



US00PP12027P2

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

(10) **Patent No.:** **US PP12,027 P2**

(45) **Date of Patent:** **Jul. 31, 2001**

(54) **SCAEVOLA PLANT NAMED 'WHITE CHAMP'**

(76) Inventor: **Reinhard W. Rother**, 56 Emerald  
Monbulk Road, Emerald, Victoria 3782  
(AU)

(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this  
patent is extended or adjusted under 35  
U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **09/427,731**

(22) Filed: **Oct. 27, 1999**

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

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **Plt./363**

(58) **Field of Search** ..... **Plt./363**

(56) **References Cited**  
**PUBLICATIONS**

UPOV-ROM GTITM JOUVE Computer Database 2000/  
04, citation for 'White Champ', Aug. 2000.\*

\* cited by examiner

*Primary Examiner*—Bruce R. Campell  
*Assistant Examiner*—W Couchoud Baker  
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—C. A. Whealy

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A distinctive cultivar of Scaevola plant named White  
Champ, characterized by its low-growing, spreading and  
cascading growth habit; short internodes; dense and bushy  
plant form and freely branching plant habit; freely flowering  
habit with more than 200 flowers and flower buds per plant;  
and unique large white fan-shaped flowers with yellow  
green throat.

**1 Drawing Sheet**

**1**

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar  
of Scaevola plant, botanically known as *Scaevola aemula*  
and referred to by the cultivar name White Champ.

The new cultivar is a product of a planned breeding  
program conducted by the Inventor in Emerald, Victoria,  
Australia. The objective of the breeding program was to  
create new compact Scaevola cultivars.

The new cultivar originated from a cross made by the  
Inventor in 1996 of two unidentified selections of *Scaevola*  
*aemula*. The new Scaevola was selected by the Inventor as  
a flowering plant within the progeny of this cross in a  
controlled environment in Emerald, Victoria, Australia.

Plants of the new Scaevola have white flowers whereas  
plants of the unidentified selections have lavender blue  
flowers which is typical for the species *Scaevola aemula*. In  
addition, plants of the new Scaevola have lighter green  
leaves than plants of the female parent.

Asexual propagation of the new cultivar by terminal  
cuttings taken in Emerald, Victoria, Australia, has shown  
that the unique features of this new Scaevola are stable and  
are reproduced true to type in successive propagations.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

The new cultivar has not been observed under all possible  
environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary some-  
what with variations in environment such as temperature,  
daylength and light intensity, without, however, any vari-  
ance in genotype.

The following characteristics have been repeatedly  
observed and are determined to be basic characteristics of  
'White Champ' which distinguish 'White Champ' as a new  
and distinct cultivar:

1. Low-growing, spreading and cascading growth habit.
2. Short internodes, dense and bushy plant form and freely  
branching plant habit.

**2**

3. Freely flowering, more than 200 flowers and flower  
buds per plant.

4. Unique large white fan-shaped flowers with yellow  
green throat.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS**

The accompanying colored photographs illustrate the  
overall appearance of the new cultivar, showing the colors as  
true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored repro-  
ductions of this type.

The photograph at the top of the sheet comprises a side  
perspective view of a typical hanging basket container with  
three plants of 'White Champ'.

The photograph at the bottom of the sheet comprises a  
close-up view of typical flowering stems and leaves of plants  
of 'White Champ' showing various stages of development  
and leaf shapes. Flower and foliage colors in the photo-  
graphs may appear different from the actual colors due to  
light reflectance.

**DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION**

The following observations, measurements and values  
describe 20-cm hanging basket containers with three plants  
each of the new cultivar grown for 8 to 10 weeks during the  
summer in Bonsall, Calif., under outdoor, full-sun condi-  
tions with day temperatures ranging from 21 to 35° C. and  
night temperatures ranging from 13 to 18° C.

Color references are made to The Royal Horticultural  
Society Colour Chart except where general terms of ordi-  
nary dictionary significance are used.

Botanical classification: *Scaevola aemula* cultivar White  
Champ.

Parentage:  
*Female, or seed, parent*.—Unidentified selection of  
*Scaevola aemula*.

*Male, or pollen, parent*.—Unidentified selection of  
*Scaevola aemula*.

## Propagation:

*Type cutting.*—Terminal cuttings.

*Time to initiate roots (summer).*—About 18 to 25 days at 24° C.

*Time to develop roots (summer).*—About 35 days at 24° C.

*Root description.*—Numerous, fine, freely branching.

## Plant description:

*Plant form and growth habit.*—Annual container and garden plant. Low-growing, spreading and cascading growth habit. Suitable for hanging basket containers. Numerous leaves and short internodes, full, dense and bushy. Freely branching with about eight lateral branches developing when pinched.

*Crop time.*—About 8 weeks are required to produce a finished, flowering plant in a 12.5-cm container from a rooted cutting.

*Vigor.*—Vigorous.

*Plant height.*—About 18 cm.

*Plant width (spread).*—About 47.5 cm.

*Stem description.*—Length: About 46 cm. Diameter: About 3 mm. Internode length: About 2.2 to 3.7 cm. Color: 143A. Texture: Smooth, sparse whitish hairs.

*Foliage description.*—Arrangement: Alternate, single. Quantity per primary lateral stem: About 20. Length: About 3.75 cm. Width: About 2.15 cm. Shape: Spatulate to elliptic with deep serrations; considerably plasticity in leaf shape, gradual size reduction towards lateral branch apex until leaves subtending flowers appear bract-like. Apex: Broadly acute. Base: Cuneate; sessile. Margin: Irregularly serrated. Texture: Very sparsely pubescence on upper surface; tough. Color: Young leaves, upper surface: 144A to 144B. Young leaves, lower surface: 144B. Fully expanded leaves, upper surface: 147B; leaf base, 144B. Fully expanded leaves, lower surface: 146B. Venation, upper and lower surfaces: 144B.

## Flower description:

*Flower type and shape.*—Zygomorphic, semi-circular, fan-shaped flowers with five petals fused at the base to form a tubular flower throat. Flower throat open along the upper surface exposing reproductive organs. Flowers persistent. No fragrance detected.

*Flower arrangement and quantity.*—Solitary flowers arise from leaf axils with one flower per axil. Flow-

ers horizontal to perpendicular to stem. Typically about 10 open flowers and about 12 buds per lateral stem; very freely flowering with more than 200 flowers and flower buds per plant.

*Flowering time.*—Plants start flowering when lateral branches are about 10 cm in length; flowers open acropetally. Plants flower continuously from May through October in the Northern Hemisphere. Flowers last about 2 to 3 days on the plant.

*Flower buds.*—Shape: Tubular. Length: About 1.5 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Color: 143D.

*Perianth.*—Aspect: Fan-shaped, flat. Length, fan: About 2.5 cm. Width, fan: About 1.3 cm. Height: About 1.8 cm.

*Petals.*—Quantity: Five, fused at base. Shape: Elliptic. Apex: Broadly acute. Margin: Entire. Length, above tube: About 1.2 cm. Width, above tube: About 4 mm. Length, tube: About 1.5 cm. Diameter, tube: About 4 mm. Texture: Smooth. Flower throat, whiskered. Color: When opening, upper surface: 155D; throat, yellow green, 145A. When opening, lower surface and tube: 155D with yellow green longitudinal stripes, 145B. Fully opened, upper surface: 155D; throat, yellow green, 145A and 154A. Fully opened, lower surface and tube: 155D with yellow green stripes, 145B.

*Sepals.*—Quantity and arrangement: Two; opposite. Shape: Narrow, strap-like. Apex: Acute. Margin: Entire. Calyx length: About 1.8 cm. Calyx diameter: About 2.5 mm. Color: Upper surface: 137C. Lower surface: 137D.

*Reproductive organs.*—Androecium: Five stamens. Anthers: Shape: Oblong. Length: About 1.5 mm. Diameter: About 0.5 mm. Color: 165A. Pollen: Very scarce. Pollen color: 165A. Gynoecium: Pistil length: About 1.2 cm. Style length: About 9 mm. Style color: 144D. Stigma shape: Oblong with fine white hairs. Stigma color: 155D. Ovary color: 144C.

Disease resistance: Resistance to pathogens common to *Scaevola* has not been observed.

Seed production: Seed production has not been observed.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Scaevola* plant named White Champ, as illustrated and described.

\* \* \* \* \*

