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(54) **AGAPANTHUS PLANT NAMED ‘SARAH’**

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(58) **Field of Search** ..... **Plt./263**

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

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A new and distinct *Agapanthus praecox* plant named ‘Sarah’  
characterized by its distinctly arranged upward pointing  
florets producing a candelabra shaped umbel, bicolored  
florets and dark green foliage.

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

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(51) **Int. Cl.**<sup>7</sup> ..... **A01H 5/00**

**4 Drawing Sheets**

**1**

**2**

**LATIN NAME OF THE GENUS AND SPECIES  
OF PLANT CLAIMED**

*Agapanthus praecox* ‘Sarah’.

**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 flower and foliage characteristics of the  
new cultivar.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention comprises a new and distinct Aga-  
panthus plant, hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name  
‘Sarah’. This new cultivar was developed by the inventor  
through a controlled breeding program during 1993 in  
Hamilton, New Zealand.

FIG. 1A shows the whole plant with umbels in bud.

FIG. 1B shows a close up of a single umbel.

FIG. 1C shows a typical umbel.

FIG. 1D shows plants having umbels, after senescence,  
with no seed formation.

The female parent of ‘Sarah’ was an unnamed *Agapan-  
thus praecox* seedling which is characterized by its strong  
stem, blue to lilac flower color and leaf color atypical for  
*praecox* species. The male parent of ‘Sarah’ was a propri-  
etary *Agapanthus praecox* seedling which is characterized  
by its profuse florets and leaf color atypical for *praecox*  
species. The resulting seed was collected and germinated.  
From the flowering progeny, a plant was selected in 1996  
and initially designated *Agapanthus* 007.

**DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION**

The ‘Sarah’ cultivar has not been observed under all  
possible environmental conditions to date. Accordingly, it is  
possible that the phenotype may vary somewhat with varia-  
tions in the environment, such as temperature, light intensity  
and day length.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by divisions  
taken in New Zealand has demonstrated that the character-  
istics of the new cultivar as herein described are firmly fixed  
and are retained through successive generations of such  
asexual propagation.

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. The plants were produced  
from divisions taken from stock plants and were grown for  
two years in Hamilton, New Zealand.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and  
are determined to be the unique characteristics of ‘Sarah’.  
These characteristics in combination distinguish ‘Sarah’ as a  
new and distinct cultivar.

Classification:

*Botanical.*—*Agapanthus praecox* cultivar ‘Sarah’.

*Commercial.*—*Agapanthus*.

Propagation:

*Type.*—Division.

*Time to initiate roots.*—Approximately 30 days.

*Rooting habit.*—Prolific.

Plant description:

*General appearance and form.*—Evergreen perennial  
herb with dense, dark green foliage without varie-  
gation.

*Rhizome.*—Fleshy tuberous.

*Plant height.*—Approximately 40–60 cm.

*Plant spread.*—Approximately 30–40 cm.

*Scapes.*—Rigid; Length 55–70 cm; Diameter approxi-  
mately 8 mm.

It was found that the cultivar of the present invention:

(a) Exhibits a unique candelabra shaped umbel;

(b) Forms bi-colored purple flowers; and

(c) Exhibits dense dark green foliage.

When the new cultivar of the present invention is compared  
to ‘Peter Pan’ (non-patented) it is found that the new cultivar  
exhibits a distinctly different inflorescence which is cande-  
labra shaped.

## Foliage description:

*General description and form.*—Leaves are distichously arranged arising from near the ground and united into a stout pseudo-bulb, glabrous and canaliculate towards the base from the center.

*Texture.*—Thin, glaucous.

*Shape.*—Ligulate-lorate, with entire margin, acute/rounded apex and sessile base.

*Color of mature foliage.*—Upper surface, RHS Green Group 138B; lower surface, RHS Green Group 138C.

*Size of mature leaves.*—Approximately 45–60 cm in length; approximately 1.5–2 cm in width.

## Inflorescence description:

*General appearance and form.*—Outer whorl of pedicels arising from a scape at right angles and then curving to eventuate in a vertical position to form an almost symmetrical un-congested, candelabra shaped umbel.

*Umbel size.*—14 cm high, 15 cm wide.

*Bracts.*—Subtended by the florets. Arising from the junction of the pedicel and scape; 4 mm long, papery and persistent.

*Flowering habit.*—‘Sarah’ is freely flowering under outdoor growing conditions with substantially continuous blooming from spring until fall.

## Flower description:

*General description and appearance.*—Very numerous, actinomorphic with canaliculate tepals, epipetalous stamens, open mouthed and upward facing.

*Flower longevity.*—Approximately 30 days.

*Quantity of flowers.*—50–60 florets per umbel.

*Umbel size.*—14 cm high, 15 cm wide.

*Bracts.*—Color of the bracts is closest to 137C.

*Floret size.*—Length; approximately 3.5 cm; width: approximately 4 cm.

*Floret color.*—RHS Violet-Blue Group 92D with a 3 mm broad, prominent central band of darker pigmentation of RHS Violet-Blue Group 92B present from the apex of the tepal to the position where they become connate. Tepal margins are RHS Violet-Blue Group 92C. Florets fading to RHS Purple-Violet Group 80B. Outer base of corolla tube where it joins the pedicel is RHS Green Group 143C, suffusing in some cases 1 cm along abaxial surface of the tepal.

*Tepals.*—Margins noticeably undulate on the broader tepals and not overlapping. Tepals conspicuously canaliculate. Number — 9–12; length — 3.7 cm from where it joins the pedicel.

*Pedicels.*—Outer whorl 7.5 cm long; inner whorl 9.5 cm long.

*Reproductive organs.*—Androecium: prominent and exerted with adnate filaments and dorsifixed and versatile anther lobes. Stamens: number — 9; length — 3 cm. Pollen color is yellow, maturing to orange brown with anther maturing to dark brown before withering. Gynoecium — one pistil, 2.8 cm long. Stigma: 2 cm in length. Occasionally 4–5 stigmas present from a single floret. Ovary: Ribbed. RHS Yellow-Green Group 144C.

*Fruits.*—Sterile.

*Seed production.*—No seed production has been observed.

## I claim:

1. A new and distinct *Agapanthus praecox* plant named ‘Sarah’ substantially as herein shown and described, which:

- (a) exhibits a unique candelabra shaped umbel;
- (b) forms bi-colored purple flowers; and
- (c) exhibits dense dark green foliage.

\* \* \* \* \*

Fig. 1A



Fig. 1B



Fig. 1C





Fig. 1D

