

[54] *HYGROPHILA POLYSPERMA* TROPIC
SUNSET
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33325
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[57] **ABSTRACT**
A *Hygrophila polysperma* plant characterized by leaf
veins which are red in light shade and white in heavy
shade, and therefore provide a color contrast with the
rest of the leaf, which is green.

3 Drawing Figures

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DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to a new and distinct variety of
Hygrophila polysperma entitled Tropic Sunset.
Hygrophila polysperma is an aquatic plant which is
native to southeast Asia. It does not seed or flower in
the United States, to my knowledge.
In *Hygrophila polysperma* plants cultivated aquatically
by me in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., I discovered a sport
thrown by one of these plants which was characterized
by the novel coloring of the veins in its leaves. I took
cuttings from this sport and have asexually reproduced
my new variety by re-rooting the cuttings in Fort Lau-
derdale, Fla.
FIG. 1 shows one of my new variety of *Hygrophila*
polysperma removed from the water.
FIG. 2 shows the appearance of the leaves in light
(approximately 60%) shade, where the leaf veins are
red.
FIG. 3 shows the appearance of the leaves in heavy
(approximately 90%) shade, where the leaf veins are
white.

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In both light and heavy shade the leaf appearance is
very different from the previously known *Hygrophila*
polysperma, which has green veins in the leaf and little
color contrast between the veins and the rest of the leaf.
In my new variety, the decorative appearance of the
leaf is improved by the color contrast between the
prominent veins and the rest of the leaf. This color
contrast changes when my new variety is moved from
light shade to heavy shade, or vice versa, and this char-
acteristic enhances the versatility with which it can be
displayed. The different color of the veins apparently is
due to a loss of green chlorophyll pigment. The vein
color ranges from 55A through 55D as shown in The
R.H.S. Colour Chart.
Except for the distinctive coloring of the veins in the
leaves, my new variety is essentially the same as the
previously known *Hygrophila polysperma*.

I claim:
1. A new and distinct variety of *Hygrophila polys-*
perma plant as described and illustrated, characterized
by leaves whose veins are red under low shade and
white under heavy shade.
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FIG. 1



FIG. 2

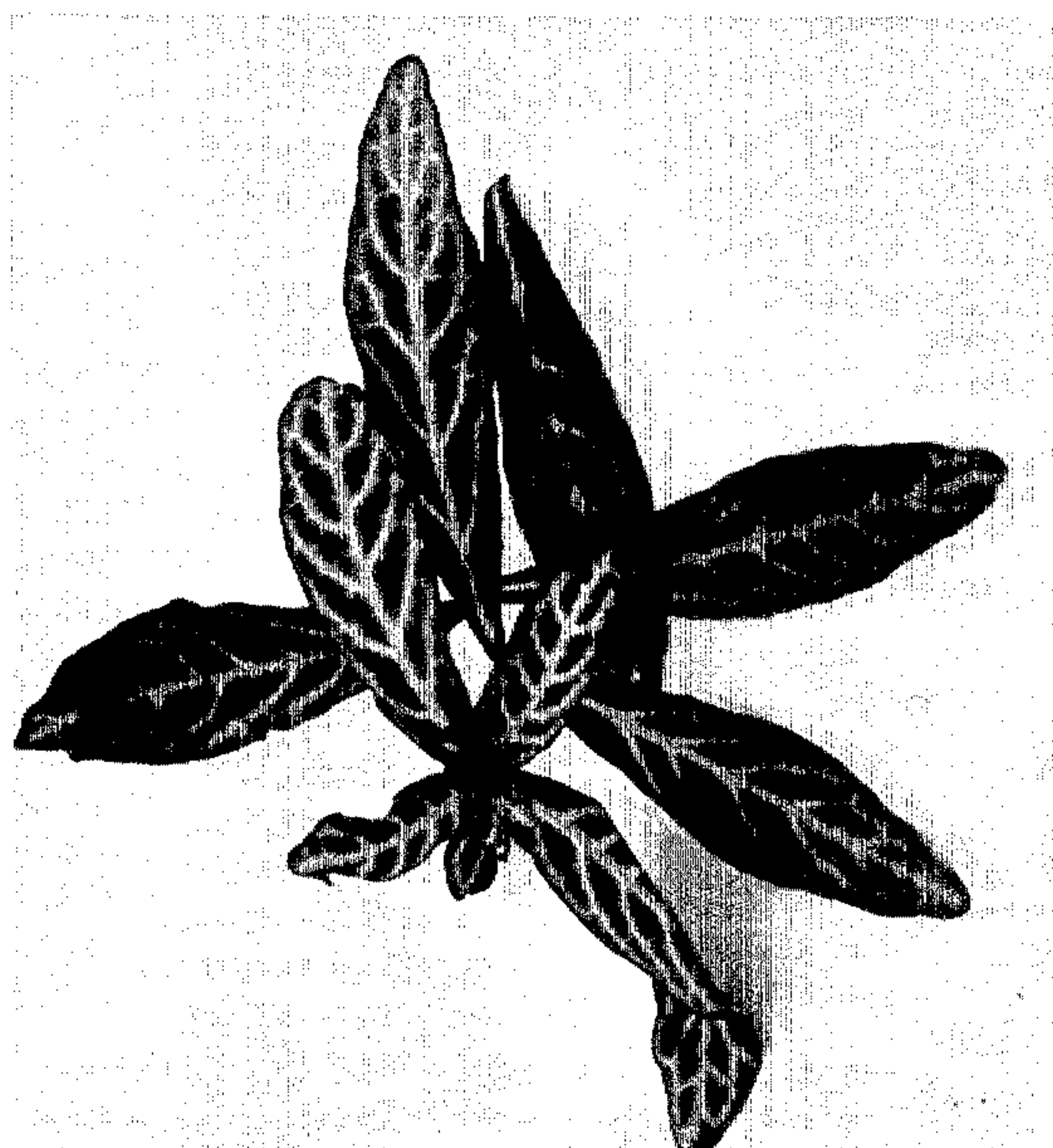


FIG. 3