



US00PP12952P2

(12) **United States Plant Patent**
Bunker

(10) **Patent No.:** **US PP12,952 P2**

(45) **Date of Patent:** **Sep. 10, 2002**

(54) **BRACTEANTHA PLANT NAMED**
'REDBRALEM'

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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 11 days.

(21) **Appl. No.:** **09/844,368**

(22) **Filed:** **Apr. 30, 2001**

(51) **Int. Cl.⁷** **A01H 5/00**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./359**

(58) **Field of Search** **Plt./359**

(56) **References Cited**
PUBLICATIONS

UPOV-ROM GTITM Computer Database, 2001/06, GTI
Jouve Retrieval Software, citation for 'Redbralem'.*

* cited by examiner

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Bracteantha* plant named
'Redbralem', characterized by its compact and bushy
growth habit; upright, outwardly spreading and rounded
plant form; freely-flowering habit; light yellow-colored
involucral bracts and orange-colored disc florets; and strong
peduncles that hold inflorescences above the foliage.

1 Drawing Sheet

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of *Bracteantha* plant, botanically known as *Bracteantha*
bracteata and referred to by the name 'Redbralem'.

The new *Bracteantha* is a product of a planned breeding
program conducted by the Inventor in Redland Bay, Queen-
sland, Australia. The objective of the program is to create
and develop *Bracteantha* cultivars with a compact growth
habit, numerous inflorescences with attractive involucral
bract coloration, and long-lasting inflorescences.

The new *Bracteantha* originated from a cross by the
Inventor of the *Bracteantha bracteata* cultivar Hasting's
Gold, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with an
unidentified proprietary selection of *Bracteantha bracteata*
as the male, or pollen, parent. The new *Bracteantha* was
discovered and selected by the Inventor as a plant within the
progeny of the stated cross in a controlled environment in
Redland Bay, Queensland, Australia in 1997. The selection
of the new *Bracteantha* was based on its light yellow-colored
involucral bracts and compact growth habit.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Bracteantha* by terminal
cuttings taken in a controlled environment in Redland Bay,
Queensland, Australia, has shown that the unique features of
this new *Bracteantha* are stable and reproduced true to type
in successive generations.

The new *Bracteantha* has not been observed under all
possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary
somewhat with variations in environment such as tempera-
ture, daylength, light intensity, photoperiod, and water and
nutritional status without, however, any variance in geno-
type.

The following characteristics have been repeatedly
observed and are determined to be basic characteristics of
'Redbralem' and distinguish the new *Bracteantha* as a new
and distinct cultivar:

1. Compact and bushy growth habit.
2. Upright, outwardly spreading and rounded plant form.
3. Freely-flowering habit.

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4. Light yellow-colored involucral bracts and orange-
colored disc florets.

5. Strong peduncles that hold inflorescences above the
foliage.

5 Plants of the new *Bracteantha* differ from plants of the
male selection primarily in plant growth habit.

Plants of the new *Bracteantha* can be compared to plants
of the female parent, the cultivar Hasting's Gold. In side-
by-side comparisons conducted by the Inventor in Redland
Bay, Queensland, Australia, plants of the new *Bracteantha*
differed from plants of the cultivar Hasting's Gold in the
following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Bracteantha* are more freely flowering
than plants of the cultivar Hasting's Gold.

2. Plants of the new *Bracteantha* have shorter peduncles
than plants of the cultivar Hasting's Gold.

3. Inflorescences of the new *Bracteantha* have light yel-
low-colored involucral bracts whereas inflorescences of the
cultivar Hasting's Gold have dark yellow-colored involucral
bracts.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

25 The accompanying colored photographs illustrate the
overall appearance of the new cultivar, showing the colors as
true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored repro-
ductions of this type. Colors in the photographs may differ
slightly from the color values cited in the detailed botanical
description which accurately describe the colors of the new
Bracteantha.

The photograph at the top of the sheet comprises a side
perspective view of a typical plant of 'Redbralem' grown in
a 15-cm container for about 8 weeks.

35 The photograph at the bottom of the sheet comprises a
close-up view of typical inflorescences of 'Redbralem'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

40 The following observations, measurements and values
describe plants grown in Redland Bay, Queensland,

Australia, under outdoor conditions with day temperatures ranging from 20 to 30° C. and night temperatures ranging from 10 to 15° C. Rooted liners of the new *Bracteantha* were planted in 15-cm containers and grown for about 8 weeks. Color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 1995 edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Botanical classification: *Bracteantha bracteata* cultivar Redbralem.

Parentage:

Female or seed parent.—*Bracteantha bracteata* cultivar Hasting's Gold, not patented.

Male or pollen parent.—Unidentified proprietary selection of *Bracteantha bracteata*, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—By cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—Summer: About 7 days at 30° C. Winter: About 14 days at 20° C.

Time to produce a rooted cutting.—Summer: About 21 days at 30° C. Winter: About 28 days at 20° C.

Root description.—Fine to fibrous; freely-branching.

Plant description:

General appearance.—Compact and bushy growth habit; upright, outwardly spreading and rounded plant form with dense foliage and inflorescences held above the foliage on short peduncles. Very freely branching, about 35 lateral branches per plant. Appropriate for 15-cm containers.

Crop time.—Rapid growth rate; to produce a finished 15-cm containerized plant from rooted cuttings, about 8 weeks are required.

Plant height.—About 15.5 cm.

Plant width.—About 21.2 cm.

Lateral branch description.—Length: About 7 cm. Width: About 4.2 mm. Internode length: About 1.15 cm. Texture: Moderately pubescent. Color: 147D.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Alternate, single, sessile. Quantity of leaves per lateral branch: About 11. Length: About 6.37 cm. Width: About: 1.48 cm. Shape: Linear elliptic. Margin: Entire. Apex: Acute. Texture, both surfaces: Leathery; smooth, glabrous. Venation pattern: Narrowly arcuate to reticulate. Color: Young and fully expanded leaves, upper surface: 137B; venation, 137B. Young and fully expanded leaves, lower surface: 137C, venation, 147C.

Flowering description:

Inflorescence form.—Daisy-type composite inflorescence form. Inflorescences arranged acropetally on a capitulum. Inflorescences rounded.

Inflorescence longevity.—Inflorescences last on the plant for about 21 days. Inflorescences persistent.

Natural flowering season.—Natural flowering season is year-round in Redland Bay, Queensland, Australia; flowering continuous.

Quantity of inflorescences.—One terminal inflorescence per lateral branch, about 35 inflorescences per plant.

Inflorescence aspect.—Mostly flat.

Inflorescence diameter.—About 5.38 cm.

Inflorescence depth (height).—About 1.69 cm.

Disc diameter.—About 1.64 cm.

Fragrance.—Strong; sweet.

Involucral bracts.—Quantity per inflorescence: About 153 in multiple whorls. Length: About 1.79 cm. Width: About 6.4 mm. Shape: Ligulate, concave. Apex: Acute. Base: Truncate. Margin: Entire. Texture, both surfaces: Smooth, papery, hard, satiny. Aspect: Mostly flat and perpendicular to the peduncle; apices of bracts on outer whorls slightly cupped. Color: When opening and fully opened, upper surface: 2B. When opening and fully opened, lower surface: 2C.

Disc florets.—Three inconspicuous whorls of female filiform florets surround the perimeter of the disc, remainder of disc covered with bisexual disc florets. Quantity per inflorescence: About 925. Shape: Tubular with five lobes. Length: About 8.7 mm. Width: About 0.7 mm. Color: Immature: 23B. Mature: 23A.

Peduncle.—Length: About 7.7 cm. Diameter: About 2.3 mm. Aspect: Erect. Strength: Strong. Texture: Moderately pubescent. Color: 147D.

Inflorescence bud.—Length: About 1.77 cm. Diameter: About 3.55 cm. Shape: Broadly ovoid, rounded. Color: 11C.

Androecium.—Present only on disc florets. Stamen quantity/arrangement: Fused anther tube with 5 long thin linear anthers surrounding the style. Anther color: 23A. Amount of pollen: Abundant. Pollen color: Yellow.

Gynoecium.—Present on both filiform and disc florets. Pistil number: One per floret. Style color: 23A. Stigma shape: Bi-parted. Stigma color: 23A.

Seed.—Length: About 2.6 mm. Diameter: About 0.8 mm. Color: 165A.

Disease/pest resistance: Plants of the new *Bracteantha* have not been observed to be resistant to pathogens or pests common to *Bracteantha*.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Bracteantha* plant named 'Redbralem', as illustrated and described.

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