
Blade size.—5.5 cm long and 2.5 cm wide.
Petiole.—3 cm long and 2 mm wide, Yellow Green
145B, glabrous.
Surface texture.—Glabrous on both sides.
Leaf color.—Topside, Yellow 12C in the spring to Yel-
low Green 144B in the summer; bottom side same.

This new cultivar has been reproduced only by asexual
propagation (tip cuttings and tissue culture). Each of the
progeny exhibits identical characteristics to the original
plant. Asexual propagation by division and tissue culture
using standard micropropagation techniques with terminal
and lateral shoots, as done in Canby, Oreg. shows that the
foregoing characteristics and distinctions come true to form
and are established and transmitted through succeeding
propagations. The present invention has not been evaluated
under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype
may change with variations in environment without a change
in the genotype of the plant.

Cauline leaf:

Type.—Simple.
Arrangement.—Alternate.
Shape.—Oblong lanceolate.
Venation.—Pinnate.
Margins.—Toothed.
Apex.—Acuminate.
Base.—Attenuate.
Blade size.—5 cm to 11 cm long and 2 cm to 3.5 cm
wide.
Surface texture.—glabrous on top sides, sparsely
pubescent on veins on bottom side.
Petiole.—Sessile.
Leaf color.—Topside, Yellow 12C in the spring to Yel-
low Green 144B with areas of Yellow 12B intervein-
ally in the summer; bottom side same.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

The photo shows a two-year-old plant of *Lobelia* 'Golden
Torch' growing in the ground in full sun in the trial field in
August in Canby, Oreg.

DETAILED PLANT DESCRIPTION

The following is a detailed description of the new *Lobelia*
cultivar based on observations taken in August of a one-year-
old specimen growing in the ground in the trial bed in full
sun with added irrigation in Canby, Oreg. Canby is Zone 8
on the USDA Hardiness map. Temperatures range from a
high of 95 degrees F. in August to an average of 32 degrees F.
in January. Normal rainfall in Canby is 42.8 inches per year.
The color descriptions are all based on The Royal Horticul-
tural Society Colour Chart.

Inflorescence:
Size.—About 5 cm wide and 12 cm to 36 cm long.
Type.—Bracteate spike.
Number of flowers per spike.—25 to 55.
Number of spikes in flowering season.—5.

Peduncle.—45 cm to 85 cm tall, 6 mm wide at base, Yellow Green 144A, internodes 7 mm to 20 mm long, sparsely pubescent.

Pedicel.—10 mm long, Yellow Green 144A, sparsely pubescent.

Bloom period.—Beginning of August through middle of September in Canby, Oreg.

Lastingness.—Each spike blooms for about 3 weeks.

Flower bud:

Size.—5 mm wide and 3 cm long.

Description.—Glandular puberulent, tubular.

Color.—Red 53A to 53B.

Flower:

Type.—Perfect.

Shape.—Bilabiate, lower three lobes spreading, upper 2 lobes recurved.

Size.—3.5 cm long and 2 cm wide.

Corolla description.—Tube 13 mm long and 5 mm wide, 5 lobes, lower three cut $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$ of their length, each 10 mm long and 4 mm wide, elliptic, tip acute, margin entire, glabrous on both sides, Red 53A on top side and Red 53B on bottom side.

Calyx description.—Campanulate over ovary with 5 long narrow lobes around the corolla, each lobe 14 mm long and 1 mm wide, with 5 lobes, divided $\frac{1}{2}$ way to the base, tip acuminate, margin entire, glabrous on both sides, Green 138A inside and Green 138A tinted Greyed Purple 185A on outside lobe tips.

Stamen description.—5 in number, overall 33 mm long and 5 mm wide; filaments fused and flattened, encircling style, each filaments 28 mm long and about 1 mm wide, Red 53A on top third, Red 54C on middle third lightening to White 155A at the base, anthers fertile, 4 mm long, Greyed Purple 187A to maturing to Grey 201A; pollen Yellow 11A.

Pistil description.—1 in number, 35 mm long; ovary 7 mm long and 5 mm wide, Yellow Green 144B; style 30 mm long, Red 53B, stigma Black 202A surrounded by white hairs.

Fragrance.—None.

Fruit:

Type.—Ovoid capsule.

Size.—1 cm wide.

Fertility.—Good.

Color.—Brown 200D.

Seed:

Shape.—Warty ovoid.

Size.—1 mm.

Color.—Grey Brown 199A.

Pest and disease tolerance: No known pest or disease resistances.

I claim:

1. A new and distinct *Lobelia* plant as herein illustrated and described.

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