

(12) **United States Plant Patent** (10) **Patent No.:** **US PP27,583 P3**
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(54) **RASPBERRY PLANT NAMED ‘PARAGON’**
 (50) Latin Name: *Rubus idaeus*
 Varietal Denomination: **PARAGON**
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(57) **ABSTRACT**
 This invention relates to a new and distinct everbearing
 variety of raspberry plant named ‘PARAGON’. The new
 variety is primarily adapted to the growing conditions of the
 central coast of California and is characterized by the
 following: early primocane production with medium sized
 fruit of light-red coloration and high gloss. Fruit is of
 consistent conic shape, medium adherence of receptacle and
 is of excellent flavor. Foliage is slightly concave, medium
 green; possessing very strong rugosity and equal 3-5 foli-
 ates. Primocanes have an absent or very weak waxy coat,
 medium thorn density and weak, anthocyanin coloration.

4 Drawing Sheets

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Latin name of the genus and species of the plant claimed:
Rubus idaeus.
 Variety denomination: ‘PARAGON’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct fall
 bearing raspberry variety designated as ‘PARAGON’. This
 new variety is a result of a controlled cross made in 2008 in
 Watsonville, Calif. between raspberry variety ‘GRAN-
 DEUR’ (patented, U.S. Plant Pat. No. 20,459) as the female
 parent and raspberry variety ‘PS-3890’ (unpatented) as the
 male parent in an ongoing breeding program. The variety is
 botanically known as *Rubus idaeus*.

The seedling resulting from the aforementioned cross was
 asexually propagated by dormant canes in Santa Cruz
 County, Calif. and was subsequently selected by the inventor
 from a controlled breeding plot in Watsonville, Calif. in
 2010. After its selection, the new variety was further asexu-
 ally propagated by dormant canes, roots and non-dormant
 root shoot cuttings in Santa Cruz County, Calif., San Joaquin
 County, Calif. and Siskiyou County, Calif. The new variety
 was then extensively tested over the next several years in
 fruiting fields in Santa Cruz County, Calif. This propagation
 has demonstrated that the combination of traits disclosed
 herein as characterizing the new variety are fixed and remain
 true to type through successive generations of asexual
 reproduction.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

‘PARAGON’ is primarily adapted to the climate and
 growing conditions of the central coast of California. This
 region provides the necessary year-round temperatures
 required for it to produce and maintain a strong vigorous

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plant and to remain in fruit production from July through
 December on primocanes and in the ensuing year from May
 through July on the floricanes. The following traits have
 been repeatedly observed and are determined to be unique
 characteristics of ‘PARAGON’, which in combination dis-
 tinguish this raspberry plant as a new and distinct variety:

1. Early primocane fruiting
2. Very strong rugosity
3. Light red fruit color
4. High fruit gloss
5. Excellent flavor

The raspberry variety that is believed to be most closely
 related to the new raspberry variety ‘PARAGON’ is the
 raspberry variety ‘GRANDEUR’ (patented, U.S. Plant Pat.
 No. 20,459). In comparison to the similar raspberry variety
 ‘GRANDEUR’, ‘PARAGON’ differs by the following com-
 bination of characteristics described in Table 1:

TABLE 1

Characteristic	‘PARAGON’	‘GRANDEUR’ (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 20,459)
Primocane waxy coat (glaucosity)	Absent to very weak	Absent to very weak
Predominate number of leaflets	Equal 3-5	Always 3
Leaf shape (cross section)	Slightly concave	Flat to slightly convex
Rugosity	Very strong	Strong
Culur mature fruit	RHS 34A	RHS 42A
Primocane fruit weight (g)	Light red 4.2	Medium red 3.9
Florican color	RHS N167A Greyed-orange group	RHS 164A Greyed-orange group

'PARAGON' differs from its parents, 'GRANDEUR' and 'PS-3890' by the following combination of characteristics described in Table 2:

TABLE 2

Characteristic	'PARAGON'	'GRANDEUR'	'PS-3890'
		(U.S. Plant Pat. No. 20,459)	
Productivity	High	High	Medium
Glossiness (fruit)	High	Medium	High
Adherence of receptacle	Medium	Weak	Strong
Primocane time of fruiting	Early	Medium	Late
Fruit size	Medium	Medium	Large
Flavor	Excellent	Good	Very good

For identification, a series of molecular markers have been determined for this new variety.

BRIEF DESCRIPTIONS OF THE DRAWINGS

The accompanying color photographs illustrate the overall appearance of typical specimens of the new raspberry variety, 'PARAGON' at various stages of development as true as reasonably possible with color reproductions of this type. Color in the photographs may differ slightly from the color value cited in the detailed botanical description which accurately describes the color of 'PARAGON'. The depicted plant and plant parts of the new raspberry variety 'PARAGON' were taken in Watsonville, California and are approximately 2 to 16 months old:

FIG. 1 shows typical primocane foliage and fruit color; foliate and rugosity characteristics of 'PARAGON' taken in the month of July 2014;

FIG. 2 shows typical coloration of apical growing tip during early primocane rapid growth of 'PARAGON' taken in the month of May 2013;

FIG. 3 shows typical harvested fruit of 'PARAGON' taken in the month of July 2014;

FIG. 4 shows typical dormant cane color characteristics of 'PARAGON' taken in the month of January 2013.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

'PARAGON' has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The characteristics of the new variety may vary in detail, depending upon variations in environmental factors, including weather (temperature, humidity and light intensity), day length, soil type, and location.

The aforementioned photographs, together with the following description of the new raspberry variety 'PARAGON', unless otherwise noted, are based upon observations taken during the 2013-2014 growing season in Watsonville, Calif. Primocane measurements and ratings were taken from plants of 'PARAGON' dug from a nursery located in Siskiyou County, Calif. during the middle of October 2012 and planted approximately 3 to 4 weeks later in Watsonville, Calif. The approximate age of the observed primocane plants is 7 to 8 months. Floricane measurements and ratings were taken from the same planting of 'PARAGON' at an approximate age of 16 to 18 months. Yield observations and fruit quality characteristics are averaged from five years of data collected from the 2009 through 2013 production seasons. Flower measurements and characteristics are from

istics and measurements are from secondary fruit unless otherwise noted. Foliage characteristics and measurements are from 3-foliate foliage unless otherwise noted.

Color terminology where noted follows The R.H.S. Colour Chart Fifth Edition, Royal Horticultural Society, London, United Kingdom (1966).

The following tables 3-7 describe fruit, plant, foliage, flower and pest/disease characteristics of the new raspberry 'PARAGON' in comparison to the similar raspberry varieties 'GRANDEUR' (patented, U.S. Plant Pat. No. 20,459).

TABLE 3

FRUIT CHARACTERISTICS		
Characteristic	'PARAGON'	'GRANDEUR'
		(U.S. Plant Pat. No. 20,459)
Color mature fruit	RHS 34A Light red	RHS 42A Medium red
Color achenes	RHS 159A Orange-white group	RHS 159A Orange-white group
Fruit length (mm)	23.12	22.91
Fruit width (mm)	21.65	20.12
Length/Width ratio	1.07	1.14
	Longer than broad	Longer than broad
Seed weight (mg)	1.51	1.75
Drupelets per berry	116	93
Weight of single drupe (g/drupe)	0.038	0.043
Relative size of drupes	Small	Medium
Fruit size	Medium	Medium
Predominant shape	Conical	Conical
Evenness of color	Even	Even
Glossiness	High	Medium
Adherence of receptacle	Medium	Weak
Firmness of flesh	Very firm	Very firm
Firmness of skin	Very firm	Very firm
Soluble Solids (% brix)	11.3	10.5
Flavor	Excellent	Good

TABLE 4

PLANT CHARACTERISTICS		
Characteristic	'PARAGON'	'GRANDEUR'
		(U.S. Plant Pat. No. 20,459)
General:		
Habit	Upright	Upright
Size	Medium	Medium
Productivity	High	High
Self-fruitfulness	Yes	Yes
Type of bearing	Everbearing	Everbearing
Primocane:		
Color (true)	RHS 145A Yellow-green group	RHS 145B Yellow-green group
Length (cm)	159.2	143.6
Basal diameter (mm)	12.51	21.80
Diameter central 1/3 (mm)	9.66	12.55
Lateral length at central 1/3 (cm)	33.6	43.6
No. fruiting laterals per cane	15.6	17.4
Internode length at central 1/3 (mm)	42.77	48.84
Anthocyanin coloration	RHS 59B Red-purple group	RHS 59B Red-purple group
Anthocyanin intensity	Weak	Weak
Pubescence	Absent	Absent
Length of vegetative bud (mm)	10.65	11.01
Strength of waxy coat (glaucosity)	Absent to very weak	Absent to very weak

TABLE 4-continued

PLANT CHARACTERISTICS		
Characteristic	'PARAGON'	'GRANDEUR' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 20,459)
Time of flowering	Early	Medium
Time of fruiting	Early	Medium
Length of fruiting season	Long	Long
% of total yield	45%	50%
Flowering period	Late June to Late November	Late June to Late November
Harvest period	Late July to Late December	Late July to Late December
Primocane fruit weight (g)	4.2	3.9
Primocane yield (g/plant)	2,405	2,662
Young Shoots:		
Number (per meter)	15-20	15-20
Anthocyanin presence	Medium	Medium
Anthocyanin coloration	Present RHS 179B Red-purple group	Present RHS 179A Greyed-red group
Anthocyanin intensity	Weak	Medium
Thorns:		
Thorn coloration	RHS 179A Greyed-red group	RHS 180C Greyed-red group
Thorn length at central 1/3 (mm)	0.75	0.76
Thorn base at central 1/3 (mm)	0.97	1.53
Thorn presence	Present	Present
Thorn density per cm at central 1/3	4.41	3.38
Thorn texture	Medium	Medium
Attitude of the tip	Rigid	Rigid
Floricane:	Horizontal	Horizontal
Color (true)	RHS N167A Greyed-orange group	RHS 164A Greyed-orange group
Length (cm)	119.4	119.8
Fruiting lateral attitude	Erect	Erect
Time bud burst	Medium	Medium
Time of flowering	Medium	Medium
Time of fruiting	Medium	Medium
Length of fruiting season	Medium to long	Medium to long
% of total yield	55%	50%
Flowering period	Late April to Late June	Late April to Late June
Harvest period	Late May to Late July	Late May to Late July
Floricane fruit weight (g)	4.0	3.7
Floricane yield (g/plant)	2,926	2,680

TABLE 5

FOLIAGE CHARACTERISTICS		
Characteristic	'PARAGON' (3 Foliolate)	'GRANDEUR' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 20,459) (3 Foliolate)
General:		
Color of upper surface	RHS N137A Green group	RHS N137A Green group
Color of lower surface	RHS 190B Greyed-green group	RHS 190B Greyed-green group
Shape in cross section	Slightly concave	Flat to slightly convex
Arrangement	Compound	Compound
Relief between veins (rugosity)	Very Strong	Strong

TABLE 5-continued

FOLIAGE CHARACTERISTICS		
Characteristic	'PARAGON' (3 Foliolate)	'GRANDEUR' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 20,459) (3 Foliolate)
Glossiness	Weak	Weak
Number of leaflets/leaf	Equal 3-5	Always 3
Terminal Leaflet:		
Length (mm)	133.7	127.5
Width (mm)	89.7	91.6
Length/Width Ratio	1.5	1.4
Size	Longer than broad	Longer than broad
Shape	Medium	Medium to large
Shape of base	Cordate	Cordate
Shape of tip	Cordate	Cordate
Margins	Acuminate	Acuminate
Laterals:	Biserrate	Biserrate
Length (mm)	114.6	105.5
Width (mm)	62.7	65.1
Length/Width Ratio	1.8	1.6
Rachis length (mm)	Much longer than broad	Longer than broad
Orientation	37.7	36.2
Arrangement	Opposite	Opposite
Shape	Compound	Compound
Overlapping	Ovate	Ovate
Touching	Touching	Touching
Shape of the base	Oblique	Oblique rounded
Shape of the tip	Acuminate	Acuminate
Margins	Biserrate	Biserrate
Petiole:		
Length (mm)	62.77	59.00
Width (mm)	2.93	3.99
Thorn presence	Yes	Yes
Thorn orientation	Erect	Erect
Anthocyanin coloration of RHS 184C		RHS 184C
upper surface	Greyed-purple group	Greyed-purple group
Anthocyanin intensity of	Absent to very weak	Weak
upper surface		
Stipule length (mm)	10.51	10.23
Stipule orientation	Erect	Erect to horizontal

TABLE 6

FLOWER CHARACTERISTICS		
Characteristic	'PARAGON'	'GRANDEUR' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 20,459)
Petal color	155C White group	155C White group
Flower diameter (mm)	17.34	22.55
Petal Length (mm)	6.53	6.42
Petal width (mm)	2.71	3.11
Petal length/width ratio	2.41	2.06
No. petals/flower	Much longer than broad	Much longer than broad
No. sepals/flower	5.4	5.2
Relative number of	5.4	5.2
pedicel thorns	9.2	16.2
Peduncle anthocyanin presence	Few	Medium
Peduncle anthocyanin	Present	Present
coloration	RHS 184B	RHS 184A
Peduncle anthocyanin intensity	Greyed-purple group	Greyed-purple group
	Weak	Medium

TABLE 7

PEST AND DISEASE REACTIONS		
Characteristic	'PARAGON'	'GRANDEUR' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 20,459)
Spotted wing <i>drosophila</i> (<i>Drosophila suzukii</i>)	Susceptible	Susceptible
Two spotted spider mite (<i>Tetranychus urticae</i>)	Susceptible	Susceptible
Grey fruit mold (<i>Botrytis cinerae</i>)	Susceptible	Susceptible
Powdery mildew (<i>Podosphaera aphanis</i> var. <i>aphanis</i>)	Moderately susceptible	Moderately susceptible

TABLE 7-continued

PEST AND DISEASE REACTIONS		
Characteristic	'PARAGON'	'GRANDEUR' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 20,459)
Yellow rust (<i>Phragmidium rubi-idaei</i>)	Moderately resistant	Moderately susceptible

I claim:
1. A new and distinct variety of raspberry plant named
'PARAGON', as herein described and illustrated by the
characteristics set forth above.

* * * * *

FIG. 1



FIG. 2

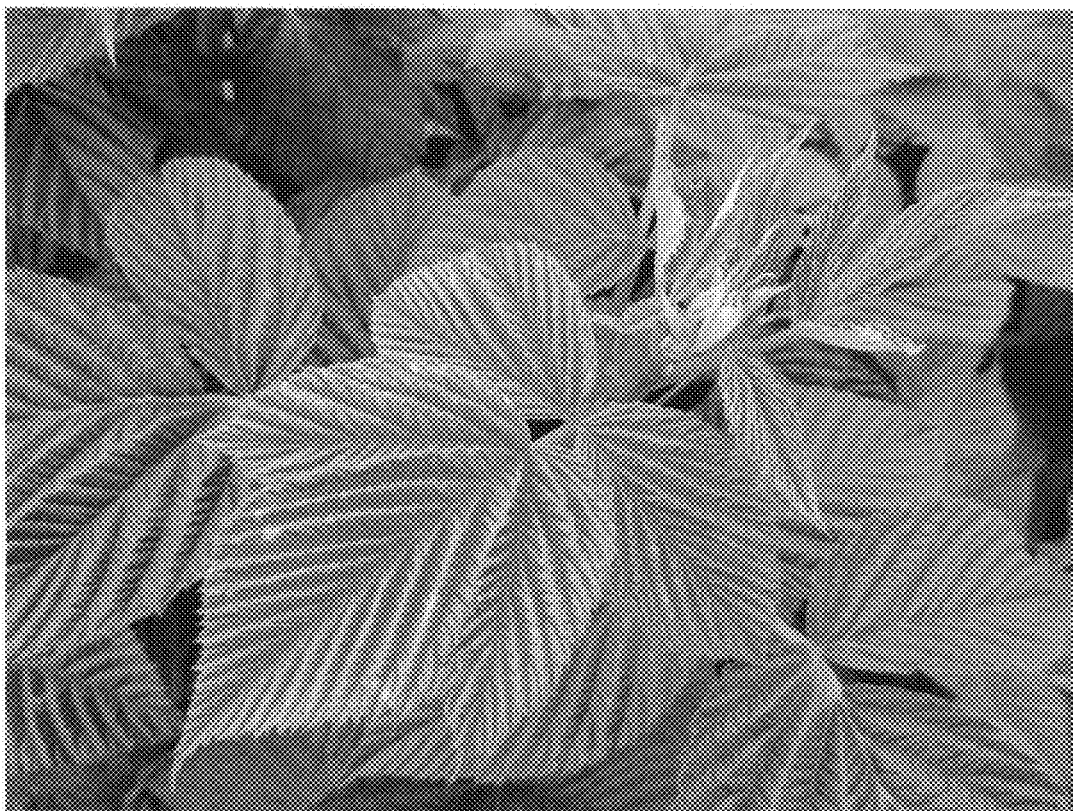


FIG. 3



FIG. 4

