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Luijten

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(54) **THUJA PLANT NAMED '4EVER'**

(50) Latin Name: *Thuja plicata*
Varietal Denomination: **4EVER**

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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(51) **Int. Cl.**
A01H 7/00 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./213**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** Plt./213
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**
PUBLICATIONS

UPOV ROM GITM Computer Database. GTI Jouve
Retrieval Software 2007/04 Citation For '4EVER'.*

* cited by examiner

Primary Examiner—Wendy C. Haas

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new cultivar of *Thuja* plant named '4EVER' that is char-
acterized by an upright habit, light green leaves that turn
yellow below 5 degrees Centigrade and sheds very few
leaves.

1 Drawing Sheet

1

Botanical classification: *Thuja plicata*.
Variety denomination: '4EVER'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of *Thuja* plant botanically known as *Thuja plicata* and here-
inafter referred to by the cultivar name '4EVER'.

The new cultivar was discovered in 2002 in a cultivated
area of Steensel, The Netherlands. '4EVER' was discovered
as a single plant growing within a population of plants of
Thuja plicata 'Martin' (not patented). The exact parents are
unknown.

Asexual reproduction by softwood cuttings of the new
cultivar '4EVER' first occurred in 2002 in Steensel, The
Netherlands. Since that time, under careful observation, the
unique characteristics of the new cultivar have been uniform,
stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations
of asexual reproduction.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following represent the distinguishing characteristics
of the new *Thuja* cultivar '4EVER'.

1. *Thuja* '4EVER' exhibits an upright habit.
2. *Thuja* '4EVER' exhibits light green leaves that turn
yellow below 5 degrees Centigrade.
3. *Thuja* '4EVER' sheds very few leaves.

The closest comparison cultivar is *Thuja* 'Zabrina Gold'
(not patented). The new cultivar '4EVER' is distinguishable
from 'Zabrina Gold' by the following characteristics:

1. '4EVER' has less dense branches and foliage than
'Zabrina Gold'.
2. '4EVER' has light green leaves. The leaves of 'Zabrina
Gold' are more yellow.

The new cultivar '4EVER' is distinguishable from *Thuja*
'Martin' by the following characteristics:

1. '4EVER' has light green leaves.
2. The leaves of 'Martin' do not turn yellow below 5
degrees Centigrade.

2

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

The accompanying photograph illustrates the distinguish-
ing traits of *Thuja* '4EVER'. The plant in the photograph
shows an overall view of a 5 year old plant. The photograph
was taken using conventional techniques and although col-
ors may appear different from actual colors due to light
reflectance it is as accurate as possible by conventional pho-
tographic techniques.

BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANT

The following is a detailed description of the new *Thuja*
cultivar named '4EVER'. Data was collected in Steensel,
The Netherlands from 5 year old field grown plants. The
time of year was Fall. No photoperiodic treatments or
growth retardants were used. Color determinations are in
accordance with The Royal Horticultural Society Colour
Chart 2001 edition, except where general color terms of
ordinary dictionary significance are used. The growing
requirements are similar to the species. '4EVER' has not
been tested under all possible conditions and phenotypic dif-
ferences may be observed with variations in environmental,
climatic, and cultural conditions, however, without any vari-
ance in genotype.

Botanical classification: *Thuja plicata* '4EVER'.

Use: Ornamental.

Parentage: '4EVER' was discovered as a single plant grow-
ing within a population of plants of *Thuja plicata* 'Martin'
(not patented). The exact parents are unknown.

Vigor: Moderate.

Growth rate: Average 22.5 cm per year.

Growth habit: Upright.

Plant shape: Conical.

Suitable container size: Field grown.

Height: Average 114 cm.

Width: Average 59.5 cm.

Hardiness: USDA Zone 6.

Propagation: Softwood cuttings.

Time to initiate roots (summer and winter): Approximately 56 days to produce roots on an initial cutting.

Root system: Fine and fibrous.

Stem:

Branching habit.—Main stems grow from base and have lateral branches.

Basal branching.—Yes.

Average number of lateral branches.—23.

Pinching.—No.

Lateral branch diameter.—5 mm. in diameter.

Lateral branch length.—32.1 cm. in length.

Lateral branch strength.—Moderately strong.

Internode length.—1.2 cm.

Stem appearance.—Rounded, covered with scale-like leaves, dull and smooth.

Stem aspect.—Rounded, covered with scale-like leaves.

Stem strength.—Strong.

Stem color.—N199B, older stems N199D.

Pubescence.—Absent.

Foliage:

Texture.—Smooth.

Leaf arrangement.—Opposite.

Compound or single.—Single.

Leaf shape.—Oblanceolate.

Leaf apex.—Acute to short apiculate.

Leaf base.—Cuneate.

Leaf length.—Average 4.8 mm in length.

Leaf width.—2 mm in width.

Quantity of leaves per lateral branch.—Average 2,000.

Pubescence.—Absent.

Leaf margin.—Entire.

Vein pattern.—Veins are not visible.

Young leaf color (upper surface).—15A; apexes N167A.

Young leaf color (lower surface).—15A; apexes N167A.

Mature leaf color (upper surface).—143A to 144A to 144B.

Mature leaf color (lower surface).—143B to 144A to 144B.

Veins.—Veins not visible.

Leaf attachment.—Sessile.

Durability of foliage to stress.—Very high.

Fragrance.—Western red cedar fragrance when crushed.

Flower: Flowering has not been observed.

Disease and pest resistance: '4EVER' has not been observed for disease or pest resistance.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct variety of *Thuja* plant named '4EVER' as described and illustrated.

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