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

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(54) *CAREX SIDEROSTICHA* PLANT NAMED
'LEMON ZEST'

(22) Filed: **Jun. 2, 2003**

(50) Latin Name: *Carex siderosticha*
Varietal Denomination: **Lemon Zest**

(51) **Int. Cl.**⁷ **A01H 5/00**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./373**

(58) **Field of Search** **Plt./373**

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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 0 days.

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Carex siderosticha* plant
called 'Lemon Zest' characterized by bright chartreuse foli-
age.

(21) Appl. No.: **10/453,242**

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical classification: *Carex siderosticha*.
Variety denomination: 'Lemon Zest'.

Plant:

Type.—Rhizomatous, herbaceous perennial.

Form.—Clumping.

Hardiness.—USDA Zone 6 to 9.

Size.—15 cm tall and 33 cm wide.

Habit.—Slow creeping by rhizomes.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of a hardy, suffrutescent perennial, *Carex siderosticha*,
known by the cultivar name of 'Lemon Zest'. The genus
Carex is a member of the family Cyperaceae.

Leaf:

Type.—Simple, deciduous.

Arrangement.—Basal, in three ranks.

Shape.—Linear-lanceolate.

Venation.—Parallel.

Margins.—Entire.

Apex.—Acuminate.

Base.—Sheathed.

Blade size.—13 to 30 cm long and 12 to 25 mm wide.

Vestiture.—Glabrous.

Aspect.—Matte.

Texture.—Papery.

Leaf color.—Spring: Topside — Yellow Green. New
spring growth is between Yellow Green 151B and
154B. They become greener with age to Yellow
Green 145A. The new shoots are tinged pink, Greyed
Red 181D. Bottom side — Same. Summer: Topside
— Yellow Green 145A to Yellow Green 146C.
Bottom side — Same.

The new cultivar originated as a chance mutation in tissue
culture of *Carex siderosticha* 'Banana Boat' (an unpatented
plant with yellow leaves and green margins).

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

This new cultivar is unique and characterized by: Lemon
yellow spring leaves turning chartreuse to light green as the
summer progresses.

Flower, inflorescence, seed, fruit: Insignificant and the same
as the species.

Disease tolerance: Excellent like the species.

This new cultivar has been reproduced only by asexual
propagation (division and tissue culture). Each of the proge-
ny exhibits identical characteristics to the original plant.
Asexual propagation by tissue culture using standard micro-
propagation techniques with lateral shoots as done in Canby,
Oreg., shows that the foregoing characteristics and distinc-
tions come true to form and are established and transmitted
through succeeding propagations. The present invention has
not been evaluated under all possible environmental condi-
tions. The phenotype may vary with variations in environ-
ment without a change in the genotype of the plant.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The photograph shows a two-year-old plant growing in a
1 gallon container in April in Canby, Oreg.

Comparisons to similar *Carex siderosticha*: There are no
other all gold forms of *Carex siderosticha*. Compared to
Carex siderosticha 'Banana Boat' (an unpatented plant),
this new cultivar has all yellow to yellow-green foliage
rather than being edged green with a yellow center.

DETAILED PLANT DESCRIPTION

The following is a detailed description of the new cultivar
based on observations of two-year-old specimens grown in
containers in Canby, Oreg. The color descriptions are all
based on The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart.

Growing conditions: This new variety prefers rich, moist
soil in shade or filtered light.

I claim:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Carex siderosticha* plant,
substantially as shown and described, characterized by
bright chartreuse foliage.

Botanical name: *Carex siderosticha*.

Cultivar name: 'Lemon Zest'.

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