

[54] THORNLESS HONEYLOCUST
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[58] Field of Search Plt. 52
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[57] ABSTRACT
A new Thornless Honeylocust being seedless and hav-
ing a rapid rate of growth and dense crown.
3 Drawing Sheets

1

This new variety of Thornless Honeylocust was dis-
covered by me growing on cultivated property in Madi-
son, Ohio. The new variety is seedless and thornless and
has a distinct broadly pyramidal growth form, a uni-
form branch angle that conforms into a more dense
crown than the species and a more rapid rate of growth
than the species demonstrated by the elongation of the
first year lateral branches, the second year development
of more numerous laterals, the resultant heavy scaffold
and the rapid development of caliper in young nursery
liners propagated from the parent tree. I have approxi-
mately 300 asexually produced trees in my nursery, all
of which exhibit the superior qualities of the parent tree.

SUMMARY OF INVENTION

A new and distinct cultivar of Thornless Honeylo-
cust characterized by its distinct broadly pyramidal
growth form, high leaf population, the uniform branch
angle, heavy dense crown, dark green foliage and rapid
rate of growth.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a photographic view of the mature tree in
leaf showing its distinct broadly pyramidal growth form
and heavy dense crown.

FIG. 2 is a photographic view of the dark green
foliage as it appears on the tree.

FIG. 3 is a photographic view of the caliper and
crown development of a two-year-old nursery liner
propagated from the parent tree (Tree "B") and demon-
strating the more rapid overall development as com-
pared to a typical two-year-old honeylocust cultivar
nursery liner (Tree "A").

FIG. 4 is a photographic view of the bark on the
mature tree.

FIG. 5 is a drawing of the leaf scar.

DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW PLANT

The following is a detailed description of my new
variety with color designations according to the R.H.S.
Colour Chart published by The Royal Horticultural
Society of London, England and the stated observations
having been made by the applicant at Madison, Ohio
and Oquawka, Ill.

Origin: Seedling.

Parentage: A tree of unknown origin and planted on
cultivated property.

2

Propagation: Maintains its distinguishing characteristics
when propagated by budding.
Classification: *Gleditsia triacanthos* var. *inermis*.
Form: Medium sized tree.
5 Habit: A medium sized deciduous tree with a single
trunk below, soon dividing into several main
branches lacking spines, the crown broadly pyrami-
dal, containing many lateral branches.
Growth rate: Rapid.
10 Bark: Nearly black at maturity, smooth on young trees,
becoming divided by deep fissures into long, narrow,
longitudinal ridges and roughened on the surface by
persistant scales.
Leaves: Alternate, deciduous, evenly once- or twice-
15 pinnately compound, the latter with 7-12 pairs on the
pinnae, the leaflets nearly sessile, 10-20 mm long and
4-7 mm wide, ovate or elliptical with blunt apices,
rounded bases, and faintly toothed or entire margins,
glabrous except for a few hairs on the lower surface
20 and along the margin, bright green above (R.H.S.
135A), paler below, new growth emerging an organ-
bronze (R.H.S. 178A), clear yellow in autumn; rachis
pubescent, grooved; petiole with swollen base, nearly
closing the buds.
25 Winter buds: Partially covered by the leaf scar, gla-
brous, dark brown, sessile, superposed; terminal bud
lacking.
Twigs: Zig-zagged, reddish brown, marked with small
round lenticels, shiny, enlarged at the nodes, lacking
30 spines, with a pinkish pith.
Leaf scars: Alternate, irregularly heart-shaped, with 3
bundle traces, stipule scars absent.
Fruit: None observed, plant believed to be strictly sta-
minate (i.e., male plant).
35 Flowers: None observed.

I claim:

1. A new variety and the parts thereof, of *Gleditsia*
triacanthos var. *inermis* 'Wandell' as described herein
40 that differs from other varieties by the unique combina-
tion of: (1) a distinct broadly pyramidal growth form;
(2) a uniform branch angle; (3) a dense compact crown
composed of many lateral branches; (4) a high leaf pop-
ulation of deep green foliage; and (5) a rapid rate of
45 growth demonstrated by the development of many
lateral branches at an early age and the early develop-
ment of caliper on juvenile trees propagated from the
parent tree.

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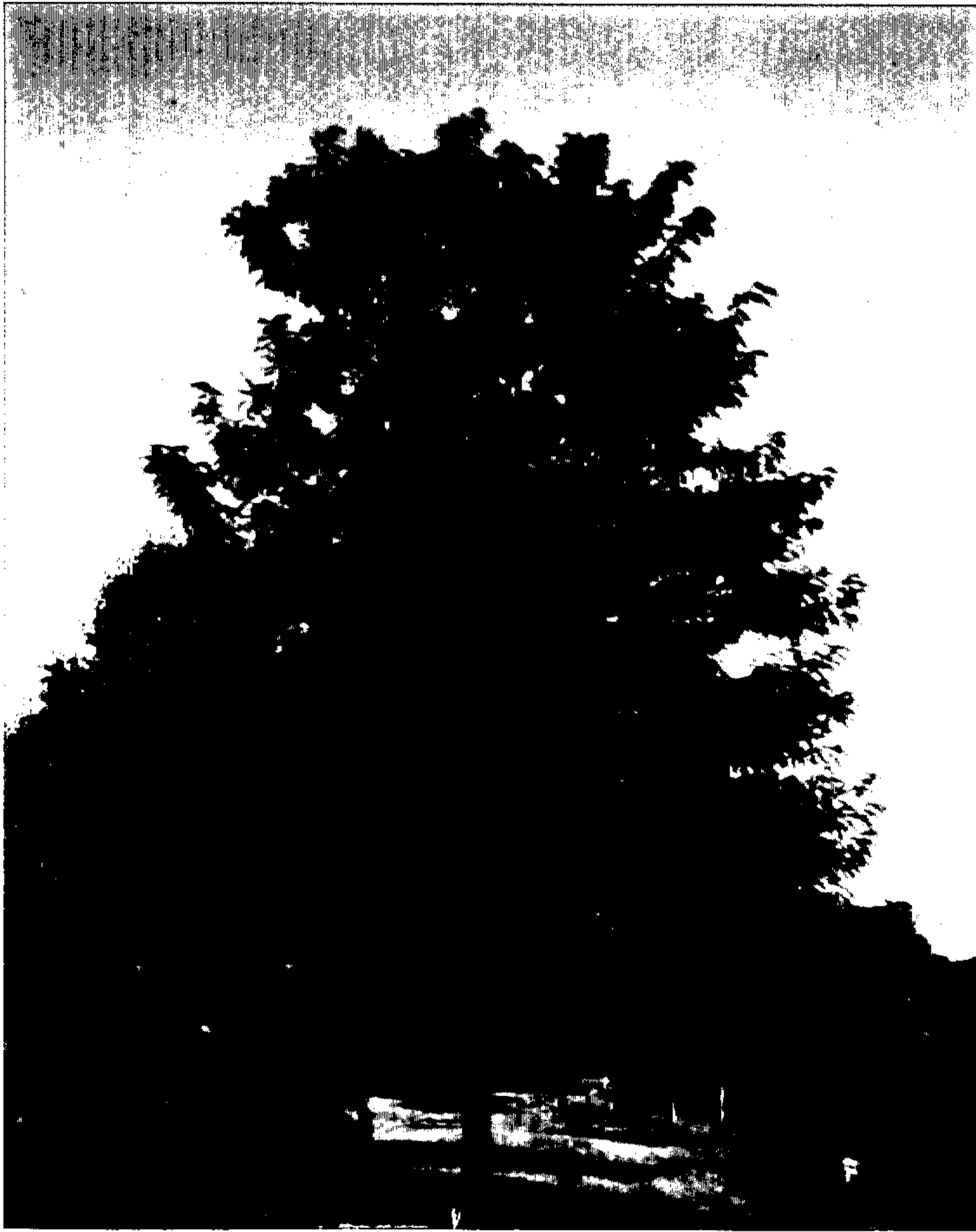


FIG. 1



FIG. 2



Fig. 3



FIG. 4

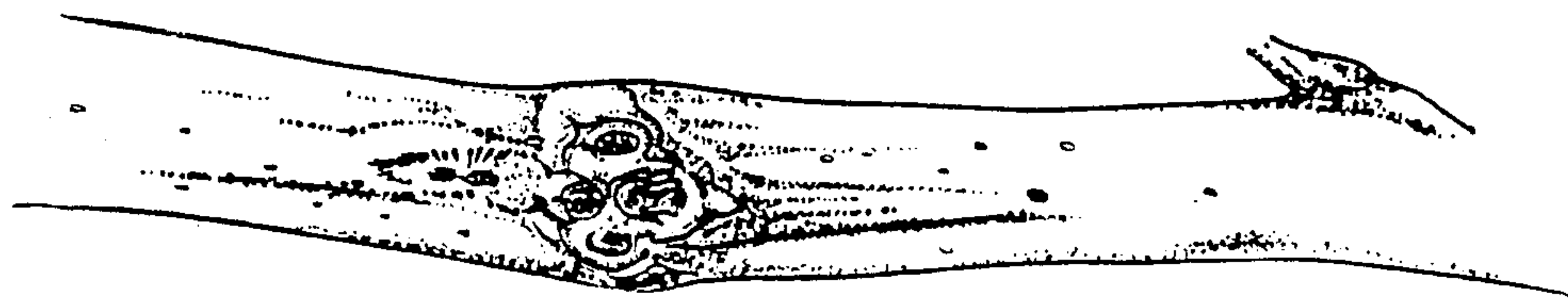


FIG.5