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(12) **United States Plant Patent**
van Heesbeen

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(54) **EUONYMUS PLANT NAMED ‘HEESPIERROLINO’**

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(NL)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
patent is extended or adjusted under 35
U.S.C. 154(b) by 102 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **09/838,276**

(22) Filed: **Apr. 20, 2001**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**
US 2001/0047528 P1 Nov. 29, 2001

(30) **Foreign Application Priority Data**
Apr. 20, 2000 (EP) 2000/0663

(51) **Int. Cl.⁷** **A01H 5/00**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./246; Plt./226**

(58) **Field of Search** **Plt./246, 226**

(56) **References Cited**
PUBLICATIONS

UPOV ROM GTITM Computer Database, GTI JOUVE
retrieval software 2002/02 citation(s) for ‘Heespierrolino’
and Hees01.*

* cited by examiner

Primary Examiner—Bruce R. Campell
Assistant Examiner—W C Haas
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Foley & Lardner

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct *Euonymus japonicus* plant named
‘Heespierrolino’ characterized by having green, variegated,
and white leaves, stems, and branches; white young leaves
and sprigs; year round white sprig production; a broad and
erect growth habit of up to 30 cm long; a good winter
hardiness; and no flowers. ‘Heespierrolino’ is an evergreen,
has been found stable and is reproduced by cuttings.
Branches of ‘Heespierrolino’ remain white for a long period
and eventually turn green from the base but the youngest
part as well as youngest leaves remain white.

2 Drawing Sheets

**LATIN NAME OF THE GENUS AND SPECIES
OF THE PLANT CLAIMED**

Euonymus japonicus.

VARIETY DENOMINATION

Heespierrolino; c.v. Pierrolino.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of *Euonymus* plant, hereinafter referred to by the cultivar
name ‘Heespierrolino’. ‘Heespierrolino’ is a spontaneous
mutant of an unnamed *Euonymus japonicus* cultivar selected
by or under the supervision of the inventor, Adrianus L. P.
van Heesbeen, in a cultivated environment in Haarsteeg, The
Netherlands.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by stem cutting
was first performed at the end of 1997 in Haarsteeg, The
Netherlands and has demonstrated that the combination of
characteristics as herein disclosed for the new cultivar are
firmly fixed and retained through successive generations of
asexual reproduction.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and
are determined to be basic characteristics of ‘Heespierrolino’
which in combination distinguish this *Euonymus japonicus*
as a new and distinct cultivar:

1. White coloration of young leaves and young sprigs;
2. Broad and erect growth habit; and
3. White sprig production year round when pinched.

‘Heespierrolino’ has not been observed under all possible
environmental conditions. The phenotype of the new culti-
var may vary significantly with variations in environment
such as temperature, light intensity, and day length without
any change in the genotype of the plant. The following
observations, measurements and values describe the new
cultivar as grown in Haarsteeg, The Netherlands, under
conditions which closely approximate those generally used
in commercial practice.

Of the many commercial cultivars known to the present
inventor, the most similar in comparison to ‘Hees01’ is
cultivar *Euonymus fortunei* ‘Harlequin’. ‘Heespierrolino’
produces young sprigs almost year round. ‘Harlequin’ pro-
duces white sprigs only in April, May, June, and July.

‘Heespierrolino’ grows more erect and less broad than
‘Harlequin’ while the rate of growth of ‘Harlequin’ is
slightly slower. The young leaves of ‘Heespierrolino’ are
whiter and much less speckled than the young leaves of
‘Harlequin’.

‘Heespierrolino’ produces more, though shorter branches
than ‘Harlequin’. The branches of ‘Heespierrolino’ stay
white for a long time, sometimes up to the roots with small
green stripes along the length stripes in the middle to the
bottom. The branches of ‘Harlequin’ are green with green/
white stripes are more green/white than white although
vertically they still have green stripes.

The leaf shape of ‘Heespierrolino’ is obovate to elliptic
whereas ‘Harlequin’ has ovate shaped leaves. Leaf base of
‘Heespierrolino’ is acute, the leaf base of ‘Harlequin’ is
obtuse. The leaf length of ‘Heespierrolino’ is up to 5 cm, and
width up to 2.5 cm, while the leaf length of ‘Harlequin’ is up
to 3 cm and width up to 2 cm. The petiole length of
‘Heespierrolino’ at 5–7 mm is longer than the petiole length
of ‘Harlequin’ at 3–5 mm.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

The accompanying photographic illustrations show a plant of *Euonymus* 'Heespierrolino', with colors being as true as possible with illustrations of this type.

The first drawing shows a full view of 'Heespierrolino'.

The second drawing shows a comparison between 'Heespierrolino' and 'Harlequin'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The following observations, measurements and values describe the new cultivar as grown in Haarsteeg, The Netherlands, under conditions which closely approximate those generally used in commercial practice. The plants are grown in a normal glasshouse. Average day and night floor temperatures are 18 degrees Celsius. At this temperature, it takes 1 month for a cutting to initiate roots (throughout the year), and 3 months to produce a rooted cutting or liner. Roots are freely branching and rate of growth is approximately 15 cm a year. Fertilizers (no special kind) are added regularly. The plants need a normal amount of water and need to be grown in fluffy soil. As with most *Euonymus* varieties, 'Heespierrolino' should not be kept in soil that is very wet for too long.

Overall garden performance and weather tolerance is excellent. 'Heespierrolino' has been grown from temperatures of minus 15 degrees Celsius to 45 degrees Celsius. No damage or any symptoms of stress were observed. Resistance, tolerance or susceptibility to stresses, pathogens, and pests is good. Pesticides are used against lice and spider mites. Color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart (R.H.S.), except where general colors of ordinary significance are used. Color values were taken under daylight conditions at approximately noon in Rijswijk, The Netherlands.

Of the *Euonymus japonicus* plants in the breeder's nursery in The Netherlands, a mutant was selected in 1997, primarily for its color, and designated 'Heespierrolino'. Its potential was further evaluated when propagated by vegetative cuttings. In the following years, this variety was further evaluated on its characteristics and stability. Four generations have been propagated since.

Propagation: Stem cutting.

Plant:

Form.—Upright, bushy.

Growth habit.—Two year old plant: Broad and erect, 25 cm high and 15 cm wide. Mature plant: Broad and erect, 25–30 cm in The Netherlands.

Winter hardiness.—Plants have been grown in temperatures as low as minus 15 degrees Celsius without observing any damage or other changes.

Stems.—Texture: Glabrous, no pubescence. Color: Base is green RHS 145C, or 146B or a combination of both and sometimes combined with white RHS 155C and/or brown RHS 166B. Going upwards, the stem gets more and more white lines and is eventually pure white. Branches of 'Heespierrolino' stay white for a long time, sometimes up to the node with small green stripes along the length stripes in the middle to the bottom (similar to the main stem).

Internodes.—Length up to 30 mm.

Roots.—Freely branching, growth rate approximately 15 cm a year.

Foliage:

Type.—Single, opposite, and symmetrical arrangement, no pubescence.

Shape.—Obovate to elliptic, tip is acute, base is acute.

Color.—Center color of leaf: Green RHS 139A, or variegated, or white RHS 155D. Upper side: Mature leaf is dark green RHS 139A with light green to white spots; young leaf is white RHS 155D. Under-side: Mature leaf is green RHS 137C, with gray/green spots RHS 190C; young leaf is white RHS 155D. Edges of leaf: Green, white, or variegated (same colors as underside).

Size of leaf.—Up to 5 cm. Width: Up to 2.5 cm. Length: Up to 5 cm.

Petioles.—Length is up to 5–7 mm; diameter is up to 1 mm; mature leaf petiole is green RHS 139C but may have white/green on underside; young leaf petiole color is white RHS 155D.

Orientation.—Opposite.

Leaf texture.—Smooth, glossy and leathery.

Veining.—Pinnate.

Leaf margins.—Crenate, serrate.

OTHER OBSERVATIONS

Flowers: 'Heespierrolino' is a non-flowering evergreen.

Winter hardiness: 'Heespierrolino' has been grown from temperatures of minus 15 degrees Celsius to 45 degrees Celsius with no damage or symptoms of stress observed.

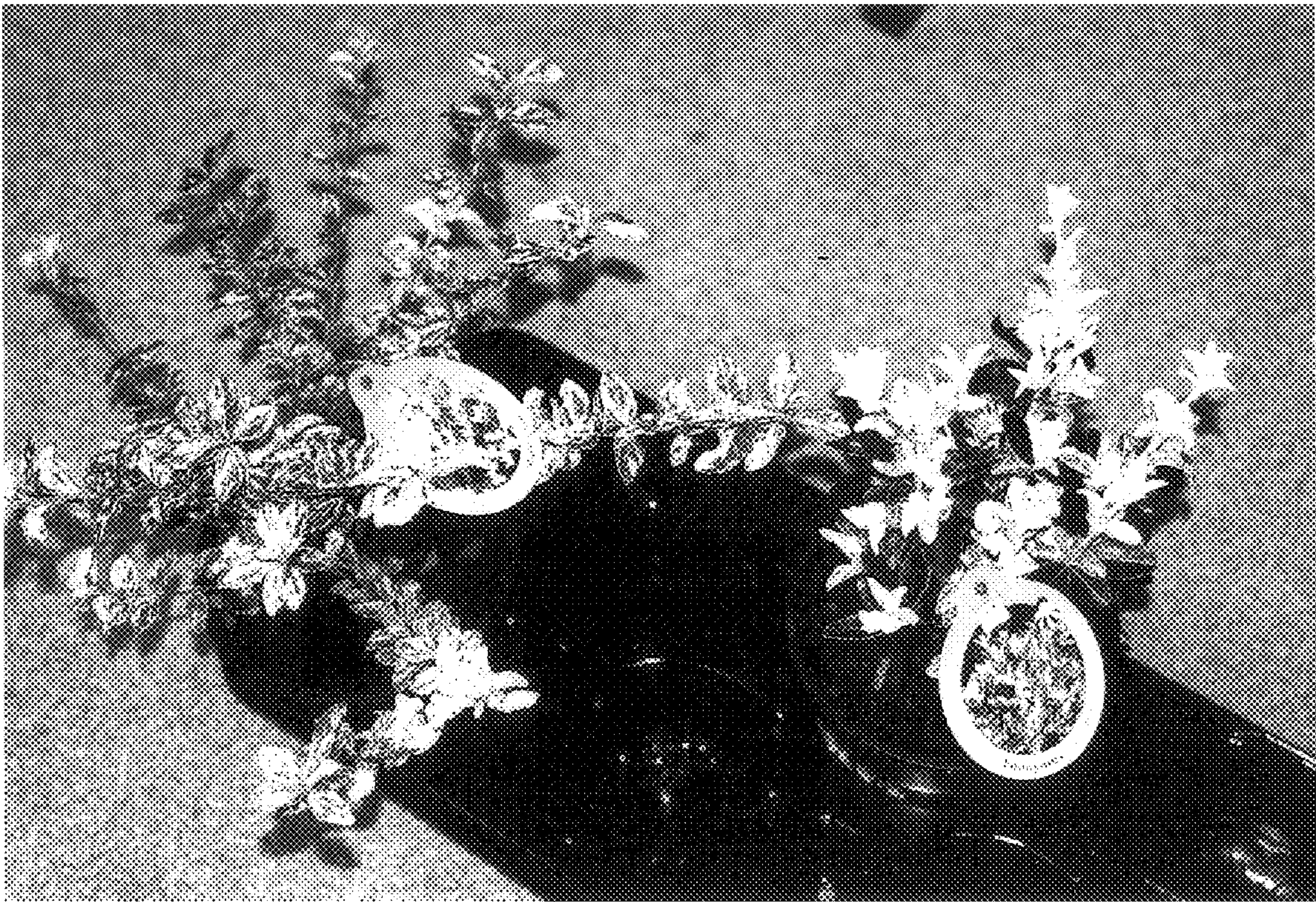
Disease/pest resistance/susceptibility: Resistance, tolerance, and/or susceptibility to stresses, pathogens, and pests is good.

I claim:

1. A new and distinct *Euonymus* plant named 'Heespierrolino', substantially as illustrated and described herein.

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT NO. : PP 13,852 P3
DATED : May 27, 2003
INVENTOR(S) : Adrianus L.P. Van Heesbeen

Page 1 of 1

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Title page,

Item [75], please correct the name of the Inventor to read:

-- **Adrianus L.P. van Heesbeen** --

Signed and Sealed this

Fourth Day of November, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James E. Rogan', with a long horizontal stroke underneath.

JAMES E. ROGAN
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office