





[54] *NANDINA DOMESTICA* THUNB. CALLED
LOWBOY
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[56] References Cited
PUBLICATIONS

Wholesale Catalog for 1977, Monrovia Nsy. Co.,
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[57] ABSTRACT
A new variety of *Nandina domestica* Thunb. distin-
guished by a new and improved combination of charac-
teristics never previously exhibited in a heavenly bam-
boo of new leaves of a rich bronze that change to a
metallic bluish green at maturity and in winter develop
a uniform reddish purple tint, densely branched,
mounded spreading habit and stoloniferous growth,
ranging in size from two to three feet in height and two
and one half to four feet wide.

4 Drawing Figures

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BACKGROUND OF THE NEW PLANT

This new variety of *Nandina domestica*, origin un-
known, was selected from seedlings of *Nandina domes-*
tica maintained in the Rushing Nursery at Semmes, Ala. Asexual propagation of my new plant by cuttings has
been under my direction for the past year to test stabil-
ity and determine worthiness for commercial exploita-
tion. This new variety has shown a dense mounded
spreading habit with the ultimate size being from two to
three feet high and two and one-half to four feet wide.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

This new variety of *Nandina domestica* Thunb. is
illustrated by the accompanying photographic prints, in
which:

The first sheet, upper photograph discloses the win-
ter color of my new variety and fruit texture. The lower
photograph discloses the spreading, mounding growth
habit.

The second sheet, upper photograph discloses the
fruit and winter leaves. The lower drawing discloses the
summer foliage.

The colors shown are photographically as nearly true
as is reasonably possible to obtain by conventional pho-
tographic procedures.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW
PLANT

The following is a detailed description of my new
variety of *Nandina domestica* based on observations
made of plants grown in greenhouses on raised benches
and cultured according to conventional greenhouse
procedures. The color designations are according to
The R.H.S. Colour Chart of The Royal Horticultural
Society, published in collaboration with the British
Colour Council at London, England, except where
color terms of dictionary significance are obvious.

THE PLANT

Origin: Seedling.
Parentage: Unknown seedling of *Nandina domestica*
(heavenly bamboo or nandina).

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Classification:
Botanic.—*Nandina domestica*.
Form: Bush.
Height: 2 to 3 feet.
Width: 2½ to 4 feet.
Growth: Stoloniferous; dense, compact, mounded
spreading habit. In Semmes, Ala., there is more-or-
less continuous growth from June to August.
Foliage: Abundant in quantity.
Size of leaf.—10 To 16 inches long; 16 to 24 inches
wide.
Leaflets.—½ To 2 inches long; 8 to 12 inches wide.
Texture.—Somewhat leathery.
Shape of leaf.—Tripinnately compound leaflets,
subsessile, elliptic-lanceolate, cuneate, prominent
midveins, secondary veins scarcely noticeable.
Leaflets composed of up to 170, ½ to 2 inches
long, one-half the size of species.
Color.—Bronze when emerging on new growth.
Reddish Purple in winter, R.H.S. 53B. Color
changes occur as leaves mature and the time of
change is dependent on climatic conditions. The
bronze color is mixed with transitional colors
with the mature rich metallic upper leaf color
R.H.S. 46A and the under side of the leaf color is
R.H.S. 48B.

THE FLOWER

Blooming habit: May and June.
Size: ¼ inches in diameter. 3 to 5 inches long and 1½ to
2½ inches wide panicles. The panicles are sparse com-
pared with the species.
Buds: Small, nondescript, hidden by ensheathing base of
the petiole, only visible when leaf is removed.
Color.—Creamy White, R.H.S. 155A.

FRUIT

Shape: Round only on fully matured plants in generally
three to four years.
Size: When present on mature plant, about ¼ inches in
diameter, two seeded, bright red berry.
Resistance to disease: Is disease resistant and resistant
also to insects. Initially the fruit develops a metallic
color and by late September-October is fully colored

and persists on the plant throughout the winter months.

Characteristic	Applicant	Harbor Dwarf
Height	60-90 cm.	30-45 cm.
Width	76-122 cm.	30-45 cm.
Leaf	25-41 cm. long 41-61 cm. wide	20-25 cm. long
Leaflets	1.3-5 cm. long 20-30 cm. wide	2-6 cm. long 12-20 cm. wide
Berrying	abundant on mature plant	sparingly produced
Winter Color	Reddish purple	Orange to bronzy red

The advantages of this new variety are (1) new leaves of rich bronze that change to metallic bluish green at maturity and in winter to a uniform reddish purple tint; (2) a distinctive, dense mounded spreading habit with ultimate size ranging from two to three feet high and two and one-half to four feet wide; (3) stoloniferous growth that results in a compact, dense plant with no tendency to legginess or open growth habit that is typical for species; (4) tripinnately compound leaves ten to sixteen inches long and sixteen to twenty-four inches in width composed of up to 170, one-half to two inches long entire leaflets, which is about one-half the size of the species; (5) creamy white flowers that are sparsely borne in three to five inches long and one and one-half to two and one-half inches wide panicles during May-June, the flowers being not as abundant as the species but can be showy since they are dispersed over a much smaller framework, flowers appearing only on two to three year old container grown plants; (6) the one-

fourth inch rounded, bright red fruit ripens in October and may persist through the winter, the entire fructescence being usually dense with fruit on mature plants; (7) easy to root from cuttings collected in July-August or by division at any time; (8) the moderate growth rate under normal fertilizer and moisture conditions; in one year, a plant will fill a standard one-gallon nursery container and be full and dense as described herein; and (9) freedom from disease and insects.

The present plant is readily distinguishable from other Nandina as the Nandina described herein does not have the same characteristics as other Nandina in bearing, color or growth as described in horticultural literature. Also, it does not grow eight feet in height but rather dense, broad-mounded of stoloniferous nature.

I claim:

1. A new and unique variety of heavenly bamboo or Nandina as herein shown and described, characterized by its dense broad-mounded growth habit, stoloniferous nature, bronze to metallic bluish green to reddish purple winter color foliage, creamy white flowers, bright red fruit, adaptability to extreme soil and cultural conditions, the leaves, flowers and fruit being about one-third to one-half the mature size of those for the typical species Nandina; rooted cuttings or divisions will fill a one-gallon container in two seasons, the dense, compact, mounded growth habit will fill numerous landscape needs for missing low-hedging groupings and foundation plantings, requiring less maintenance, especially pruning, than the species; and freedom from disease and insects with wide soil tolerance.

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