



US00PP17082P3

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

(10) **Patent No.:** **US PP17,082 P3**

(45) **Date of Patent:** **Sep. 5, 2006**

(54) **SUTERA PLANT NAMED 'BLISCH'**

(50) Latin Name: *Sutera cordata*  
Varietal Denomination: **Blisch**

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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.

(21) Appl. No.: **10/840,458**

(22) Filed: **May 5, 2004**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2005/0132454 P1 Jun. 16, 2005

**Related U.S. Application Data**

(63) Continuation-in-part of application No. 10/734,559, filed on  
Dec. 12, 2003.

(51) **Int. Cl.**  
**A01H 5/00** (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **Plt./263**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** ..... **Plt./263**  
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

PP10,966 P 6/1999 Rother  
PP11,835 P2 4/2001 Rother  
PP14,191 P2 9/2003 Westhoff

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

GTITM UPOV ROM Citation for 'Blisch' as per QZ PBR  
011100; Jul. 2, 2001.\*

A copy of U.S. Appl. No. 10/734,559, filed Dec. 12, 2003.

A copy of Plant Breeders' Rights Application filed in  
Canada for 'Blisch'.

A copy of Plant Breeders' Rights Application filed in the  
European Union for 'Blisch'.

\* cited by examiner

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& Mortimer

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct *Sutera* plant named 'Blisch' character-  
ized by its large white-colored flowers, dark green-colored  
foliage and a spreading and trailing growth habit.

**1 Drawing Sheet**

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Latin name of the genus and species of plant claimed:  
*Sutera cordata*.

Variety denomination. 'Blisch'.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar  
of *Sutera* plant botanically known as *Sutera cordata* and  
hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name 'Blisch'.

The new cultivar originated in a controlled breeding  
program during the summer of 2000 at Billerbeck, Germany.  
The progeny of this breeding were evaluated in the summer  
of 2001 and one plant among that progeny was selected and  
eventually named 'Blisch'. The objective of the breeding  
program was the development of *Sutera* cultivars with a  
trailing habit and large flowers.

The identity of the female (seed) parent of the new  
cultivar used in the above-described breeding program by  
the inventor is not known. The identity of the male (pollen)  
parent of the new cultivar used in the above-described  
breeding program by the inventor is not known.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal stem  
cuttings taken since 2001 in West Chicago, Ill., has demon-  
strated that the new cultivar reproduces true to type with all  
the characteristics, as herein described, firmly fixed and  
retained through successive generations of such asexual  
propagation.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

The new cultivar has not been observed under all possible  
environmental conditions to date. Accordingly, it is possible

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that the phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in the  
environment, such as temperature, light intensity, and day  
length without, however, any variance in genotype.

It was repeatedly found that the cultivar of the present  
invention:

1. Exhibits large white-colored flowers,
2. Forms dark green-colored foliage, and
3. Exhibits a spreading and trailing growth habit.

Of the many *Sutera* cultivars known to the inventor, the  
most similar to the new cultivar is 'Novasnow' (U.S. Plant  
Pat. No. 12,026). However, in a side-by-side comparison,  
conducted at West Chicago, Ill., plants of the new cultivar  
differed from plants of 'Novasnow' in the following char-  
acteristics:

1. Plants of the new cultivar had smaller leaves than plants  
of 'Novasnow', and
2. Plants of the new cultivar had a larger area of spread  
than plants of 'Novasnow'.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS**

The accompanying photographs show as nearly true as it  
is reasonably possible to make the same in color illustrations  
of this type, typical flower and foliage characteristics of the  
new cultivar. Colors in the photographs differ slightly from  
the color values cited in the detailed description, which  
accurately describes the colors of 'Blisch'. The plants were  
grown in 10 cm pots for 9 weeks in a greenhouse at West  
Chicago, Ill.

FIG. 1 illustrates a side view of the overall growth and flowering habit of 'Blisch'.

FIG. 2 illustrates a close-up view of an individual leaf and flower of 'Blisch'.

#### DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The chart used in the identification of colors described herein is The R.H.S. Colour Chart of The Royal Horticultural Society, London, England, 1995 edition, except where color terms of ordinary significance are used. The color values were determined on Jul. 14, 2003, between 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. under natural daylight conditions.

The following descriptions and measurements describe plants produced from cuttings taken from stock plants and grown in a double polycarbonate-covered greenhouse under conditions comparable to those used in commercial practice. Plants were grown in 10 cm pots for 9 weeks, while utilizing a soilless growth medium. Greenhouse temperatures were maintained at approximately 65–75° F. during the day and approximately 55–60° F. during the night. Greenhouse light levels were maintained at approximately 4,000–8,000 foot-candles during the day.

Botanical classification: *Sutera cordata*, cultivar 'Blisch'.

Parentage:

*Female parent*.—Is unknown.

*Male parent*.—Is unknown.

Propagation:

*Type cutting*.—Terminal stem.

*Time to initiate roots*.—Approximately 7 to 10 days.

*Time to produce a rooted cutting*.—Approximately 21 to 28 days.

*Root description*.—Fibrous.

*Rooting habit*.—Freely branching.

Plant description:

*Crop time*.—Approximately 5–7 weeks from planting of a rooted cutting.

*Growth habit*.—Moderately vigorous with good basal branching. Pinching improves basal branching.

*Form*.—Spreading and trailing.

*Size*.—A mature plant, 9 weeks after the planting of a rooted cutting, commonly measures approximately 9 cm in height from soil level to top of plant plane and approximately 48.2 cm in diameter (plant spread).

*Branch description*.—Quantity: Approximately 6 main branches with lateral branches at every node. Strength: Strong. Length of main branches: Approximately 26 cm. Diameter of main branches: Approximately 2 mm. Length of lateral branches: Approximately 16 cm. Diameter of lateral branches: 1.8 mm. Texture of all branches: Densely pubescent with short soft hairs. Color of all branches: 144A. Internode length at middle of main branch is approximately 2.8 cm.

*Foliage*.—Quantity: Approximately 30 per main branch. Fragrance: Pungent. Form: Simple. Arrangement: Opposite. Aspect: At an acute angle to the stem. Shape: Ovate. Margin: Dentate. Apex: Broadly acute. Base: Truncate. Venation pattern: Pinnate. Leaf length: Approximately 1.3 cm. Leaf width: Approximately 1.4 cm. Texture of upper surface: Puberulent. Texture of lower surface: Glabrous with dense pubescence along veins. Color of upper sur-

face of both young and mature foliage: 137A with venation of 143B. Color of lower surface of both young and mature foliage: 137C with venation of 143B. Petiole length: Approximately 3.3 mm. Petiole diameter: Approximately 1 mm. Petiole texture: Densely pubescent. Petiole color: Closest to 143B.

Flowering description:

*Flowering habit*.—Freely flowering under outdoor growing conditions with substantially continuous blooming from spring through fall, and year round in greenhouse environment.

Flower description:

*Type*.—Solitary, axillary and salverform. Flowers are persistent and non fragrant.

*Bud*.—Shape: Globular. Length: Approximately 6.3 mm. Diameter: Approximately 4.3 mm. Color: 155D.

*Corolla*.—Shape: Round. Diameter: Approximately 1.7 cm. Corolla is composed of five rectangular shaped petals fused at the base forming a tube. Petals are iridescent. Petal length from the tube opening: Approximately 5 mm. Petal width: Approximately 3 mm. Petal margin: Entire. Apex: Flat to somewhat emarginated. Petal texture: Glabrous. Color of upper surface of petals when flower is opening and when fully opened is closest to 155D. Color at base of petals, around tube opening, and into the tube: 151C. Color of lower surface of petals both when opening and when fully opened: Closest to 155D. Corolla tube: Length: Approximately 1.2 cm. Diameter: Approximately 2 mm. Texture: Pubescent on both inner and outer surface. Color of both inner and outer surface: 154D. Color of tube venation: 12A. Corolla depth: Approximately 2 mm.

*Calyx*.—Formed by five sepals, fused at base to form tube. Sepal shape: Linear. Sepal width: 0.07 mm. Sepal apex: Acute. Sepal margin: Entire. Texture: Both surfaces: Densely pubescent. Color of both surfaces: 138A. Calyx length: Approximately 3 mm. Diameter at apex: Approximately 4 mm. Diameter at base: Approximately 2 mm.

*Peduncle*.—Moderately strong. Texture: Densely pubescent. Aspect: At an acute angle to the stem. Length: Approximately 7 mm. Diameter: 1 mm. Color: 144B.

*Reproductive organs*.—Androecium: There are 4 stamens fused to the inside of the corolla tube, 2 above and 2 below the stigma. Anther length: Approximately 1 mm. Anther color: 7B. Pollen amount: Abundant. Pollen color: 13B. Gynoecium: Pistil quantity: One. Pistil length: Approximately 9 mm. Stigma length: Approximately 1 mm. Stigma color: 144C. Style length: Approximately 6 mm. Style color: N144C. Ovary diameter: Approximately 2 mm. Ovary color: 144C.

Seed and fruit production: Neither seed nor fruit production has been observed.

Disease and pest resistance: Resistance to pathogens and pests common to *Sutera* has not been observed.

What is claimed is:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Sutera cordata* named 'Blisch' substantially as herein shown and described.

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Figure 1

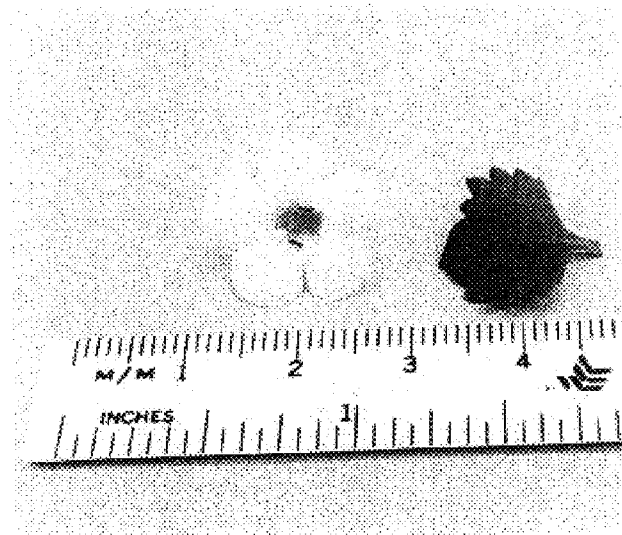


Figure 2