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(12) **United States Plant Patent**  
**Bourne**(10) **Patent No.:** US PP15,950 P3  
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- (54) **EUROPEAN PLUM NAMED '92-95-99'**
- (50) Latin Name: *Prunus domestica*  
Varietal Denomination: 92-95-99
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct variety of European plum (*Prunus domestica*) cv. '92-95-99' is described herein. The new variety ripens in late mid-season in the Delano, Calif. area with large, bright red fruit and firm flesh. Ripened fruit attains a very high level of sugar and holds in cold storage very well.

**3 Drawing Sheets**

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Genus and Species *Prunus domestica*.  
Variety denomination: '92-95-99'.

**BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF THE  
INVENTION**

The invention described here is a new variety of plum, *Prunus domestica* cv. '92-95-99'. The seedling originates from a planned cross in 1993 in Tulare County, Calif. The new variety is characterized by having large, bright red 10 elliptic fruits which ripen in mid-August in the Delano, Calif. area. The high quality fruit has firm texture, good storage characteristics, and is very sweet, making it suitable for the fresh market.

The emasculated seed parent was the variety 'Sugar' (unpatented) and the pollen parent was the variety 'President' (unpatented). Seed from the planned cross was harvested in the summer of 1993, stratified, then planted in the spring of 1994 in Kern County near the city of McFarland, Calif. The original tree was selected in 1996 and was then budded to nematode-resistant 'Myrobalan 29C' rootstock (unpatented) in a two tree plot (2 m×3 m spacing) near McFarland, Calif. In 1998, a forty tree plot was cleft grafted from wood of the two tree plot and the original tree using 15 'Myrobalan 29C' rootstock (unpatented) (3.7 m×3.7 m spacing) near Delano, Calif. Observations of trees from these propagations indicate that the characteristics are firmly fixed and all trees reproduced true to type in successive generations of asexual reproduction.

**COMPARISON WITH PARENTAL CULTIVAR**

The new variety is intermediate in its characteristics between its two parents. It ripens about one week later than 'Sugar' (unpatented) and two weeks before 'President' (unpatented) in the Delano area. The very vigorous trees of this new variety are well adapted to the hot climate of the southern Central Valley of California.

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**DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES**

The accompanying photographs illustrate the following:  
FIG. 1 shows a close-up view of fruit and leaves of the variety.

FIG. 2 shows the harvested fruit and branch from the tree.  
FIG. 3 shows fruit and leaves of the variety on a branch.

**DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION OF  
THE INVENTION**

The following description of European plum '92-95-99' contains references to color names taken from the Munsell Color Chart for Plant Tissues, published by Munsell Color, New Windsor, N.Y. Descriptors conform to the International Board for Plant Genetic Resources, Commission of European Communities: Committee on Disease Resistance Breeding and Use of Genebanks, 1984. The characteristics listed below were obtained from the 10 year old original tree and the 6 year old grafted trees grown in the McFarland and Delano, Calif. area.

**Tree:**

*Habit*.—Upright.

*Tree height*.—3.5 m at 2 years of age.

*Productivity*.—Very productive, appears to require a pollinizer. 6-year-old trees averaged 27.3 kg of fruit per tree.

*Rootstock*.—Myrobalan 29C, nematode resistant (unpatented).

**Trunk:**

*Original tree trunk diameter*.—Tree at 10 years in 0.6 m×3 m row spacing=9.1 cm when measured at 1.2 m from the soil surface.

*Grafted tree trunk diameter*.—Tree at 6 years in 2 m×3 m row spacing on 'Myrobalan 29C' rootstock (unpatented)=6.1 cm when measured at 45 cm from the soil surface.

*Bark texture*.—Very rough.

*Trunk color*.—5YR 4/6 to 4/8 (brown).

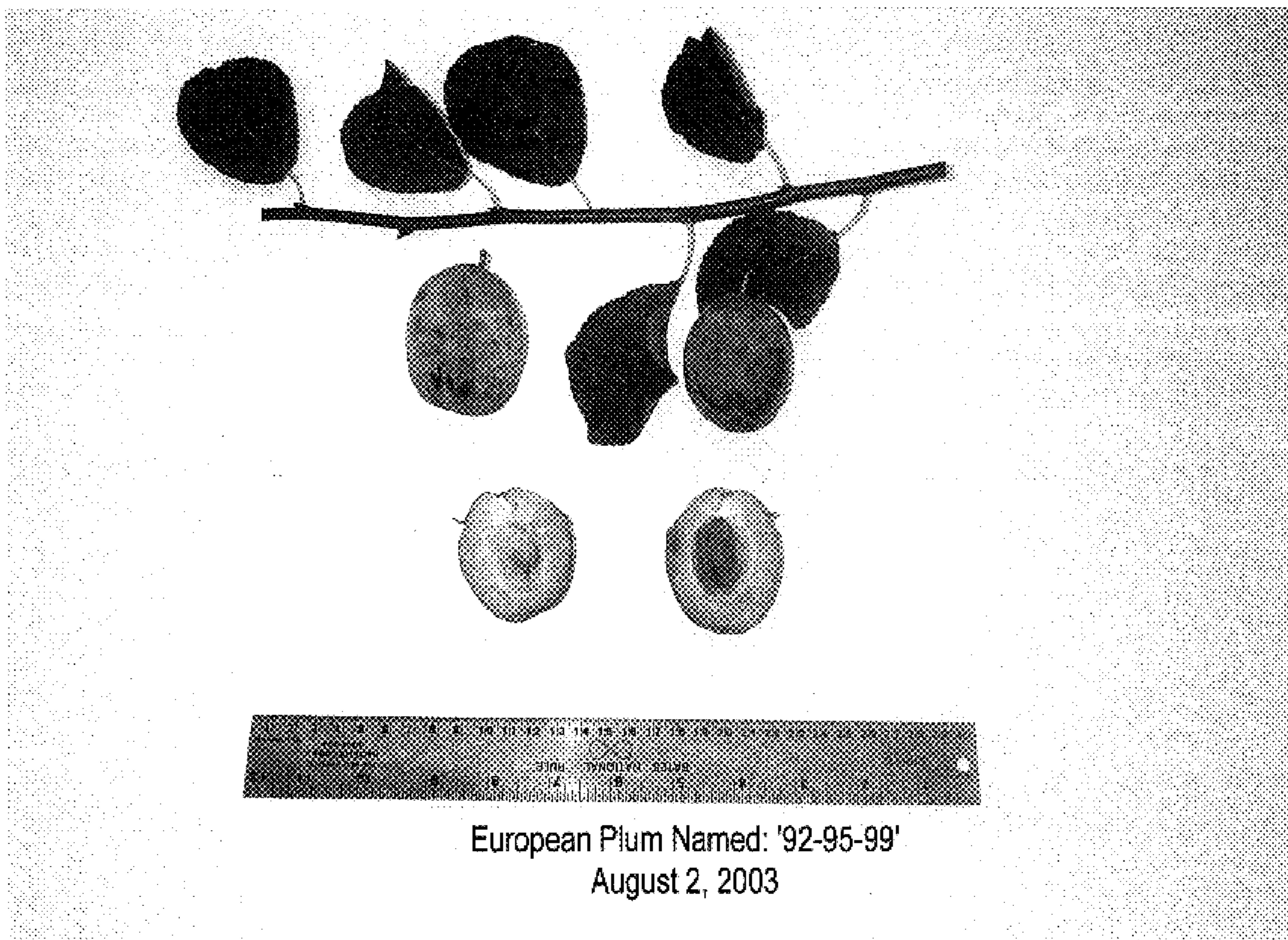
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<i>Trunk lenticel color.</i> —5YR 6/10 (orange).	<i>Petal color (both upper and lower surfaces).</i> —2.5GY 10/0.
<i>Trunk lenticel length.</i> —5–7 mm.	<i>Petal number.</i> —5.
<i>Trunk lenticel number.</i> —Variable: many sectors with none up to 2 per square centimeter.	<i>Petal length.</i> —10 mm.
Branches:	<i>Sepal color.</i> —5GY 7/8.
<i>Branch diameter.</i> —Diameter at 50 cm from crotch=3.6 cm. (6-year-old trees at 2 m×3 m row spacing on 'Myrobalan 29C' rootstock).	<i>Sepal number.</i> —5.
<i>Color of 1 year old wood.</i> —5YR 4/4 to 4/6.	<i>Sepal length.</i> —7 mm.
<i>Color of 3 year old wood.</i> —10R 5/2.	<i>Flower type.</i> —Perfect.
<i>Texture of 3 year old wood.</i> —Rough, though less so than trunk.	<i>Anther color.</i> —5Y 8/12 (yellow).
<i>Lenticels.</i> —About 1 mm in diameter; approximately 12 per square cm.	<i>Pollen color.</i> —5Y 8/10 (yellow).
<i>Lateral branching on first year branches.</i> —Uncommon.	<i>Carpels.</i> —1–2 per flower.
<i>Branch length.</i> —New shoot lengths range from 51–160 cm at end of growing season on grafted trees.	<i>Fertility.</i> —Appears to be partially self-incompatible.
<i>Internode length.</i> —2.7–3.7 cm on most portions of the stems except toward the tips of the stems where internode length is much shorter.	<i>Fragrance.</i> —Typical of European plums, faintly aromatic.
Buds:	Fruit:
<i>Observed bud hardness.</i> —No bud damage observed at 0 C.	<i>Harvest maturity.</i> —Mid-season. First harvest: Jul. 22, 2004. Last harvest: Jul. 29, 2004.
<i>Vegetative bud shape.</i> —Conical.	<i>Skin color.</i> —2.5R 4/10 (bright red) with sectors 2.5Y 8/12 (yellow).
<i>Vegetative bud length.</i> —6 mm.	<i>Flesh color.</i> —7.5YR 7/12 (yellow-orange).
<i>Vegetative bud diameter.</i> —3 mm.	<i>Length.</i> —4.5 cm.
<i>Vegetative bud color.</i> —10R 3/4.	<i>Width.</i> —4.0 cm.
<i>Vegetative bud surface.</i> —Sparsely pubescent.	<i>Weight.</i> —52.2 g.
<i>Flower bud shape.</i> —Conical.	<i>Refractometer test.</i> —21.9 brix.
<i>Flower bud length.</i> —3 mm.	<i>Pressure at harvest ( penetrometer test).</i> —13.3 lbs.
<i>Flower bud diameter.</i> —1.5 mm.	<i>Configuration.</i> —Oval.
<i>Flower bud color.</i> —10R 3/6.	<i>Apex.</i> —Rounded.
<i>Flower bud surface.</i> —Glabrous, glossy.	<i>Pistil point.</i> —Smooth.
<i>Flower bud number.</i> —Usually two per node.	<i>Skin thickness.</i> —Thin, typical of European plum.
Leaves:	<i>Skin texture.</i> —Smooth.
<i>Leaf arrangement.</i> —Alternate, one leaf per node. Most leaves arise 120 degrees from the previous leaf, repeating approximate stem position with every fourth leaf.	<i>Tendency to crack.</i> —None.
<i>Blade length.</i> —9.5 cm.	<i>Juiciness of flesh.</i> —Very juicy.
<i>Blade width.</i> —5.9 cm.	<i>Flavor.</i> —Mild and sweet, typical of European plum.
<i>Petiole length.</i> —3.0 cm.	<i>Aroma.</i> —Mild.
<i>Petiole diameter.</i> —2 mm.	<i>Fruit flesh texture.</i> —Crisp.
<i>Petiole color.</i> —2.5 GY 8/8.	<i>Fibers in flesh.</i> —None.
<i>Leaf shape.</i> —Elliptic, margins cupped upward.	<i>Ripening.</i> —Uniform throughout the fruit.
<i>Leaf margins.</i> —Crenate.	<i>Eating quality.</i> —Good.
<i>Teeth.</i> —Rounded, one side convex, one concave; about 1 mm in length.	<i>Use.</i> —Fresh market.
<i>Leaf apex.</i> —Rounded to broadly acute.	<i>Keeping quality.</i> —Good, fruit has held well in storage for four weeks.
<i>Leaf base.</i> —Oblique.	<i>Shipping quality.</i> —Good.
<i>Upper surface color.</i> —7.5GY 4/4 to 4/6 (dark green).	Stone:
<i>Lower surface color.</i> —7.5GY 5/6 to 5/8 (dark green).	<i>Stone adherence to flesh.</i> —Clingstone.
<i>Upper leaf surface texture.</i> —Very smooth, waxy.	<i>Stone shape.</i> —Elliptic with wings on either side of long edge.
<i>Lower leaf surface texture.</i> —Rough with veins being very prominent, raised.	<i>Fibers.</i> —None.
<i>Erect hairs on veins of lower surface.</i> —Numerous.	<i>Surface.</i> —Rough.
<i>Erect hairs on upper surface.</i> —Absent.	<i>Color.</i> —5YR 5/8 to 5/10 (orangish brown).
<i>Erect hairs on upper surface of petiole.</i> —Sparse.	<i>Length.</i> —2.5 cm.
<i>Stipules.</i> —None.	<i>Width.</i> —1.6 cm.
<i>Glands.</i> —None.	<i>Thickness.</i> —0.7 cm.
Flowers:	Kernel:
<i>Date of flowering in McFarland, Calif. (first flowers dehisce).</i> —Mar. 17, 2004.	<i>Kernel color.</i> —5YR 5/6.
<i>Date of full bloom.</i> —Mar. 22, 2004.	<i>Kernel length.</i> —18 mm.
<i>Date of last bloom.</i> —Mar. 28, 2004.	<i>Kernel width.</i> —10 mm.
<i>Number of flowers per bud.</i> —1–3.	<i>Viability.</i> —Unknown.
<i>Flower diameter.</i> —18 mm.	<i>Astringency.</i> —None.
Disease resistance: Typical of European plums; no problems seen in the original tree or grafted plants in 10 years of observations.	<i>Amygdaline.</i> —Has pleasant, pronounced almond flavor.
What is claimed is:	
1. A new and distinct variety of European plum plant named '92-95-99' herein described and illustrated.	* * * * *



**FIG. 1**



European Plum Named: '92-95-99'  
August 2, 2003

FIG. 2



**FIG. 3**