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Crowther et al.

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(54) **LAVANDULA PLANT NAMED 'WALVERA'**

(56) **References Cited**

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PUBLICATIONS

(73) Assignee: **David Tristram**, Arundel (GB)

UPOV-ROM GTITM Computer Database, 2001/04 GTI
Jouve Retrieval Software, citation for 'Walvera'.*

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

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

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A new cultivar of *Lavandula angustifolia* plant named
'Walvera' that is characterized by variegated foliage with
gray-green centers and cream-white margins, a mounded,
semi-open habit, and compact violet-blue flower spikes. In
combination, these traits set it apart from all other existing
varieties of *Lavandula*.

(51) **Int. Cl.⁷** **A01H 5/00**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./226**

(58) **Field of Search** **Plt./226**

3 Drawing Sheets

1

2

BOTANICAL CLASSIFICATION

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Lavandula angustifolia.

The accompanying color photographs illustrate the dis-
tinguishing characteristics of the new cultivar 'Walvera'.

VARIETY DENOMINATION

5 Sheet **1** shows the entire plant from a side view
perspective, illustrating the plant habit.

'Walvera'.

Sheet **2** illustrates the flowers on 'Walvera'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of *Lavandula angustifolia* and hereinafter referred to by the
cultivar name 'Walvera'. The new cultivar is a naturally
occurring branch sport of *Lavandula angustifolia* 'Vera'
(unpatented) and was discovered jointly by the inventors in
a cultivated area of West Sussex, United Kingdom in 1993.

10 Photo **3** is a comparative photo illustrating the variegated
foliage of 'Walvera' on the left, and the foliage of the parent
plant *Lavandula angustifolia* 'Vera' (unpatented) on the
right. All photographs are taken using conventional photo-
graphic techniques and although foliage colors may appear
different from actual colors due to light reflectance, they are
as accurate as possible by conventional photography.

The new lavender plant 'Walvera' is distinct and unique
due to its mounding, semi-open habit, gray-green leaves
with cream-white marginal variegation, and violet-blue
flowers. The closest comparison is the parent plant *Lavan-
dula angustifolia* 'Vera' (unpatented). 'Walvera' is distin-
guishable from the parent plant, and all other existing
varieties, by its variegated foliage.

BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANT

The new invention was first asexually propagated by
cuttings in West Sussex, United Kingdom by the inventors
in 1995. Since that time subsequent generations have been
determined fixed and stable.

The following is a detailed description of the *Lavandula
angustifolia* cultivar named 'Walvera'. Data was collected in
Arroyo Grande, Calif. from 12 month old plants grown in
one-gallon containers. Phenotypic differences may be
observed with variations in environmental, climatic, and
cultural conditions, without however, any difference in
genotype. Color determinations are in accordance with The
1995 Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart except where
general color terms of ordinary dictionary significance are
used. The growing requirements are similar to the species
and no disease problems have been observed.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The new lavender 'Walvera' is distinguished from all
other known varieties of *Lavandula*, by the following char-
acteristics:

Botanical classification: *Lavandula angustifolia* 'Walvera'.
Common name: Lavender.
Parentage: A naturally occurring branch sport of *Lavandula
angustifolia* 'Vera'.
Type: Aromatic perennial shrub.
Use: Ornamental, hedge or back of border plant.
Growth rate: 4 to 10 cm per month.
Habit: Mounded and semi-open with erect, ascending flower
spikes.
Height: 1 m in height.

1. Leaves with gray-green centers and cream-white variegated margins.
2. A mounded, semi-open habit.
3. Short, compact flower spikes of violet-blue flowers.

These unique traits set 'Walvera' apart from all other
existing varieties.

Spread: 0.6 m in width.
 Hardiness: Zone 5 to zone 10.
 Propagation method: Cuttings.
 Root system: Fibrous.
 Soil: Plant in well-drained soil.
 Light levels: Plant in full sun.
 Special needs: None observed.
 Time to initiate roots: 21 to 36 days from an unrooted cutting.
 Time to develop in a one-gallon container: 6 months from a rooted cutting.
 Branching habit: Erect, upright and semi-open.
 Seasonal interest: Violet-blue flowers in July and August.
 Stem:
 Shape.—Cylindrical.
 Surface.—Puberulent.
 Color.—197A,B.
 Size.—3–5 mm in diameter, 5–20 cm in length.
 Foliage:
 Arrangement.—Erect stems of basal leaves.
 Leaf division.—Simple.
 Apices.—Acute.
 Base.—Attenuate.
 Margins.—Entire and mostly revolute.
 Leaf shape.—Linear.
 Color of mature leaves (upper and low surfaces).—Center 190A to 191A and margins 11C.
 Color of young leaves (lower surfaces).—Center 189B and margins 11D.
 Color of young leaves (upper surfaces).—189D.
 Upper and lower surfaces.—Puberulent.
 Venation.—Prominent mid-vein depressed above and protruding below.

Internodes.—0.50 to 1.50 cm in length.
Foliar fragrance.—Subtle resinous scent of lavender oil.
Petiole.—Sessile.
Length.—Approximately 3–4 cm in length.
Width.—0.50 cm in width.
 Flower:
 Type of inflorescent.—Terminal spike.
 Size of inflorescence.—Short and compact 1–2 cm in width by 2.5–4 cm in length.
 Shape of inflorescence.—Broad-conical.
 Peduncles.—13–23 cm in height and 1 mm in width. Eramous with an occasional base whorl 1–2 cm below the main spike.
 Peduncle color.—191A.
 Flower shape.—Tubular.
 Corolla.—Two-lipped with upper lip 2-lobed and lower lip 3-lobed.
 Corolla color.—92A to 93C.
 Color of flower opening.—91A.
 Calyx color.—94B.
 Calyx surface.—Pubescent.
 Bracteoles.—Narrow, branched and 3 mm in length.
 Bud color.—91B.
 Fragrance.—Sweet.
 Blooming period.—July and August.
 Reproductive organs: Have not been observed.
 Seed production: Not observed.
 We claim:
 1. A new and distinct variety of *Lavandula angustifolia* plant named ‘Walvera’ as described and illustrated.

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