



US00PP28372P3

(12) **United States Plant Patent**  
**Brand et al.**

(10) **Patent No.:** **US PP28,372 P3**

(45) **Date of Patent:** **Sep. 12, 2017**

(54) **BUDDLEIA PLANT NAMED ‘UCONNBD604’**

(50) Latin Name: *Buddleia davidii*  
Varietal Denomination: **UCONNBD604**

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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 138 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **14/545,698**

(22) Filed: **Jun. 6, 2015**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2016/0360667 P1 Dec. 8, 2016

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

(52) **U.S. Cl.**  
USPC ..... **Plt./242**

(58) **Field of Classification Search**  
USPC ..... **Plt./226, 242**  
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

**PUBLICATIONS**

PLUTO: Plant Variety Database, Dec. 8, 2016, citation for  
‘uconnbd604’.\*

\* cited by examiner

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Buddleia* plant named  
‘UCONNBD604’, characterized by its relatively compact,  
upright and outwardly spreading plant habit; freely branch-  
ing habit and thick stems with short internodes; dense and  
bushy appearance; leathery and durable leaves; freely flow-  
ering habit; broadly conical inflorescences with numerous  
blue purple-colored flowers; and good garden performance.

**2 Drawing Sheets**

**1**

**FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH OR  
DEVELOPMENT**

This invention was made with government support under  
grant number 2015-31200-06009 awarded by the United  
States Department of Agriculture. The United States Gov-  
ernment has certain rights in the invention.

Botanical designation: *Buddleia davidii*.

Cultivar denomination: ‘UCONNBD604’.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention relates to a new and distinct  
*Buddleia* plant, botanically known as *Buddleia davidii* and  
hereinafter referred to by the name ‘UCONNBD604’.

The new *Buddleia* plant is a product of a planned breeding  
program conducted by the Inventors in Storrs, Conn. The  
objective of the breeding program was to create new compact  
*Buddleia* plants with dense growth habit and attractive  
flower coloration.

The new *Buddleia* plant originated from a cross-pollina-  
tion conducted by the Inventors in July, 2008 in Storrs,  
Conn. of *Buddleia davidii* ‘Adokeep’, not patented, as the  
female, or seed, parent with a proprietary selection of  
*Buddleia davidii* identified as code designation Uconn dwf-  
01, not patented, as the male, or pollen, parent. The new  
*Buddleia* plant was discovered and selected by the Inventors  
as a single flowering plant within the progeny of the stated  
cross-pollination in a controlled environment in Storrs,  
Conn. in July, 2010.

**2**

Asexual reproduction of the new *Buddleia* plant by soft-  
wood stem cuttings in a controlled environment in Storrs,  
Conn. since July, 2010 has shown that the unique features of  
this new *Buddleia* plant are stable and reproduced true to  
type in successive generations.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

Plants of the new *Buddleia* have not been observed under  
all possible combinations of environmental conditions and  
cultural practices. The phenotype may vary somewhat with  
variations in environmental conditions such as temperature  
and light intensity without, however, any variance in geno-  
type.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and  
are determined to be the unique characteristics of  
‘UCONNBD604’. These characteristics in combination dis-  
tinguish ‘UCONNBD604’ as a new and distinct *Buddleia*  
plant:

1. Relatively compact, upright and outwardly spreading  
plant habit.
2. Freely branching habit, thick stems with short inter-  
nodes; dense and bushy appearance.
3. Leathery and durable leaves.
4. Freely flowering habit.
5. Broadly conical inflorescences with numerous blue  
purple-colored flowers.
6. Good garden performance.

Plants of the new *Buddleia* differ primarily from plants of  
the female parent, ‘Adokeep’, in the following characteris-  
tics:

1. Plants of the new *Buddleia* are more compact than plants of 'Adokeep'.
2. Plants of the new *Buddleia* have thicker stems, shorter internodes and are denser and bushier than plants of 'Adokeep'.
3. Plants of the new *Buddleia* have thicker and darker green-colored leaves than plants of 'Adokeep'.
4. Inflorescences of plants of the new *Buddleia* are longer than inflorescences of plants of 'Adokeep'.
5. Plants of the new *Buddleia* and 'Adokeep' differ in flower color as plants of 'Adokeep' have navy blue-colored flowers.

Plants of the new *Buddleia* differ primarily from plants of the male parent selection in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Buddleia* are more compact than plants of the male parent selection.
2. Plants of the new *Buddleia* and the male parent selection differ in flower color as plants of the male parent selection have dark lilac-colored flowers.

Plants of the new *Buddleia* can also be compared to plants of *Buddleia hybrida* 'Purple Haze', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 24,514. In side-by-side comparisons, plants of the new *Buddleia* differ primarily from plants of 'Purple Haze' in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Buddleia* are more compact and denser than plants of 'Purple Haze'.
2. Inflorescences of plants of the new *Buddleia* are fuller and denser than inflorescences of plants of 'Purple Haze'.
3. Flowers of plants of the new *Buddleia* are darker blue purple in color than flowers of plants of 'Purple Haze'.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying colored photographs illustrate the overall appearance of the new *Buddleia* plant showing the colors as true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored reproductions of this type. Colors in the photographs may differ slightly from the color values cited in the detailed botanical description which accurately describe the colors of the new *Buddleia* plant.

The photograph on the first sheet is a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'UCONNBD604' grown in an outdoor nursery.

The photograph on the second sheet is a close-up view of a typical flowering plant of 'UCONNBD604' grown in an outdoor nursery.

#### DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photographs and following observations, measurements and values describe plants grown during the summer in ground beds in an outdoor nursery in Grand Haven, Mich. and under cultural practices typical of commercial production. Plants were two years old when the photographs and description were taken. During the production of the plants, day temperatures ranged from 18° C. to 27° C. and night temperatures ranged from 5° C. to 10° C. In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 1995 Edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Botanical classification: *Buddleia davidii* 'UCONNBD604'.  
Parentage:

*Female, or seed, parent.*—*Buddleia davidii* 'Adokeep', not patented.

*Male, or pollen, parent.*—Proprietary selection of *Buddleia davidii* identified as code designation Uconn dwf-01, not patented.

Propagation:

*Type.*—By softwood stem cuttings.

*Time to initiate roots plant, summer.*—About one to two weeks at temperatures ranging from 21° C. to 29° C.

*Time to produce a rooted plant, summer.*—About 30 days at temperatures ranging from 21° C. to 29° C.  
*Root description.*—Medium in thickness, fibrous; white in color.

*Rooting habit.*—Freely branching; dense.

Plant description:

*Plant and growth habit.*—Deciduous perennial shrub; relatively compact, upright and outwardly spreading plant habit; rounded appearance; thick stems, short internodes and dense and bushy appearance; vigorous growth habit.

*Plant height.*—About 42.2 cm.

*Plant width (spread).*—About 89.5 cm.

*Lateral branches.*—Quantity: Freely branching habit with about twelve primary lateral branches developing per plant; pinching enhances lateral branch development. Length: About 30 cm to 36 cm. Diameter: About 5 mm. Internode length: About 4 cm. Strength: Strong. Aspect: Erect to about 35° from vertical. Texture: Pubescent, glaucous; with development, woody. Color, developing: Close to 145C. Color, developed: Close to 199B with striations, close to 199A.

Leaf description:

*Arrangement and appearance.*—Opposite, simple; leaves durable and leathery.

*Length.*—About 13 cm.

*Width.*—About 4.5 cm.

*Shape.*—Lanceolate.

*Apex.*—Acute to acuminate.

*Base.*—Cuneate.

*Margin.*—Serrate; slightly undulate.

*Texture, upper and lower surfaces.*—Slightly pubescent, coriaceous; venation prominent.

*Venation pattern.*—Pinnate.

*Color.*—Developing leaves, upper surface: Close to 139A and 137A. Developing leaves, lower surface: Close to 194A. Fully expanded leaves, upper surface: Close to 139A; venation, close to 145A. Fully expanded leaves, lower surface: Close to 194A; faint speckles, close to 20B; venation, close to 145B.

*Petioles.*—Length: About 7.5 mm. Diameter: About 3 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent. Color, upper surface: Close to 145A. Color, lower surface: Close to 146C.

Flower description:

*Flower type and flowering habit.*—Single salverform flowers arranged on terminal and axillary panicles; inflorescences face mostly outwardly; panicles broadly conical in shape; freely flowering habit with more than 400 flowers developing per inflorescence; flowers not persistent.

*Fragrance.*—Fragrant; sweet, honey-like, pleasant.

*Natural flowering season.*—Long flowering period, plants flower continuously from mid-summer into the autumn in Michigan.

*Flower buds*.—Height: About 1.2 cm. Diameter: About 1 mm. Shape: Lanceolate. Color: Towards the base, close to 83A; mid-section, close to 86C; towards the apex, close to 86A.

*Inflorescence length*.—About 7.8 cm.

*Inflorescence diameter*.—About 3.3 cm.

*Flower diameter*.—About 5 mm.

*Flower depth*.—About 1.3 cm.

*Petals*.—Quantity per flower: Typically four in a single whorl. Length: About 2 mm. Width: About 2 mm. Shape: Oblong to obovate. Apex: Obtuse. Base: Slightly acute. Margin: Entire; slightly undulate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; soft. Color: Developing petals, upper surface: Close to 77B; towards the margins, close to 89D. Developing petals, lower surface: Close to 77C; towards the margins, close to 89D. Fully developed petals, upper surface: Close to 87B; towards the margins, close to 89C; color fades only slightly with development. Fully developed petals, lower surface: Close to 88D; towards the margins, close to 88B; color fades only slightly with development. Throat: Close to 31A. Tube: Close to 88D.

*Sepals*.—Quantity per flower: Typically five in a single whorl. Length: About 2 mm. Width: About 0.5 mm. Shape: Lanceolate to ovate. Apex: Acute. Base: Cuneate. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Slightly pubescent. Color, upper surface: Towards the base, close to 145C and towards the apex, close to 147C. Color, lower surface: Close to 148D.

*Pedicels*.—Length: About 1 mm to 5 mm. Diameter: About 0.5 mm. Strength: Strong. Angle: Upright to outwardly. Texture: Pubescent to smooth and glabrous. Color: Close to 145B tinged with close to 184A.

*Reproductive organs*.—Stamens: Quantity per flower: Typically four. Filament length: About 0.6 mm. Filament color: Close to 155B tinged with close to 145B. Anther length: About 1 mm. Anther shape: Oblong. Anther color: Close to 155B. Pollen amount: Scarce. Pollen color: Close to 11C. Pistils: Quantity per flower: One. Pistil length: About 1 mm. Stigma shape: Oblong. Stigma color: Close to 145A.

*Seeds and fruits*.—Quantity of fruit per lateral branch: More than 100. Fruit length: About 7 mm to 9 mm. Fruit diameter: About 2 mm. Fruit texture: Smooth. Fruit color: Close to 144B; towards the apex, slightly overlain with close to N186D. Seed length: Less than 1 mm. Seed diameter: Less than 1 mm.

Disease & pest resistance: Plants of the new *Buddleia* have not been observed to be resistant to pathogens and pests common to *Buddleia* plants.

Garden performance: Plants of the new *Buddleia* have been observed to have good garden performance and tolerate rain, wind and to be hardy to USDA Hardiness Zone 6.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Buddleia* plant named 'UCONNBD604' as illustrated and described.

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