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Janssen

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[54] DRACAENA PLANT NAMED ‘RIKI’
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[56] References Cited
PUBLICATIONS
Huxley et al.; The New Royal Horticultural Society Dictio-
nary of Gardening; vol. 2, pp. 96–97; 1992.
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[57] ABSTRACT
A distinct cultivar of Dracaena plant named ‘Riki’, charac-
terized by its upright and outwardly arching growth habit;
striking dark green and yellowish green variegated leaves
that are thick, strong and leathery; and excellent post-
production longevity.

2 Drawing Sheets

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The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of Dracaena plant, botanically known as *Dracaena reflexa*,
and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name ‘Riki’.
The new cultivar was discovered by the inventor in
Honselersdijk, The Netherlands, as a naturally-occurring
mutation of the nonpatented Dracaena cultivar Song of
India, and was observed as a single plant in a group of plants
of the parent cultivar in September, 1993.
Asexual propagation of the new cultivar at Honselersdijk,
The Netherlands, has shown that the unique features of this
new Dracaena plant are stable and reproduced true to type in
successive generations of asexual propagation.
The new Dracaena has not been observed under all
possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary
somewhat with variations in environment such as tempera-
ture and light intensity, without, however, any variance in
genotype. The following observations, measurements and
comparisons describe plants grown in Honselersdijk, The
Netherlands, in a glass greenhouse with day and night
temperatures ranging from 19 to 23° C and light levels of
about 2,000 to 3,000 footcandles.
The following traits have been repeatedly observed and
are determined to be the unique characteristics of ‘Riki’ .
These characteristics in combination distinguish ‘Riki’ as a
new and distinct cultivar:
1. Upright and outwardly arching growth habit.
2. Striking dark green and yellowish green variegated
leaves that are thick, strong and leathery.
3. Excellent post-production longevity.
The new Dracaena can be compared to its parent cultivar,
the cultivar ‘Song of India’. The new cultivar is different
from plants of ‘Song of India’ and other Dracaenas com-
mercially known and used in commerce in the following
characteristics:
1. Plants of the new Dracaena have a striking and intense
leaf variegation pattern compared to other Dracaenas. The
dark green portions are darker and yellowish green areas are
lighter on plants of the new Dracaena compared to plants of
the cultivar ‘Song of India’.
2. Plants of the new Dracaena have thicker leaves than
other Dracaenas. The thicker leaf imparts greater sucking
insect resistance to plants of the new Dracaena compared to
plants of the cultivar ‘Song of India’.
3. Root development on plants of the new Dracaena is
more rapid than plants of the selection ‘Song of India’.
The accompanying colored photographs illustrate the
overall appearance of the new cultivar, showing the colors as

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true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored repro-
ductions of this type.
The first photograph comprises a top perspective view of
a typical potted plant of ‘Riki’.
The second photograph comprises a close-up view of a
leaf of ‘Riki’ showing the variegation pattern. Leaf colors in
the photographs may appear different from the actual colors
due to light reflectance.
In the following description, color references are made to
The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart except where
general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.
Botanical Classification: *Dracaena relfexa* cultivar ‘Riki’.
Parentage: Naturally-occurring mutation of the nonpatented
Dracaena cultivar ‘Song of India’.
Propagation:
Method.—By cuttings.
Time to initiate roots.—42 and 70 days during the
summer and winter, respectively.
Rooting habit.—Numerous, thick, and fleshy roots.
Plant Description:
Plant shape.—Upright, inverted triangle, symmetrical.
Growth habit.—Erect when young, becoming out-
wardly arching as leaves develop. Appropriate for 15
to 27-cm containers.
Plant height.—40 to 50 cm from soil level to top of leaf
plane.
Plant vigor.—Moderate.
Growth rate.—Slow.
Crop time.—About 10 months are usually required
from planting of a young plant to a finished plant in
a 15-cm container.
Foliage description.—Quantity of leaves per finished
plant: About 20 to 25. Leaf shape: Linear. Leaf apex:
Apiculate. Leaf base: Broadens at the base. Leaf
margin: Entire. Leaf texture: Leathery, smooth, gla-
brous. Leaf size: Length: About 40 cm. Width: About
3 cm. Leaf color: Longitudinally variegated. Mar-
gins are dark green, 139A. Central area with dark to
yellowish green longitudinal stripes, 139A, 144A or
144B.
Flower Description: Flowers have not been observed on
plants of the new Dracaena.
Disease Resistance: Susceptibility nor resistance to patho-
gens common to Dracaenas has been observed.

Insect Resistance: Thickness of leaves, characteristic of the new Dracaena, imparts resistance to sucking insects.
It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of Dracaena plant named ‘Riki’, as illustrated and described.
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