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

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(54) **SALVIA PLANT NAMED ‘RFD-S019’**

(50) Latin Name: *Salvia greggii*
Varietal Denomination: **RFD-S019**

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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 19 days.

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(58) **Field of Search** **Plt./226, 263**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new cultivar of *Salvia* plant named ‘RFD-S019’ that is distinguished by its rich, clear true pink color and white throat markings. In combination these traits set ‘RFD-S019’ apart from all other existing varieties of *Salvia* known to the inventor.

2 Drawing Sheets

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Genus: *Salvia*.
Species: *greggii*.
Denomination: RFD-S019.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new variety of *Salvia greggii* Gray, hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name ‘RFD-S019’. ‘RFD-S019’ originated as a chance seedling from a potted plant found in the inventor’s collection in a cultivated area of Greensboro, N.C., in July 1995. RFD-S019 was selected because the flowers exhibit a rich, clear true pink color with a white throat marking which distinguishes RFD-S019 from other *S. greggii* Gray plants known to the inventor. It was taken from the pot of a *Salvia greggii* Gray variety and maintained for asexual propagation purposes. The inventor presumes that ‘RFD-S019’ is a seedling of the adjacent plant, *S. greggii* Gray.

The inventor has been studying, collecting, and disseminating *Salvia* species for twenty-seven years. During this period, he has traded *Salvia* species and cultivars with many botanical gardens and nurseries.

One of the inventor’s goals has been to sort out confusion on the identities of various forms of *Salvias* being marketed. This has necessitated developing contacts with various herbaria and taxonomic experts to assist with the proper identification of *Salvia* forms. The developed information has been supplied at times to *Salvia* collectors and to nurseries and botanic gardens where visits have been made to check on the correct identification of various *Salvias*.

Collected results of the identification of *Salvias*, along with horticultural information like zone hardiness, size, and bloom period and flower color have been reported in his publication, the *Salvia* Placard Handbook. Recently, the World of *Salvia* web site was created and is being maintained for the purpose of reporting this information about *Salvias* to the public.

The inventor has bred and introduced many successful commercial introductions, including *Salvia greggii* Gray hybrids ‘Cherry Chief’ (unpatented), ‘Cherry Queen’ (unpatented), ‘Maraschino’ (unpatented), and ‘Raspberry Royale’ (unpatented).

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‘RFD-S019’ was selected from other plants because its flowers had a rich, clear true pink color with a white throat marking.

‘RFD-S019’ was first asexually propagated in 1995 at Greensboro, N.C., USA using vegetative cuttings. It has been found to remain fixed, stable and uniform through several generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and represent the distinguishing characteristics of ‘RFD-S019’. In combination these traits set the new cultivar apart from all others existing varieties of *Salvia* known to the inventor. ‘RFD-S019’ has not been tested under all possible conditions and phenotypic differences may be observed with variations in environment, climatic, and cultural conditions, however, without any variance in genotype.

- 1. *Salvia* ‘RFD-S019’ exhibits a rich, clear true pink color.
- 2. *Salvia* ‘RFD-S019’ exhibits white throat markings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The accompanying drawings illustrate the distinguishing traits of the new *Salvia* cultivar ‘RFD-S019’. The photograph was taken in summer 2002 of a one year-old plant, in a 5-gallon container that was grown in a greenhouse in a cultivated area of Arroyo Grande, Calif., USA. The drawing on sheet 1 illustrates the entire plant. Sheet 2 is a close-up view of the flower. The drawings were made using conventional photographic techniques. Although 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 *Salvia* plant named ‘RFD-S019’. Data was collected in April 2001 from one year-old plants grown in one gallon containers in full sun at Greensboro, N.C., USA. Phenotypic differences may be observed with variation in environmental, climatic, and cultural conditions. The color determinations are in accordance with the 1986 Edition of The Royal Horticulture Society Colour Chart except where general color terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used. The growing requirements are similar to other *Salvia* plants.

Botanical classification: Salvia 'RFD-S019'.
 Common name: Salvia.
 Use: Ornamental shrub.
 Form: Bush.
 Height: 1 meter.
 Width: 0.7 meter.
 Growth habit: Perennial.
 Blooming season: From one month after breaking spring dormancy to first frost.
 Lastingness of blooms: 3 to 4 days.
 Disease and pests: Drought tolerant; deer and rabbit resistant; susceptible to sucking insects when stressed; generally outgrows most bacterial and viral infections.

Stem:

Color.—144A.
Shape.—Rounded Square.
Diameter.—0.8–1.3 millimeters.
Texture.—Smooth to minutely farinaceous.

Leaf:

Arrangement.—Opposite.
Shape.—Elliptic to oblong.
Length.—1.9–2.8 centimeters.
Width.—1.0–1.8 centimeters.
Margin.—Shallowly crenulate, entire towards base.
Thickness.—Slightly fleshy.
Venation.—Veins slightly sulcate towards base.
Color.—Adaxial: 137A to 137C. Abaxial: 137A to 137C.
Apex.—Shape: Obtusely rounded or emarginate. Color: RHS 137A to 137C.
Base.—Shape: Acute to acuminate, sometimes oblique. Color: 137A to 137C.
Petiole.—Shape: Mostly carinate; slightly alate towards leaf base. Length: 9–15 millimeters. Width: 0.8–1.4 millimeters. Color: Between 145A and 145B.
Peduncle.—Length: 3.0–3.4 millimeters. Width: 0.4–0.8 millimeters. Color: Between 145A and 145B. Texture: Glandular, puberulent.
Flower.—Inflorescence: Type: Terminal raceme. Length: 9 centimeters. Diameter: 3.5 to 4.0 centimeters.
Number.—From 10 to 15 decussate pairs.

Shape.—Tubular, two-lipped.

Bud.—Length: 12 millimeters. Width: 3.5 millimeters. Color: Tip: 166A. Base: 154C. Shape: Tapered cylinder. Texture: Ribbed with short hairs.

Pedice.—Length: 3.0–3.4 millimeters. Width: 0.4–0.8 millimeters. Pubescence: Glandular, puberulent. Color: Between 145A and 145B.

Calyx.—Shape: Broadly campanulate, flared toward the apex. Rib number: 10, longitudinal. Length: 8.3 millimeters. Width: 5.2 millimeters. Pubescence: Glandular, puberulent. Color: 46B. Lobe: Upper: Number: 1. Shape: Acute. Length: 3.4 millimeters. Width: 2.3 millimeters. Lower: Number: 2. Shape: Acute. Length: 2.6 millimeters. Width: 2.5 millimeters.

Corolla.—Shape: Tubular proximally to two-lipped distally. Length: 2.65 centimeters. Diameter: 15.8 millimeters. Tube: Color: 66C. Length: 17.8 millimeters. Width (measured directly under magnifying lens): 3.0 millimeters. Depth: 6.5 millimeters. Lip: number: 2. Upper: Number: 1. Shape: Hood-like. Length: 6.8 millimeters. Color: 66D. Lower: Number: 2 suborbicular. Shape: Banner-like, extended downward. Outline: Obovate. Length: 15.1 millimeters. Diameter at widest point: 15.8 millimeters. Depth: 9.1 millimeters. Color: 66D, with white coloration towards throat: 13D.

Reproductive organs:

Pistil.—Stigma color: 49D. Style: Length: 2.3 centimeters. Color: 52C. Pubescence: Present toward tip. Attachment site: To a four-lobed ovary between the lobes. Ovary Color: 145B.

Stamen.—Number: 2. Shape: Seesaw-like. Connective length: 13 millimeters. Filament length: 2.8 millimeters. Anther: Color: 158D. Attachment site: Outer end of the connective. Pollen Color: 13A. Staminodes: Present. Invagination: Absent. Fertility: 2–4 glossy brown-black oblong-elliptic nutlets. Nutlet: Length: 3.0 millimeters. Width: 2.0 millimeters. Color: 200A. Shape: Oblong.

I claim:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of Salvia plant named 'RFD-S019' as described and illustrated.

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