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(54) **LAVANDULA PLANT NAMED ‘WALVERA’**

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(56) **References Cited**

**PUBLICATIONS**

UPOV-ROM GTITM Computer Database, 2001/04 GTI  
Jouve Retrieval Software, citation for ‘Walvera’.\*

\* cited by examiner

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new cultivar of *Lavandula angustifolia* plant named  
‘Walvera’ that is characterized by variegated foliage with  
gray-green centers and cream-white margins, a mounded,  
semi-open habit, and compact violet-blue flower spikes. In  
combination, these traits set it apart from all other existing  
varieties of Lavandula.

**3 Drawing Sheets**

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**BOTANICAL CLASSIFICATION**

*Lavandula angustifolia*.

**VARIETY DENOMINATION**

‘Walvera’.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar  
of *Lavandula angustifolia* and hereinafter referred to by the  
cultivar name ‘Walvera’. The new cultivar is a naturally  
occurring branch sport of *Lavandula angustifolia* ‘Vera’  
(unpatented) and was discovered jointly by the inventors in  
a cultivated area of West Sussex, United Kingdom in 1993.

The new lavender plant ‘Walvera’ is distinct and unique  
due to its mounding, semi-open habit, gray-green leaves  
with cream-white marginal variegation, and violet-blue  
flowers. The closest comparison is the parent plant *Lavan-*  
*dula angustifolia* ‘Vera’ (unpatented). ‘Walvera’ is distin-

guishable from the parent plant, and all other existing  
varieties, by its variegated foliage.  
The new invention was first asexually propagated by  
cuttings in West Sussex, United Kingdom by the inventors  
in 1995. Since that time subsequent generations have been  
determined fixed and stable.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

The new lavender ‘Walvera’ is distinguished from all  
other known varieties of Lavandula, by the following char-  
acteristics:

1. Leaves with gray-green centers and cream-white var-  
iegated margins.
2. A mounded, semi-open habit.
3. Short, compact flower spikes of violet-blue flowers.

These unique traits set ‘Walvera’ apart from all other  
existing varieties.

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**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

The accompanying color photographs illustrate the dis-  
tinguishing characteristics of the new cultivar ‘Walvera’.

5 Sheet 1 shows the entire plant from a side view  
perspective, illustrating the plant habit.

Sheet 2 illustrates the flowers on ‘Walvera’.

Photo 3 is a comparative photo illustrating the variegated  
foliage of ‘Walvera’ on the left, and the foliage of the parent  
plant *Lavandula angustifolia* ‘Vera’ (unpatented) on the  
right. All photographs are taken using conventional photo-  
graphic techniques and although foliage colors may appear  
different from actual colors due to light reflectance, they are  
as accurate as possible by conventional photography.

**BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANT**

The following is a detailed description of the *Lavandula*  
*angustifolia* cultivar named ‘Walvera’. Data was collected in  
Arroyo Grande, Calif. from 12 month old plants grown in  
one-gallon containers. Phenotypic differences may be  
observed with variations in environmental, climatic, and  
cultural conditions, without however, any difference in  
genotype. Color determinations are in accordance with The  
1995 Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart except where  
general color terms of ordinary dictionary significance are  
used. The growing requirements are similar to the species  
and no disease problems have been observed.

30 Botanical classification: *Lavandula angustifolia* ‘Walvera’.

Common name: Lavender.

Parentage: A naturally occurring branch sport of *Lavandula*  
*angustifolia* ‘Vera’.

Type: Aromatic perennial shrub.

35 Use: Ornamental, hedge or back of border plant.

Growth rate: 4 to 10 cm per month.

Habit: Mounded and semi-open with erect, ascending flower  
spikes.

Height: 1 m in height.

Spread: 0.6 m in width.  
 Hardiness: Zone 5 to zone 10.  
 Propagation method: Cuttings.  
 Root system: Fibrous.  
 Soil: Plant in well-drained soil.  
 Light levels: Plant in full sun.  
 Special needs: None observed.  
 Time to initiate roots: 21 to 36 days from an unrooted cutting.  
 Time to develop in a one-gallon container: 6 months from a rooted cutting.  
 Branching habit: Erect, upright and semi-open.  
 Seasonal interest: Violet-blue flowers in July and August.  
 Stem:  
   *Shape*.—Cylindrical.  
   *Surface*.—Puberulent.  
   *Color*.—197A,B.  
   *Size*.—3–5 mm in diameter, 5–20 cm in length.  
 Foliage:  
   *Arrangement*.—Erect stems of basal leaves.  
   *Leaf division*.—Simple.  
   *Apices*.—Acute.  
   *Base*.—Attenuate.  
   *Margins*.—Entire and mostly revolute.  
   *Leaf shape*.—Linear.  
   *Color of mature leaves (upper and low surfaces)*.—Center 190A to 191A and margins 11C.  
   *Color of young leaves (lower surfaces)*.—Center 189B and margins 11D.  
   *Color of young leaves (upper surfaces)*.—189D.  
   *Upper and lower surfaces*.—Puberulent.  
   *Venation*.—Prominent mid-vein depressed above and protruding below.

*Internodes*.—0.50 to 1.50 cm in length.  
*Foliar fragrance*.—Subtle resinous scent of lavender oil.  
*Petiole*.—Sessile.  
*Length*.—Approximately 3–4 cm in length.  
*Width*.—0.50 cm in width.  
 Flower:  
   *Type of inflorescent*.—Terminal spike.  
   *Size of inflorescence*.—Short and compact 1–2 cm in width by 2.5–4 cm in length.  
   *Shape of inflorescence*.—Broad-conical.  
   *Peduncles*.—13–23 cm in height and 1 mm in width.  
     Eramous with an occasional base whorl 1–2 cm below the main spike.  
   *Peduncle color*.—191A.  
   *Flower shape*.—Tubular.  
   *Corolla*.—Two-lipped with upper lip 2-lobed and lower lip 3-lobed.  
   *Corolla color*.—92A to 93C.  
   *Color of flower opening*.—91A.  
   *Calyx color*.—94B.  
   *Calyx surface*.—Pubescent.  
   *Bracteoles*.—Narrow, branched and 3 mm in length.  
   *Bud color*.—91B.  
   *Fragrance*.—Sweet.  
   *Blooming period*.—July and August.  
 Reproductive organs: Have not been observed.  
 Seed production: Not observed.  
 We claim:  
 1. A new and distinct variety of *Lavandula angustifolia* plant named ‘Walvera’ as described and illustrated.

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