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(54) **ECHINACEA PLANT NAMED ‘BALEVOELF’**

(50) Latin Name: *Echinacea x hybrida*
Varietal Denomination: **Balevoelf**

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(52) **U.S. Cl.**
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Echinacea* plant named
‘Balevoelf’, characterized by its single-type, yellow-orange
colored inflorescences, medium green-colored foliage, and
moderately vigorous, compact-upright growth habit, is dis-
closed.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Latin name of genus and species of plant claimed: *Echi-
nacea x hybrida*.

Variety denomination: ‘Balevoelf’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of *Echinacea* plant botanically known as *Echinacea x
hybrida* and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name
‘Balevoelf’.

The new *Echinacea* cultivar is a novel seedling selection
from ‘Cheyenne Spirit’, protected under a breeding method
claim in U.S. Pat. No. 7,982,110, a segregating mix char-
acterized by single-type inflorescences having a range of
flower colors that include shades of red, orange, purple,
scarlet, cream, yellow and white, medium green-colored
foliage, and moderately vigorous, upright growth habit. The
new cultivar was discovered as a whole plant and selected
during July 2014 in a controlled environment in Dayton,
Oreg.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by in vitro shoot
propagation since May 2015 in Dayton, Oreg. has demon-
strated that the new cultivar reproduces true to type with all
of the characteristics, as herein described, firmly fixed and
retained through successive generations of such asexual
propagation.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following characteristics of the new cultivar have
been repeatedly observed and can be used to distinguish
‘Balevoelf’ as a new and distinct cultivar of *Echinacea*
plant:

1. Single-type, yellow-orange colored inflorescences;
2. Medium green-colored foliage; and
3. Moderately vigorous, compact-upright growth habit.

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Plants of the new cultivar differ from plants of the parent
primarily in having a novel combination of characteristics
including ray floret color, ray floret size, and plant habit.

Of the many commercially available *Echinacea* cultivars,
the most similar in comparison to the new cultivar is
SOMBRERO Sandy Yellow ‘Balsomselo’, U.S. Plant Pat.
No. 23,104. However, in side by side comparisons, plants of
the new cultivar differ from plants of ‘Balsomselo’ in at least
the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new cultivar have more inflorescences per
plant than plants of ‘Balsomselo’;
2. Plants of the new cultivar have a ray floret color that is
darker yellow-orange than plants of ‘Balsomselo’; and
3. Plants of the new cultivar are shorter than plants of
‘Balsomselo’.

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 inflorescence 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 ‘Balevoelf’. The plants
were approximately five months old and grown in Elburn,
Ill. in one-gallon containers for approximately three months.

FIG. 1 illustrates a side view of the overall growth and
flowering habit of ‘Balevoelf’.

FIG. 2 illustrates a close-up view of an individual inflo-
rescence of ‘Balevoelf’.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

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

The chart used in the identification of colors described herein is The R.H.S. Colour Chart of The Royal Horticultural Society, London, England, 2015 edition, except where general color terms of ordinary significance are used. The color values were determined in July 2018 under natural light conditions in West Chicago, Ill.

The following descriptions and measurements describe approximately five-month old plants produced from in vitro plantlets and grown utilizing a soilless growth medium under conditions comparable to those used in commercial practice. The plants were grown in Elburn, Ill. in one-gallon containers in a glass-covered greenhouse for approximately three months. Greenhouse temperatures were maintained at approximately 60° F. to 65° F. (15.5° C. to 18.3° C.) during the day and approximately 55° F. to 60° F. (12.7° C. to 15.5° C.) during the night. No supplemental lighting was provided. Measurements and numerical values represent averages of typical plants.

Botanical classification: *Echinacea x hybrida* 'Balevoelf'.
Parentage:

Parent.—'Cheyenne Spirit', protected under breeding method claim of U.S. Pat. No. 7,982,110.

Propagation:

Type.—In vitro propagation is preferred, divisions are possible.

Time to initiate roots in vitro.—Approximately 30 days at 18° C.

Time to produce a rooted plantlet in summer.—Approximately 30 days at 18° C.

Root description.—Fine, fibrous; grey to light brown in color.

Rooting habit.—Moderate density, moderate branching.

Plant description:

Commercial crop time.—Approximately 10 to 12 weeks from a rooted tissue culture plantlet to finish in a 15 cm container.

Growth habit and general appearance.—Herbaceous perennial, moderately vigorous, compact-upright.

Hardiness.—USDA Zone 5a (−20° F. to −15° F./−28.9° C. to −26° C.).

Size.—Height from soil level to top of plant plane: Approximately 36.0 cm. Width: Approximately 51.0 cm.

Branching habit.—No lateral branching, flowering stems grow from base. Quantity of main stems per plant: Approximately 29.

Stems.—Strength: Very strong. Aspect: Nearly erect. Shape: Rounded. Length to base of inflorescence: Approximately 32.0 cm. Diameter: Approximately 3.0 mm to 6.0 mm. Length of central internode: Approximately 5.0 cm. Texture: Densely pubescent with short strigose hairs. Color of young stems: 146C. Color of mature stems: 146B.

Foliage description:

General description.—Form: Simple. Arrangement: Alternate.

Leaves.—Aspect: Perpendicular to stem, subtending with age. Shape: Narrowly ovate to lanceolate. Margin: Entire to shallowly serrate, slightly undulate. Apex: Acute. Base: Attenuate. Venation pattern: Pinnate. Length of mature leaf: Approximately 12.5 cm to 14.0 cm. Width of mature leaf: Approximately 3.0 cm to 4.0 cm. Texture of upper surface: Dull, moderately pubescent with short strigose hairs. Texture

of lower surface: Moderately pubescent with short strigose hairs. Color of upper surface of young and mature foliage: Closest to NN137A with venation of 147C. Color of lower surface of young and mature foliage: Closest to 137B with venation of 147D.

Petiole.—Shape: V-shaped. Length: Approximately 4.0 cm to 11.0 cm. Diameter: Approximately 3.0 mm. Texture of upper surface: Glabrous. Texture of lower surface: Sparsely covered with very short strigose hairs. Color of upper and lower surfaces: 147D.

Flowering description:

Flowering habit.—'Balevoelf' is freely flowering under outdoor growing conditions blooming from late spring through late summer.

Lastingness of individual inflorescence on the plant.—Approximately 3 weeks.

Inflorescence description:

General description.—Type: Solitary, composite. Persistent. Shape: Conical. Aspect: Facing upward. Arrangement: Terminal, held upright on strong peduncles. Fragrance: Faintly sweet. Quantity per plant: Approximately 23. Height: Approximately 4.5 cm. Diameter: Approximately 8.5 cm.

Peduncle.—Strength: Strong. Aspect: Erect to approximately 45° from vertical. Length: Approximately 12.5 cm. Diameter: Approximately 3.0 mm to 4.0 mm. Texture: Densely pubescent with short strigose hairs. Color: 146B.

Bud.—Quantity per plant: Approximately 5. Shape: Flattened globular with immature ray florets nearly erect. Length: Approximately 1.5 cm. Diameter: Approximately 1.7 cm. Color: Outer ray florets of 150C; bud center of 143A.

Ray florets.—Quantity per inflorescence: Approximately 24. Arrangement: In a single whorl, some slightly imbricate. Aspect: Perpendicular to disc, subtending slightly with age. Shape: Elliptic to narrowly obovate. Appearance: Dull. Margin: Entire. Apex: Emarginate to notched. Base: Attenuate. Length: Approximately 4.3 cm. Width: Approximately 1.0 cm. Texture of upper surface: Glabrous, ribbed longitudinally. Texture of lower surface: Sparsely pubescent, ribbed longitudinally. Color of upper surface when first open: 11B to 11A tinted with 144A at apex. Color of lower surface when first open: 11D tinted with 144A at apex. Color of upper surface when fully open: 20B to 20A, with age darkening to 23A. Color of lower surface when fully open: 19D with 144B at apex.

Disc florets.—Disc diameter: Approximately 4.0 cm. Quantity per inflorescence: Approximately 300. Arrangement: Spirally arranged in center of inflorescence. Shape: Tubular. Margin of free portion: Entire. Apex: Five acute tips. Base: Fused into a tube. Length: Approximately 1.1 cm. Diameter: Approximately 2.0 mm. Texture: Glabrous. Color of upper or inner surface when first and fully open: 146C. Color of lower or outer surface when first and fully open: 146C and base of 155D.

Receptacle.—Shape: Conical. Height: Approximately 1.5 cm. Diameter: Approximately 1.2 cm. Color: 155D.

Phyllaries.—Quantity per inflorescence: Approximately 50. Arrangement: In whorls. Appearance: Dull, stiff. Shape: Narrowly ovate to lanceolate,

strongly curved towards the peduncle. Margin: Entire, ciliate. Apex: Acute. Base: Truncate. Length: Approximately 1.2 cm. Width: Approximately 2.0 mm to 3.0 mm. Texture of upper or inner surface: Glabrous. Texture of lower or outer surface: Sparsely pubescent with short strigose hairs. Color of upper surface: 137A. Color of lower surface: 137B.

Receptacle spines.—Number of spines per disc: Approximately 300. Shape: Acicular. Length: Approximately 1.4 cm. Width at widest point: Approximately 2.0 mm. Apex: Acute. Base: Truncate. Texture: Glabrous. Color: Apex of 22A, mid-section of 144A with 137A, and base of 155D.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Present on disc florets only. Stamen quantity: 5 per floret. Anther shape: Oblong, basifixed. Anther length: Approximately 3.0 mm. Anther color: Closest to 203B.

Filament length: Approximately 2.0 mm. Filament color: 145D. Pollen amount: Moderate. Pollen color: 17B. Gynoecium: Present on disc florets only. Pistil quantity: 1 per floret. Pistil length: Approximately 1.1 cm. Stigma shape: Bifid, curled. Stigma length: Approximately 2.0 mm. Stigma color: 152D. Style length: Approximately 7.0 mm. Style color: 145D. Ovary length: Approximately 3.0 mm. Ovary color: 155D.

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

Disease and pest resistance: No particular resistance or susceptibility to other diseases or insects noted to date.

What is claimed is:

15 1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Echinacea* plant named 'Balevoelf', substantially as herein illustrated and described.

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FIG. 1



FIG. 2