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

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(54) **ECHINACEA PLANT NAMED**
‘BULLECHIPUR 107’

(50) Latin Name: *Echinacea purpurea*
Varietal Denomination: **BullEchipur 107**

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

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct variety of *Echinacea* plant having a compact growth habit and numerous, red colored blooms.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical classification: *Echinacea purpurea*.
Varietal denomination: ‘BullEchipur 107’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention comprises a new and distinct cultivar of *Echinacea* plant known by the varietal name ‘BullEchipur 107’. The new variety was discovered in August of 2020 in Gönnebek, Germany as the result of a planned breeding program with the purposes of providing *Echinacea* plants with unique flower colors, a compact growth habit, increased branching, and more uniformity when compared to prior *Echinacea* plants. The new variety is the result of a cross between an unpatented *Echinacea purpurea* variety from the internal breeder’s reference of “Bul Mix 2015-15” (female parent) and open pollination from a collection of unpatented *Echinacea purpurea* varieties referred to as “Bul Mix 2017” from the breeder’s own collection. As such, the exact male parent from this collection is unknown. The new variety was first asexually reproduced via in-vitro tissue culture cuttings in Gönnebek, Germany in September of 2020. The new variety is similar to its parental varieties in botanical classification, but exhibits a more compact growth habit and different flower color than both of its parental varieties. The ray florets of the female parent have less intense red coloration (Red Group RHS 52A) than the new variety and the ray florets of the possible male parents are orange in color. Further, ‘BullEchipur 107’ exhibits better branching than its female parent and smaller leaves and earlier flowering than any of its possible male parents.

When ‘BullEchipur 107’ is compared to *Echinacea purpurea* variety named ‘Balsomsed’ (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 23,105, marketed as “Sombbrero® Salsa Red”), ‘BullEchipur 107’ is similar to ‘Balsomsed’ in botanical classification and exhibiting red flowers, but ‘BullEchipur 107’ exhibits a more compact growth habit with increased branching (‘Balsomsed’ has approximately 5 flowering stems) and more

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flowers (‘Balsomsed’ has approximately 8 inflorescences per plant) that distinguish it from ‘Balsomsed’. Further, the following characteristics distinguish ‘BullEchipur 107’ when generally compared to other *Echinacea* varieties known to the breeder:

- Red flower color;
- High flower number per plant;
- A very compact and uniform growth habit;
- High branching;
- Fast crop time;
- Early flowering; and
- Small leaves.

The new variety has been trial and field tested and has been found to retain its distinctive characteristics and remain true to type through successive asexual propagations. The present invention has not been evaluated under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary with variations in environment without a change in the genotype of the plant.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The accompanying photographic drawing illustrates the new variety at 22 weeks of age, with the color being as nearly true as is possible with color illustrations of this type: FIG. 1 shows an entire plant of the new variety.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANT

The following detailed description sets forth the characteristics of the new variety as the result of asexual reproductions performed via in vitro tissue culture cuttings carried out in Gönnebek, Germany. Plants of the new variety were grown outdoors in 19 cm (3 liter) pots under normal field production conditions, and the color readings and measurements were observed outdoors under natural light on 22 week old plants in Gönnebek, Germany Color references are primarily to The 2015 R.H.S. Colour Chart of The

Royal Horticultural Society of London, Sixth Edition, except where terms of ordinary significance are used.

PLANT

Time to initiate roots: About 7 days at approximately 19-20° C.

Time to develop roots: About 40-50 days at approximately 18° C.

Time to produce a finished flowering plant from a rooted cutting: About 12-14 weeks in a 19 cm container.

Rooting habit: Exhibits numerous roots that are freely branching and healthy in appearance.

Plant height: 35.0-50.0 cm.

Plant width: 25.0-30.0 cm.

Habit: Upright, compact, and uniform growth with numerous branches.

Disease/pest resistance: Nothing unusual noted to date.

Temperature tolerance: Nothing unusual noted to date.

Drought tolerance: Average.

Branches (flowering stems):

Number per plant.—10-20.

Length.—20.0-30.0 cm.

Diameter.—3.0-10.0 mm.

Internode length.—1.0-5.0 cm.

Angle.—Upright and outward.

Strength.—Strong.

Texture.—Pubescence present.

Color.—Close to Yellow-Green Group RHS 144A.

Foliage:

Arrangement.—Single.

Leaf.—Length: 4.0-20.0 cm. Width: 1.0-5.0 cm. Shape:

Lanceolate. Apex: Acuminate. Base: Attenuate to

acute. Margin: Entire. Aspect: Straight to curved.

Texture: Upper surface: Rough. Lower surface:

Rough. Color: Young leaves: Upper surface: Close to

Green Group RHS 137B. Lower surface: Close to

Green Group RHS 137C. Mature leaves: Upper

surface: Close to Green Group RHS 137B. Lower

surface: Close to Green Group RHS 137C. Petiole:

None present. Veins: Venation type: Cross-venulate

to longitudinal. Color: Upper surface: Close to

Yellow-Green Group RHS 145A. Lower surface: Close

to Yellow-Green Group RHS 145B.

INFLORESCENCE

Bud:

Diameter.—1.0-3.0 cm.

Length.—1.3-2.0 cm.

Color.—Close to Green Group RHS N138B up to Greyed-Purple Group RHS 187A.

Appearance: Elliptic-shaped ray florets and tubular-shaped disc florets.

Natural flowering season: Flowering occurs from July-September in Gönnebek, Germany, beginning approximately 12-14 weeks after planting.

Average number of inflorescences per plant: 10-30.

Average number of inflorescences per branch: 1-3.

Disc and ray floret arrangement: Disc florets are arranged in the middle of the receptacle of the composite, single, freely flowering plant, with ray florets extending outwardly therefrom.

Fragrance: Very light and sweet.

Inflorescence:

Diameter.—4.0-8.0 cm.

Height (depth).—2.0-3.5 cm.

Diameter of disc.—1.5-3.5 cm.

Receptacle height.—1.0 cm.

Receptacle diameter.—1.5-3.5 cm.

Ray florets:

Number per inflorescence.—17-28.

Arrangement.—In two or three whorls.

Length.—2.0-3.5 cm.

Width.—1.2-1.8 cm.

Shape.—Elliptical.

Apex.—Obtuse.

Base.—Acute.

Margin.—Entire.

Texture.—Upper surface: Smooth and glabrous. Lower surface: Rough.

Color.—When opening: Upper surface: Close to Red

Group RHS 44A. Lower surface: Close to Red

Group RHS 45C. At maturity: Upper surface: Close

to Red Group RHS 44A. Lower surface: Close to

Red Group RHS 45C. Ground color description:

Close to Red Group RHS 44A.

Venation.—Appearance: Parallel. Color: Upper surface: Same color as the florets. Lower surface: Same color as the florets.

Disc florets:

Number per inflorescence.—Numerous; too many to quantify.

Arrangement.—In the center of receptacle.

Length.—8.0-15.0 mm.

Width.—1.0-2.0 mm.

Shape.—Tubular.

Apex.—Pointed.

Color.—Immature: Close to Greyed-Purple Group RHS 187B. At maturity: Close to Greyed-Purple Group RHS 187B.

Phyllaries:

Number per inflorescence.—40-50.

Arrangement.—In three to four whorls.

Length.—Approximately 1.0 cm.

Width.—2.0-4.0 mm.

Shape.—Lanceolate.

Apex.—Elongated oval.

Base.—Fused.

Margin.—Entire.

Texture.—Upper surface: Rough. Lower surface: Rough.

Color.—Immature: Upper surface: Close to Green Group RHS NN137C. Lower surface: Close to Green Group RHS NN137C. At maturity: Upper surface: Close to Green Group RHS NN137C. Lower surface: Close to Green Group RHS NN137C.

Reproductive organs:

Androecium:

Presence.—On disc florets.

Number (per floret).—One.

Filament length.—1.0-2.0 mm.

Filament color.—Red-brown.

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Anther.—Shape: Oval. Length: 1.0 mm. Color: Red-brown.

Pollen.—Color: Close to Yellow-Orange Group RHS 15B. Amount: Plentiful — too much to quantify.

Gynoecium:

Presence.—In disc and ray florets.

Pistil length.—1.0-2.0 mm.

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Stigma.—Shape: Two-parted. Color: Red-brown.

Style.—Length: 1.0-2.0 mm. Color: Red-brown.

Seeds:

Overall size.—1.0-2.0 mm.

I claim:

1. A new and distinct variety of *Echinacea* plant named 'BullEchipur 107', as is herein illustrated and described.

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