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

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- (54) **ECHINACEA PLANT NAMED ‘BALSOMANITA’**
- (50) Latin Name: *Echinacea x hybrida*  
Varietal Denomination: **Balsomanita**
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- (\* ) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.
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**A01H 5/02** (2018.01)
- (52) **U.S. Cl.**  
USPC ..... **Plt./428**
- (58) **Field of Classification Search**  
USPC ..... Plt./428  
CPC . A01H 5/02; A01H 5/025; A01H 5/00; A01H 6/14  
See application file for complete search history.

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- \* cited by examiner
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(57) **ABSTRACT**  
A new and distinct cultivar of *Echinacea* plant named ‘Balsomanita’, characterized by its single-type, deep scarlet-red colored inflorescences, medium green-colored foliage, and moderately vigorous, compact-upright growth habit, is disclosed.

**1 Drawing Sheet**

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Latin name of genus and species of plant claimed: *Echinacea x hybrida*.  
Variety denomination: ‘Balsomanita’.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of *Echinacea* plant botanically known as *Echinacea x hybrida* and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name ‘Balsomanita’.

The new cultivar originated in a controlled breeding program in Elburn, Ill. during August 2013. The objective of the breeding program was the development of *Echinacea* cultivars with a single inflorescence form having imbricate ray florets and a well-branched, compact growth habit.

The new *Echinacea* cultivar is the result of cross-pollination. The female (seed) parent of the new cultivar is the proprietary *Echinacea x hybrida* breeding selection coded E97A-1-1A-9-10, not patented, characterized by its single-type, dark red-purple colored ray florets, dark green-colored foliage, and moderately vigorous, semi-upright growth habit. The male (pollen) parent of the new cultivar is the proprietary *Echinacea x hybrida* breeding selection coded E100-2-2-10, not patented, characterized by its single-type, medium yellow-colored ray florets, medium green-colored foliage, and moderately vigorous, semi-upright growth habit. The new cultivar was discovered and selected as a

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single flowering plant within the progeny of the above stated cross-pollination during July 2014 in a controlled environment in Elburn, Ill.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by in vitro shoot propagation since July 2014 in West Chicago, Ill. has demonstrated that the new cultivar reproduces true to type with all of the characteristics, as herein described, firmly fixed and retained through successive generations of such asexual propagation.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

The following characteristics of the new cultivar have been repeatedly observed and can be used to distinguish ‘Balsomanita’ as a new and distinct cultivar of *Echinacea* plant:

1. Single-type, deep scarlet-red colored inflorescences;
2. Medium green-colored foliage; and
3. Moderately vigorous, compact-upright growth habit.

Plants of the new cultivar differ from plants of the female and male parents primarily in having a different ray floret color. In addition, the new cultivar has darker colored disc florets, receptacle spines and peduncles than the female or male parents.

Of the many commercially available *Echinacea* cultivars, the most similar in comparison to the new cultivar is SOMBRERO Baja Burgundy ‘Balsombabur’, U.S. Plant Pat. No. 28,162. However, in side by side comparisons,

plants of the new cultivar differ from plants of 'Balsom-  
babur' in at least the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new cultivar larger diameter inflores-  
cences than plants of 'Balsombabur';
2. Plants of the new cultivar have a ray floret color that is  
a lighter shade of red than plants of 'Balsombabur'; and
3. Plants of the new cultivar have darker red-coloration in  
the disc florets and receptacle spines than plants of  
'Balsombabur'.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying photographs show, as nearly true as it  
is reasonably possible to make the same in color illustrations  
of this type, typical inflorescence and foliage characteristics  
of the new cultivar. Colors in the photographs differ slightly  
from the color values cited in the detailed description, which  
accurately describes the colors of 'Balsomanita'. The plants  
were approximately 20-weeks old and grown in Elburn, Ill.  
in one-gallon containers for approximately 4 weeks in a  
greenhouse and 8 weeks outdoors.

FIG. 1 illustrates a side view of the overall growth and  
flowering habit of 'Balsomanita'.

FIG. 2 illustrates a close-up view of an individual inflo-  
rescence of 'Balsomanita'.

#### DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The new cultivar has not been observed under all possible  
environmental conditions to date. Accordingly, it is possible  
that the phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in the  
environment, such as temperature, light intensity, and day  
length, without, however, any variance in genotype.

The chart used in the identification of colors described  
herein is The R.H.S. Colour Chart of The Royal Horticul-  
tural Society, London, England, 2015 edition, except where  
general color terms of ordinary significance are used. The  
color values were determined in July 2017 under natural  
light conditions in West Chicago, Ill.

The following descriptions and measurements describe  
approximately 20-week old plants produced from in vitro  
plantlets and grown utilizing a soilless growth medium  
under conditions comparable to those used in commercial  
practice. The plants were grown in Elburn, Ill. in one gallon  
containers in a glass-covered greenhouse for approximately  
4 weeks and then outside for approximately 8 weeks.  
Greenhouse temperatures were maintained at approximately  
60° F. to 65° F. (15.5° C. to 18.3° C.) during the day and  
approximately 55° F. to 60° F. (12.7° C. to 15.5° C.) during  
the night. No supplemental lighting was provided. Measure-  
ments and numerical values represent averages of typical  
plants.

Botanical classification: *Echinacea x hybrida* 'Balso-  
manita'.

Parentage:

*Female parent*.—Proprietary *Echinacea x hybrida*  
breeding selection coded E97A-1-1A-9-10, not pat-  
ented.

*Male parent*.—Proprietary *Echinacea x hybrida* breed-  
ing selection coded E100-2-2-10, not patented.

Propagation:

*Type*.—In vitro propagation is preferred, divisions are  
possible.

*Time to initiate roots in vitro*.—Approximately 30 days  
at 18° C.

*Time to produce a rooted plantlet in summer*.—Ap-  
proximately 30 days at 18° C.

*Root description*.—Fine, fibrous; grey to light brown in  
color.

*Rooting habit*.—Moderate density, moderate branch-  
ing.

Plant description:

*Commercial crop time*.—Approximately 10 to 12  
weeks from a rooted tissue culture plantlet to finish  
in a 15 cm container.

*Growth habit and general appearance*.—Herbaceous  
perennial, moderately vigorous, compact-upright.

*Hardiness*.—USDA Zone 5a (−20° F. to −15° F./−28.9°  
C. to −26° C.).

*Size*.—Height from soil level to top of plant plane:  
Approximately 44.0 cm. Width: Approximately 46.0  
cm.

*Branching habit*.—No lateral branching, flowering  
stems grow from base. Quantity of main stems per  
plant: Approximately 7.

*Stems*.—Strength: Very strong. Aspect: Nearly erect.  
Shape: Rounded. Length to base of inflorescence:  
Approximately 28.0 cm. Diameter: Approximately  
6.0 mm to 1.0 cm. Length of central internode:  
Approximately 5.0 cm. Texture: Densely pubescent  
with short strigose hairs. Color of young stems:  
144A to 144B. Color of mature stems: 144A to 144B  
with an overlay of 187A.

Foliage description:

*General description*.—Form: Simple. Arrangement:  
Alternate.

*Leaves*.—Aspect: Perpendicular to stem, subtending  
with age. Shape: Narrowly ovate to lanceolate. Mar-  
gin: Entire to shallowly serrate, slightly undulate.  
Apex: Acute. Base: Attenuate. Venation pattern: Pin-  
nate. Length of mature leaf: Approximately 9.0 cm.  
Width of mature leaf: Approximately 4.5 cm. Texture  
of upper surface: Dull, moderately pubescent with  
short strigose hairs. Texture of lower surface: Mod-  
erately pubescent with short strigose hairs. Color of  
upper surface of young and mature foliage: Closest  
to 137A with venation of 147C, midvein occasion-  
ally has overlay of 187A. Color of lower surface of  
young and mature foliage: Closest to 147B with  
venation of 147D.

*Petiole*.—Shape: V-shaped. Length: Approximately 4.0  
cm to 9.0 cm. Diameter: Approximately 3.0 mm.  
Texture of upper surface: Glabrous. Texture of lower  
surface: Sparsely covered with very short strigose  
hairs. Color of upper and lower surfaces: 147D  
occasionally with an overlay of 187A.

Flowering description:

*Flowering habit*.—'Balsomanita' is freely flowering  
under outdoor growing conditions blooming from  
spring through autumn and with limited flowering  
under short winter days in a greenhouse environ-  
ment.

*Lastingness of individual inflorescence on the plant*.—  
Approximately 3 weeks.

Inflorescence description:

*General description*.—Type: Solitary, composite. Per-  
sistent. Shape: Conical. Aspect: Facing upward.  
Arrangement: Terminal, held upright on strong  
peduncles. Fragrance: Faintly sweet. Quantity per

plant: Approximately 16. Height: Approximately 3.5 cm. Diameter: Approximately 9.5 cm.

*Peduncle*.—Strength: Strong. Aspect: Erect to approximately 45° from vertical. Length: Approximately 13.5 cm. Diameter: Approximately 4.0 mm to 5.0 mm. Texture: Densely pubescent with short strigose hairs. Color: 144A to 144B with a heavy overlay of 187A.

*Bud*.—Quantity per plant: Approximately 7. Shape: Flattened globular with immature ray florets nearly erect. Length: Approximately 1.5 cm. Diameter: Approximately 2.0 cm. Color: Outer ray florets of 154D with an overlay of 187C; bud center of 143A with 187A.

*Ray florets*.—Quantity per inflorescence: Approximately 22. Arrangement: In a single whorl, slightly imbricate. Aspect: Perpendicular to disc, subtending slightly with age, twisting absent. Shape: Elliptic to narrowly obovate. Appearance: Dull. Margin: Entire. Apex: Emarginate to notched. Base: Attenuate. Length: Approximately 4.5 cm. Width: Approximately 1.2 cm. Texture of upper surface: Glabrous, ribbed longitudinally. Texture of lower surface: Sparsely pubescent, ribbed longitudinally. Color of upper surface when first open: N25B with 44A to 44B. Color of lower surface when first open: 65C with a heavy overlay of 71A. Color of upper surface when fully open: 44B to 44A, with age darkening to 44A with 45A. Color of lower surface when fully open: 70D to 70B.

*Disc florets*.—Disc diameter: Approximately 4.0 cm. Quantity per inflorescence: Approximately 265. Arrangement: Spirally arranged in center of inflorescence. Shape: Tubular. Margin of free portion: Entire. Apex: Five acute tips. Base: Fused into a tube. Length: Approximately 1.0 cm. Diameter: Approximately 2.0 mm. Texture: Glabrous. Color of upper or inner surface when first and fully open: 145C with 187A at tips. Color of lower or outer surface when first and fully open: Upper third 187A, midsection of 145B and base of 155D.

*Receptacle*.—Shape: Conical. Height: Approximately 1.6 cm. Diameter: Approximately 1.5 cm. Color: 155D.

*Phyllaries*.—Quantity per inflorescence: Approximately 60. Arrangement: In four whorls. Appearance: Dull, stiff. Shape: Narrowly ovate to lanceolate, strongly curved towards the peduncle. Margin: Entire, ciliate. Apex: Acute. Base: Truncate. Length: Approximately 1.0 cm. Width: Approximately 2.0 to 3.0 mm. Texture of upper or inner surface: Glabrous. Texture of lower or outer surface: Sparsely pubescent with short strigose hairs. Color of upper surface: 137A. Color of lower surface: 137B.

*Receptacle spines*.—Number of spines per disc: Approximately 265. Shape: Acicular. Length: Approximately 1.3 cm. Width at widest point: Approximately 2.0 mm. Apex: Acute. Base: Truncate. Texture: Glabrous. Color: Apex of 167B with a heavy overlay and tip of 187A, mid-section of 144A, and base of 155D.

*Reproductive organs*.—Androecium: Present on disc florets only. Stamen quantity: 5 per floret. Anther shape: Oblong, basifixed. Anther length: Approximately 3.0 mm. Anther color: Closest to 203B. Filament length: Approximately 2.0 mm. Filament color: 145D. Pollen amount: Moderate. Pollen color: 14A. Gynoecium: Present on disc florets only. Pistil quantity: 1 per floret. Pistil length: Approximately 1.0 cm. Stigma shape: Bifid. Stigma length: Approximately 2.0 mm. Stigma color: 187A. Style length: Approximately 6.0 mm. Style color: 145D. Ovary length: Approximately 3.0 mm. Ovary color: 155D.

Seed and fruit production: Neither seed nor fruit production has been observed.

Disease and pest resistance: No particular resistance or susceptibility to other diseases or insects noted to date.

What is claimed is:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Echinacea* plant named 'Balsomanita', substantially as herein illustrated and described.

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FIG. 1



FIG. 2