



US00PP07823P

# United States Patent [19]

Dupont et al.

[11] Patent Number: Plant 7,823

[45] Date of Patent: Mar. 10, 1992

[54] DWARF COREOPSIS VARIETY NAMED  
COREOPSIS GRANDIFLORA 'SUNDANCER'

[75] Inventors: Robert J. Dupont; Robert J. Dupont,  
Jr., both of Plaquemine, La.

[73] Assignee: Dupont's Nursery, Plaquemine, La.

[21] Appl. No.: 552,001

[22] Filed: Jul. 12, 1990

[51] Int. Cl.<sup>5</sup> ..... A01H 5/00

[52] U.S. Cl. .... Plt./68

[58] Field of Search ..... Plt./68

## [56] References Cited PUBLICATIONS

Anon., "The Seed Catalogue" printed by Thompson and Morgan, P.O. Box 308, Jackson, N.J. 08527, 1986, p. 57.  
Pettingill, A. "Coreopsis", *The White-Flower-Farm Garden Book*, 1977, Little, Brown and Co., Boston, p. 102.

Primary Examiner—James R. Feyrer  
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Reginald F. Roberts, Jr.

## [57] ABSTRACT

A new and distinct cultivar of *Coreopsis grandiflora* Haag ez Sweet, resulting from a selection of a crop of seedlings of *Coreopsis grandiflora* 'Sunray', characterized by its exceptional dwarfism, its unique spreading habit, and its early blooming.

1 Drawing Sheet

## 1

### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of *Coreopsis grandiflora* Haag es Sweet, resulting from a selection of a seedling of *Coreopsis grandiflora* 'Sunray.' Applicants have asexually reproduced the plant by stem cuttings.

### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The primary features of this new variety which con-  
note its distinctive advance over existing types are: (a) 10  
its exceptional dwarfism, the height of the plant being  
from about fifteen to about twenty centimeters; (b)  
double blossoms, about five centimeters in diameter; (c)  
blooms almost continuously throughout the year in the  
South, without the pinching of spent blooms; and (d) its  
spreading habit, forming masses up to one hundred  
centimeters in width.

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

The single drawing (the FIGURE) is a photograph of 20  
the plant claimed by applicants.

### BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANT

The following constitutes a detailed description of 25  
the new variety, the plant being illustrated by the ac-  
companying photograph of a specimen thereof in natu-  
ral color.

Type: Hardy, herbaceous perennial.

Propagation: Reproduced by vegetative propagation 30  
only; holds its distinctive character through succes-  
sive propagations. Seed produced is not viable.

Flowers: Borne solitary on long, naked peduncles rang-  
ing from four to sixteen centimeters in length. Double  
blooms are five centimeters in diameter. Disk and ray  
flowers are present with color and form identical to 35  
parent variety. All flower parts are present and seeds  
are formed, but their size is about two millimeters and  
they appear unexpanded, whereas seed of 'Sunray' is  
about four millimeters long and much fatter. Other-  
wise seed shape is same as for 'Sunray'.

Stems: Usually several, fifteen to twenty-five centime-  
ters in length; glabrous, or, especially near the base,

## 2

spreading-villous, leafy below subnaked and elon-  
gated above. Internode lengths from one half to eight  
centimeters.

Leaves: Spatulate to linear or lance-linear, simple or  
with one or two pairs of small lateral lobes, glabrous  
to villous or hirsute, the lower long-petiolate, up to  
fifteen centimeters long including petioles and two  
centimeters wide, the others reduced and sessile or  
nearly so. Foliage color is the same as parent vari-  
ety.

Growth: Dwarf, spreading without the use of growth  
retardants, stems become prostrate as they lengthen,  
often rooting at the nodes, with terminals remaining  
upright. 'Sunray' and others of the species remain  
more nearly entirely upright.

Hardiness: Survived five degrees Fahrenheit tempera-  
ture at Plaquemine, La. in December of 1989.

*Coreopsis grandiflora* 'Sundancer' has a more dwarf  
habit than any other cultivar of *Coreopsis grandiflora*  
with double blossoms, including the parent variety  
'Sunray'. It blooms almost continuously throughout the  
year in the South, whereas the parent variety has a  
much more limited period of bloom. In spreading, 'Sun-  
dancer' forms horizontal masses up to one-hundred  
centimeters in width, whereas the masses formed by  
'Sunray' are much narrower and more nearly upright or  
vertical. In spreading, the stems of 'Sundancer' become  
prostrate as they lengthen, whereas those of 'Sunray'  
remain nearly upright. In contrast with 'Sunray', the  
parent variety, 'Sundancer' is characterized with double  
blossoms about five centimeters in diameter, whereas  
those of 'Sunray' are much larger. Seeds of 'Sundancer'  
are about two millimeters and unexpanded; seeds of  
'Sunray' are about four millimeters long and much fat-  
ter.

We claim:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Coreopsis grandiflora*,  
characterized as to novelty by its exceptional dwarfism  
coupled with double flower, its unique spreading habit,  
and its early and continuous blooming, substantially as  
shown and described.

\* \* \* \* \*



