



US00PP12192P2

(12) **United States Plant Patent**  
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(10) **Patent No.: US PP12,192 P2**  
(45) **Date of Patent: Nov. 6, 2001**

(54) *YUCCA RECURVIFOLIA* PLANT NAMED  
‘HINVARGAS’

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(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this  
patent is extended or adjusted under 35  
U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **09/300,578**

(22) Filed: **Apr. 27, 1999**

(51) Int. Cl.<sup>7</sup> ..... **A01H 5/00**

(52) U.S. Cl. .... **Plt./373**  
(58) Field of Search ..... **Plt./373**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct plant variety of *Yucca recurvifolia* named  
‘Hinvargas’ characterized by its yellow to yellow-green  
variegated foliage, exhibited as about 1 to 3 mm. wide  
vertical bands running the length of the leaves.

**4 Drawing Sheets**

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**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention relates to a new and distinct variety  
of *Yucca recurvifolia* Salisb. Which was discovered as a  
whole plant mutation in a controlled planting of *Yucca*  
*recurvifolia* in Fulshear, Tex. The varietal denomination of  
the new variety is ‘Hinvargas’.

The genus *Yucca* is included in the family Agavaceae  
which comprises about 40 genera of evergreen trees and  
perennial and herbaceous plants mostly originating in tropical  
and subtropical regions of the Northern and Southern  
hemispheres. The genus *Yucca* comprises at least 34 species  
of evergreen trees and perennial and herbaceous plants,  
many of which possess desirable ornamental characteristics.  
*Yucca recurvifolia* is native to the Eastern United States. It  
generally has lanceolate leaves to about 90 cm. long and to  
about 6 cm. wide. *Yucca recurvifolia* is fully evergreen  
depending on winter temperatures. Leaf color ranges from  
light to dark green, depending on light intensity and cultural  
conditions. Flowers of *Yucca recurvifolia* are borne on an  
erect, narrowly conical panicle to about 1 m. tall and about  
30 cm. wide. Flowers are borne from between July to  
September in Texas. *Yucca recurvifolia* is believed to have  
been in cultivation in Europe and North America for about  
200 years. Only four cultivars with colored foliage are  
known to have been grown: (1) *Yucca recurvifolia* forma  
*marginata* (Carr.) Trel., which has leaves with pencil-width  
marginal variegation; (2) *Yucca recurvifolia* forma  
*variegata* (Carr.) Trel., with central yellow variegation; (3) *Yucca*  
*recurvifolia* forma *elegans* Trel., which has reddish central  
variegation; and (4) *Yucca recurvifolia* forma *rufocincta*  
Baker, Gard., a lower-growing form with reddish-brown  
margins.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

The new variety was discovered as a whole plant mutation  
in a controlled planting of *Yucca recurvifolia* in Fulshear,  
Tex., and differs from other known varieties of *Yucca*  
*recurvifolia* in its yellow to yellow-green variegated foliage,  
exhibited as between 1 to 3 mm. Wide vertical bands  
running the length of the leaves. Asexual reproduction of the  
new variety by root division performed in Irvine, Calif.,  
Vacaville, Calif; and Fulshear, Tex., have confirmed that the

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distinctive characteristics of the new variety are stable and  
transmitted to succeeding generations, and the new variety  
reproduces true to type.

**COMPARISON WITH PARENT**

‘Hinvargas’ is distinguished from its parent and all other  
varieties of *Yucca recurvifolia* of which I am aware by its  
yellow to yellow-green variegated foliage, exhibited as  
between 1 to 3 mm. wide vertical bands running the length  
of the leaves.

**DESCRIPTION OF ILLUSTRATIONS**

The accompanying photographic illustrations show a  
specimen of the new cultivar as true to color as is reasonably  
possible to make in an illustration of this character. Specimens  
photographed are approximately 5 years old and were  
grown out of doors in Fulshear, Tex.

FIG 1 illustrates the distinctive foliage variegation of a  
mature specimen of the new variety.

FIG 2 illustrates the distinctive foliage variegation of a  
mature specimen of the new variety.

FIG 3 illustrates the maroon-colored foliage of the new  
variety in winter months.

FIG. 4 illustrates the distinctive foliage variegation of a  
mature specimen of the new variety.

**DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW  
VARIETY**

‘Hinvargas’ has not been observed under all possible  
environmental, cultural and light conditions. The following  
observations and descriptions are of plants grown in containers  
at Vacaville, Calif., Fulshear, Tex. Katy, Tex; and Apex, N.C.

In this description, color references are to The *Royal  
Horticultural Society Colour Chart* (1995 ) and terminology  
used in the color descriptions herein refers to plate numbers  
int his color chart. Phenotypic expression may vary with  
light intensity, cultural and environmental conditions.



## Classification:

*Botanical.*—*Yucca recurvifolia* Salisb. 'Hinvargas'.

*Parentage.*—Root sport of the variety *Yucca recurvifolia*.

*Proagation.*—By root division.

## Plant:

*Size.*—About 1.5 m. tall and about 1.0 m. wide at maturity.

*Habit.*—Upright habit with pendant leaves.

*Branching.*—Unbranched.

*Leaf.*—Arrangement: Alternate in a dense cluster or rosette. Leaf Shape: Lanceolate, closely alternate, recurved, surface nearly level. Leaf Base: Decurrent. Size: About 48 cm. long and from about 5 to 6 cm. wide. Leaf Margin: Slightly serrated; microscopic teeth. Leaf texture/substance: Pliable, with ripples present along the leaf surface; leaf surface has sandpaper-like texture.

The following Color Readings are of mature specimens (about 5 years old) grown out-of-doors, in Fulshear, Tex., April 2001.

## Leaf color:

*Young leaves upper side.*—Leaf edge near Green Group 137C to 137D; variegation near Yellow Group 10C to 10D.

*Under side.*—Leaf edge near Green Group 148C to 148D; variegation near Yellow Group 10C to 10D.

*Mature leaves.*—Color varies with intensity of sunlight, cultural conditions and time of year. In winter, plants can exhibit reddish foliage (less than 10% of observed specimens exhibit this winter coloration). Striped variegation varies from about 1 mm. to 30 mm. wide.

*Upper side.*—Leaf edge near Green Group 137C to 137D; variegation near Yellow Group 10C to 10D.

*Under side.*—Leaf edge near Yellow-Green Group 148C to 148D; variegation near Yellow Group 9D.

The following Color Readings are of mature specimens (5 year old plants) grown out-of doors, in Fulshear, Tex., February 2001.

## Plants exhibiting winter coloration

Upper side: Near Green Group, 137A to 137C; central variegation near Red Group 47B to 47C at and near leaf base to Red Group 52B to 52C from mid-leaf to tip.

Under side: Leaf edge near Yellow-Green Group 148C to 148D; central variegation near Yellow Group 9D.

## Plants not exhibiting winter coloration

Upper side: Near Green Group, 137A to 137C at leaf center; near Green Group 138A to 138C near margin; variegation near Yellow Group 12B.

Under side: Leaf edge near Green Group 148C to 148D; variegation near Yellow Group 9D.

## Venation:

*Pattern.*—Upper Surface: Parallel. Under Surface: Parallel.

*Petioles.*—None present.

*Internodes.*—Leaves are alternate along the trunk and form a whorl.

*Hardiness.*—USDA Zone 8 (20° F. to 10° F.); AHS Heat Zone 8.

*Vigor.*—'Hinvargas' produces 2 significant growth flushes per year, Spring and late Summer.

*Pests/diseases.*—No susceptibility to diseases/pests noted; no resistance to diseases/pests noted beyond resistance typical of the species.

## Inflorescence:

*Bloom period.*—Spring and late Summer (field production).

*Flower form.*—Narrowly conical panicle elevated slightly over the leaves on a scape-like stem.

*Flower arrangement.*—Perianth 6-parted; calyx of 3 sepals; corolla of 3 similar petals; style stout; ovules numerous in the cavity of each carpel.

*Flower size.*—Approximately 7.5 cm. long.

*Sepals.*—Size: About 5.5 cm. by 2.5 cm. Shape: Elliptical with acuminate apex. Color: Near White Group 155A to 155C. Texture: Smooth with prominent midrib.

*Fragrance.*—None noted.

*Lastingness of individual blooms.*—Individual flowers last for about 2 to 3 days; panicle lasts for about 3 to 4 weeks.

## Reproductive organs:

*Stamens.*—6 shorter than the perianth, filaments enlarged above, anthers sagittate.

*Gynoecium.*—Syncarpous.

*Style.*—Stout.

*Carpels.*—About 3.

*Ovules.*—Numerous (between 21 to 36) in the cavity of each carpel.

*Stigma.*—Bipartite.

*Anthers.*—Sagittate.

*Pistils.*—Typical number is about 3; number observed is 3.

*Pollen.*—Typical Amount Produced: Each anther produces a small amount of pollen. Observed Amount Produced: Small tufts of grains. Color: Near Yellow Group 4C to 4D.

*Fruit.*—Type: Loculicidal capsule. Observed amount: No capsules observed to date.

## I claim:

1. A new plant of *Yucca recurvifolia* of the variety substantially as shown and described.

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