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(12) United States Plant Patent Beineke

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BLACK WALNUT TREE NAMED 'BEINEKE

Latin Name: Juglans nigra L. (50) Varietal Denomination: Beineke 1

Walter Beineke, West Lafayette, IN Inventor:

(US)

Assignee: American Forestry Technologies, Inc.,

Westpoint, IN (US)

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(52)	U.S. Cl	Plt./154
(58)	Field of Search	Plt./154

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Primary Examiner—Kent Bell

(74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Barnes & Thornburg; Alice O. Martin

ABSTRACT (57)

A new and distinct cultivar of black walnut tree (Juglans nigra L.) which is a distinctly characterized by extremely rapid growth rate, very strong central stem tendency, and excellent straightness, thereby producing excellent timber qualities. The new variety has poor nut bearing qualities. Nut crops have been non-existent. This new variety of black walnut tree was discovered by the applicant near West Lafayette, Ind. in a black walnut planting of seedling progeny from a previously selected tree for outstanding timber producing potential. This selection has been designated as BW412, a seedling progeny of patented Tippecanoe-1 (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 4,954) in records maintained by the applicant on the performance of the selection and grafts made from the selection and will be known henceforth as 'Beineke 1.'

2 Drawing Sheets

Latin name of the genus and species: Juglans nigra L.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This new variety of black walnut tree was discovered by the applicant near West Lafayette, Ind. in a black walnut planting of seedling progeny from previously selected trees for outstanding timber producing potential. This selection has been designated as BW412, a seedling progeny of ¹⁰ patented Tippecanoe-1 (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 4,954) in records maintained by the applicant on the performance of the selection and grafts made from the selection and will be unknown, as is generally the case with black walnut trees. (Beineke, 1989).

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

A new and distinct cultivar of black walnut tree (Juglans nigra L.) is distinctly characterized by extremely rapid growth rate, very strong central stem tendency, and excellent straightness, thereby producing excellent timber qualities, the trait of commercial interest. Beineke 1 was 18 years old when described at a location near West Lafayette, Ind.

After the original clone was selected, and assigned an identity number of BW412 the aforesaid tree was reproduced by collecting scions from it and grafting these onto common black walnut rootstocks at American Forestry known henceforth as 'Beineke 1.' The male parent is 15 Technologies, Inc., West Point, Ind. These asexual reproductions ran true to the originally discovered tree and to each other in all respects.

Color value used were from the Munsell Color Chart for Plant Tissues. However, color is too dependent on weather conditions and fertilization to be consistent or distinctive. For example, leaves can be made a deeper green by applying nitrogen. Walnut tree leaves turn yellow as the season progresses, especially if there is a lack of rainfall. As black walnut meats dry, they become darker. Simply being on the ground for a week causes the outer shell to darken. Bark color involves many shades of gray through brown and black.

Beineke 1 is hardy in USDA zones 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a photograph showing the timber form of 'Beineke 1.'

FIG. 2 is a photograph showing the leaves of 'Beineke 1.'

BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANT

The botanical details of this new and distinct variety of walnut tree are as follows:

Tree:

Size.—Large, 48 ft. at 18 years, crown diameter 18 ft. Vigor.—Vigorous.

Growth rate.—Very rapid, faster than Purdue 1 (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 4,543) and Tippecanoe 1 (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 4,954) — 7% larger in diameter than the average of Purdue 1 and Tippecanoe 1 grafts respectively, planted the same year on the same land. Diameter growth rate (at 4½ feet above the ground) averages 0.582 inches per year, over 18 years 10.48 inches.

Form.—Excellent timber form as good as Purdue 1 (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 4,543) and Tippecanoe 1 (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 4,954) — 36% straighter than average of the entire planting. Stem form was obtained by subjectively rating the straightness of the main stem on a scale of 1 to 5 with 1 representing a perfectly straight stem; 2, slight crook or deviation of the central stem (no crooks); 3, about average straightness; 4, several severe crooks or a single fork; and 5, a very crooked, forked and/or leaning central stem. 'Beineke 1' averages 1. The trees of the present invention are grown in plantations, not open fields (not natural stands). In plantations, trees are upright and have no distinctive or characteristic crown shape because all branches are seeking to grow upwards.

Branches: Diameter depends on age and size of tree, varies from ½" to 12", bark color varies from grays to browns. Trunk:

Bark.—Dark brown to gray. Texture.—Interlacing ridges.

Leaves:

Compound leaves.—Size — Shorter than average; average length 15.1".

Leaflets.—Size — average; average length 3.9"; average width — 3.52"; average number of leaflets — 17.4; shape — lanceolate; acutely pointed, rounded base. Petioles — short. Thickness — thin; Texture — smooth; Margin — serrated. Color — Topside — dark green (2.5 G4/4 by the Munsell Color Chart for Plant Tissues); Underside — light green (5GY5/4 on the Munsell Color Chart for Plant Tissues).

Anthracnose resistance.—Average.

4

Flowering habit: No flowering habit. Nut—Nuts not produced.

GENETIC METHOD OF IDENTIFICATION

DNA "fingerprint" for identification of 'Beineke 1:'

DNA was isolated from the leaves of 'Beineke 1.' For purposes of DNA fingerprinting, nine highly polymorphic loci from a suite of microsatellites developed by Woeste et al. (2002) were chosen. Microsatellites sizes were checked against previously published standards and verified by a second independent analysis. The "fingerprint" is the collection of microsatellite allele sizes at each locus for 'Beineke 1.'

DNA was isolated from the leaves of 10 black walnut trees obtained from Walter Beineke using CTAB extraction buffer (50 mM TRIS-HCL, pH 8.0, 20 mM EDTA, pH 8.0, 0.7 M NaCl, 0.4 M LiCl, 2% SDS, 2% TAB, nd 1% PVP). After isolation the DNA from each tree was quantified and diluted with nanopure distilled water to a final concentration of 5 ng/ μ L. The samples were stored in 96-well plates at 20° C

For purposes of DNA fingerprinting, nine highly polymorphic loci from a suite of microsatellites developed by Woeste et al. (2002) were chosen. Amplification of each locus was performed with an MJ Research Tetrad Thermocycler (Waltham, Mass.) using 10 μ L reaction in 96-well plates. The PCR reaction mix contained 2 μ L of the aforementioned black walnut DNA, 5 μ L Sigma Taq ReadyMix (Sigma Aldrich, St. Louis, Mo.), 0.4 μ L of a 20 pmol mixture of forward and reverse fluorescence labeled primer, and 3 μ L PCR grade water supplied with the Sigma ReadyMix. PCR amplification was for 30 cycles of 94° C. for 20 sec, 55° C. for 30 sec, and 72° C. for 1 min. All primers were annealed at 55° C. The products were then held at 4° C. until aliquots could be loaded into 6% Long Ranger (polyacrylamide) denaturing gels (BMA, Rockland, Me.). For each individual $0.5 \mu L$ PCR product was added to $0.75 \mu L$ blue dextran and $0.25 \mu L$ of CXR 350 bp Ladder Standard (Promega, Fitchburg Center, Wis.) in a new 96-well 1 late. The samples were denatured for 2 min at 95° C. and loaded onto a CAL96 96-well laminated membrane comb (The Gel Company, San Francisco, Calif.). Electrophoresis was at 3,000 V, 60 mA, 200 Watts, 50° C. for 2 hours using an ABI 377 (Perkin Elmer) with 36 cm plates and 0.2 mm spacers. The resulting data was analyzed using ABI's GeneScan 3.1.2 and Genotype 2.5 (Perkin Elmer). Microsatellite sizes were checked against previously published standards and verified by a second independent analysis. The "fingerprint" is the collection of microsatellite allele sizes at each locus for each tree.

Locus	Forward	Reverse
WGA2	GACGACGAAGGTGTACGGAT (SEQ ID NO:1)	GTACGGCTCTCCTTGCAGTC (SEQ ID NO:10)
WGA6	CCATGAAACTTCATGCGTTG (SEQ ID NO:2)	CATCCCAAGCGAAGGTTG (SEQ ID NO:11)
WGA24	TCCCCCTGAAATCTTCTCCT (SEQ ID NO:3)	TTCTCGTGGTGCTTGTTGAG (SEQ ID NO:12)
WGA32	CTCGGTAAGCCACACCAATT (SEQ ID NO:4)	ACGGGCAGTGTATGCATGTA (SEQ ID NO:13)
WG33	TGGTCTGCGAAGACACTGTC (SEQ ID NO:5)	GGTTCGTCGTTTGTTGACCT (SEQ ID NO:14)

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Locus	Forward	Reverse
WGA86	ATGCCTCATCTCCATTCTGG (SEQ ID NO:6)	TGAGTGGCAATCACAAGGAA (SEQ ID NO:15)
WGA89	ACCCATCTTTCACGTGTGTG (SEQ ID NO:7)	TGCCTAATTAGCAATTTCCA (SEQ ID NO:16)
WGA90	CTTGTAATCGCCCTCTGCTC (SEQ ID NO:8)	TACCTGCAACCCGTTACACA (SEQ ID NO:17)
WGA97	GGAGAGGAAAGGAATCCAAA (SEQ ID NO:9)	TTGAACAAAAGGCCGTTTTC (SEQ ID NO:18)

The best interpretation of the current data indicates that the probability that any other black walnut tree would have the collection of microsatellite allele sizes listed is less that 1 in 10^{-17} .

Sizes (bp) of microsatellites at 9 loci used to fingerprint 'Beineke 1' (2 alleles at each locus)

We	θ A 2	We	θ Α6	WG	A24	WG	A32	WC	3A 90
150	150	142	164	236	238	181	183	152	158
		WGA86		WG	A 97	WG	A33	WC	∂ A 89
		222	230	153	183	234	234	215	215

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SEQUENCE LISTING

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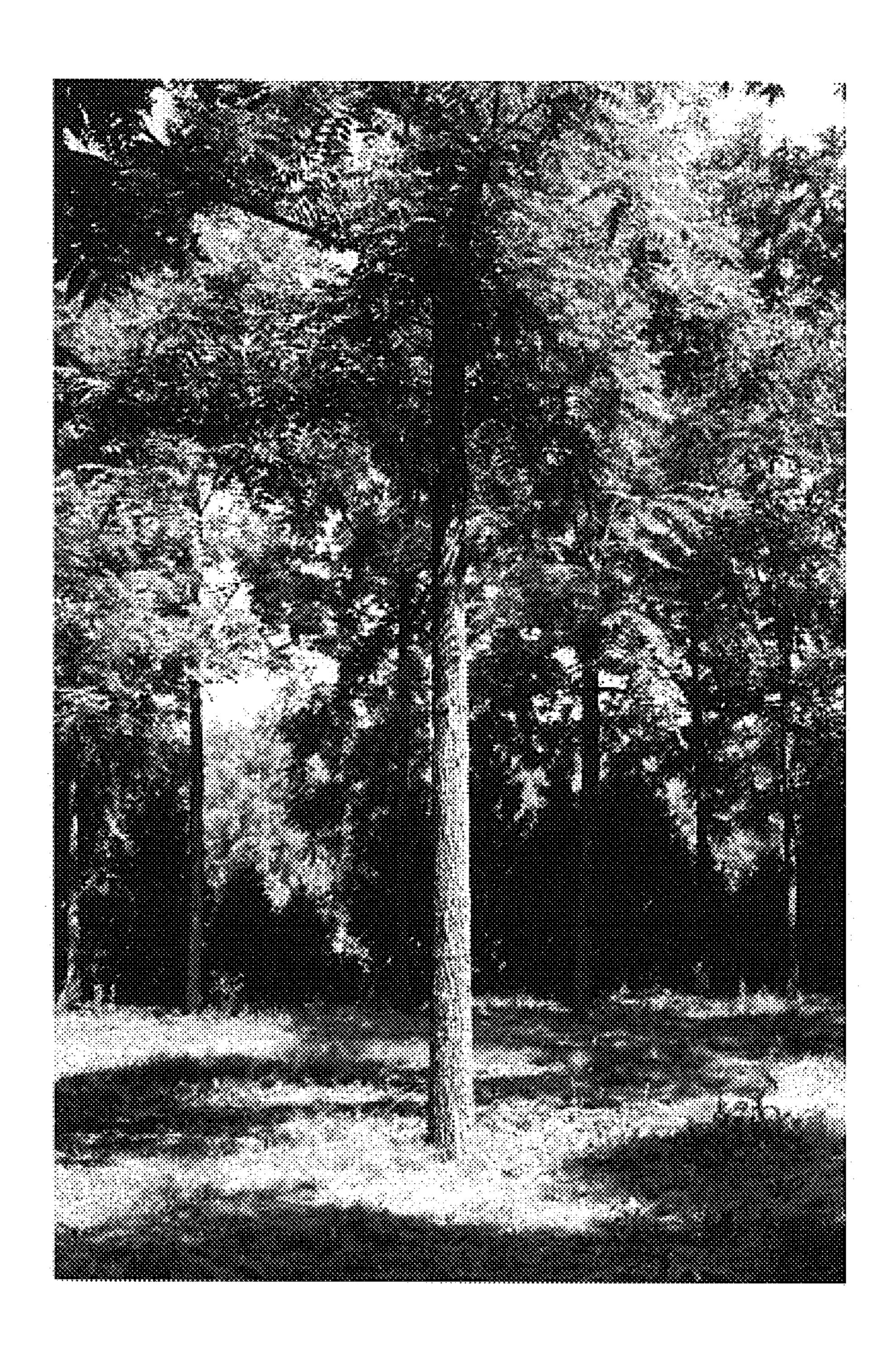
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I claim:

1. A new and distinct variety of black walnut tree named 'Beineke 1' substantially as illustrated and described, which has excellent timber quality, is fast growing, has strong

central stem tendency, no sweep, no crooks, and no nut production.

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