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

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(54) **×HEUCHERELLA PLANT NAMED**  
**‘SUNSPOT’**

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(50) **Latin Name:** *×Heucherella* sp.  
**Varietal Denomination:** **Sunspot**

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

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

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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 58 days.

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of ×Heucherella plant charac-  
terized by its distinctive golden to lime green foliage with a  
maroon blotch.

(21) **Appl. No.:** **10/452,951**

**1 Drawing Sheet**

**1**

**2**

Botanical classification: ×Heucherella sp.  
Cultivar denomination: ‘Sunspot’.

specimens grown in a one-gallon pot in the greenhouse in  
Canby, Ore. The color descriptions are all based on The  
Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention relates to a new and distinct inter-  
generic hybrid between Heuchera and Tiarella, or  
×Heucherella, and given the cultivar name ‘Sunspot’. Both  
genera, Heuchera and Tiarella, are of the family Saxi-  
fragaceae.

5 Botanical name: ×Heucherella sp.  
Cultivar name: ‘Sunspot’.  
Plant:

This new cultivar originated from a mutation in tissue  
culture from ×Heucherella ‘Dayglow Pink’ (U.S. Plant Pat.  
No. 12,164).

10 *Type.*—Herbaceous perennial.  
*Form.*—Basal rosette.  
*Hardiness.*—USDA Zone 5.  
*Size.*—18 cm tall and 35 cm wide.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

This new Heucherella is unique in its golden to lime green  
foliage unique in the ×Heucherella with a maroon starry  
blotch in the middle and characterized by:

15 *Leaf:*  
*Type.*—Simple.  
*Arrangement.*—Rosette.  
*Shape.*—Broadly ovate.  
*Lobing/division.*—3 main lobes with each of these  
shallowly lobed.

1. Small, lobed leaves.
2. Intense pink flowers on maroon peduncles.
3. Tight habit.
4. Excellent vigor.

20 *Venation.*—Palmate.  
*Margins.*—Crenate.  
*Apex.*—Obtuse and often cupped.  
*Base.*—Cordate and overlapping.  
*Blade size.*—Ranges from 6.5 to 9.5 cm long and 6 to  
9.5 cm wide.

The new variety has been reproduced only by asexual  
propagation (division and tissue culture). Each of the prog-  
eny exhibits identical characteristics to the original plant.  
Asexual propagation by division and tissue culture using  
standard micropropagation techniques with terminal and  
lateral shoots as done in Canby, Ore., shows that the  
foregoing characteristics and distinctions come true to form  
and are established and transmitted through succeeding  
propagations. The present invention has not been evaluated  
under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype  
may vary with variations in environment without a change  
in the genotype of the plant.

25 *Aspect.*—Matte.  
*Texture.*—Puberulous.  
*Petiole length.*—Ranges from 10 to 15 cm.  
*Petiole texture.*—Hispid and with glandular hairs.  
*Petiole color.*—Greyed Purple 187D.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING**

The drawing shows the two year old plant growing in a  
two-gallon pot in Canby, Ore.

30 *Leaf color.*—Leaves open in spring a golden color and  
become greener with age. New spring leaves —  
Between Yellow Green 145A with slightly more gold  
and Yellow Green 151A with slightly more green.  
Reddish pattern in the center, Greyed Purple 185A.  
Spring leaves — upper surface — Yellow Green  
145A, with the pattern Greyed Purple 185C. Lower  
surface — Closest to Yellow Green 145B. Winter  
leaves — Yellow Green 146B with reddish veins,  
Greyed Purple 183A.

**DETAILED PLANT DESCRIPTION**

The following is a detailed description of the new  
×Heucherella hybrid based on observations of two-year-old

40 *Inflorescence:*  
*Type.*—Thyrse.  
*Number of flowers.*—Ranges from 40 to 50 per thyrse,  
on top 8 cm of peduncle.

*Peduncle*.—With 1 to 2 leaves and branches. Height — 40 cm. Diameter — 0.2 cm. Color — Burgundy, Greyed Purple 184A. Vestiture — Pubescent.

*Pedicel*.—Length — to 0.7 cm Vestiture — Pubescent. Color — Greyed Purple 184A

*Bloom period*.—Early April to late May. Sporadic rebloom until fall in Canby, Oreg.

Flower bud:

*Size*.—0.45 cm deep and 0.25 cm wide.

*Description*.—Oblong, downfacing, pubescent.

*Color*.—Deep pink, Red Purple 67C.

Flower:

*Type*.—Perfect, sepals petaloid.

*Shape*.—Rotate or stellate.

*Size*.—0.8 cm wide and 0.5 cm deep.

*Petal count*.—5.

*Petal shape*.—Obovate with a clawed base.

*Petal size*.—0.4 cm long and 0.1 cm wide.

*Petal color*.—Light pink, Red Purple 62D.

*Petal texture*.—Satin.

*Calyx*.—Petaloid, divided  $\frac{3}{4}$  way to the base, with hairs.

*Calyx shape*.—Campanulate with 5 rounded lobes, revolute.

*Calyx size*.—0.8 cm wide and 0.5 cm deep.

*Calyx texture*.—Glandular pubescent.

*Calyx color*.—Outside: Red Purple 68B. Inside: Red Purple 68D.

*Stamen number*.—5, sterile.

*Pistil*.—White 55D.

*Fragrance*.—None.

*Lastingness*.—A thyrse blooms for about 2 weeks on the plant.

Fruit and seed: None. The plant does not form fruit or seed.

*Fertility*.—Sterile.

Disease tolerance: Excellent disease resistance.

#### COMPARISONS TO SIMILAR $\times$ HEUCHERELLA

Compared to Heucherella 'Dayglow Pink' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 12,164), this new cultivar has golden to lime green foliage rather than green with a maroon blotch rather than brown.

I claim:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of  $\times$ Heucherella plant substantially as shown and described, characterized by its distinctive golden to lime green foliage with a maroon blotch.

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