

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

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(54) **VERBENA PLANT NAMED ‘WESVERSCAR’**

(50) Latin Name: *Verbena hybrida*
Varietal Denomination: **Wesverscar**

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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(58) **Field of Search** **Plt./308**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Verbena* plant named
‘Wesverscar’, characterized by its cascading, roughly
spherical plant habit; ovate to deltoid-shaped leaves; freely
flowering habit; compact and spherical inflorescences; and
intense dark red-colored flowers.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical classification/cultivar designation: *Verbena*
hybrida cultivar Wesverscar.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present Invention relates to a new and distinct culti-
var of *Verbena* plant, botanically known as *Verbena hybrida*,
and hereinafter referred to by the name ‘Wesverscar’.

The new *Verbena* is a product of a planned breeding
program conducted by the Inventor in Südlohn, Germany.
The objective of the program is to create new *Verbena*
cultivars with cascading growth habit and attractive flower
colors.

The new *Verbena* originated from a cross-pollination
made by the Inventor of a proprietary selection of *Verbena*
hybrida identified as code number 99FAT8, not patented, as
the female, or seed, parent with a proprietary selection of
Verbena hybrida identified as code number 99FAT13, not
patented, as the male, or pollen, parent. The new *Verbena*
was discovered and selected by the Inventor from within the
resultant progeny from the above-mentioned cross-
pollination in a controlled environment in Südlohn, Ger-
many in 2000.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal
cuttings in a controlled environment in Südlohn, Germany,
since 2001, has shown that the unique features of this new
Verbena are stable and reproduced true to type in successive
generations of asexual reproduction.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and
are determined to be the unique characteristics of ‘Wesver-
scar’. These characteristics in combination distinguish
‘Wesverscar’ as a new and distinct cultivar:

1. Cascading, roughly spherical plant habit.
2. Ovate to deltoid-shaped leaves.
3. Freely flowering habit.
4. Compact and spherical inflorescences.
5. Intense dark red-colored flowers.

Plants of the new *Verbena* differ primarily from plants of
the female parent selection in flower color as plants of the
female parent selection have orange-red colored flowers. In

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addition, the inflorescences of the new *Verbena* have more
but smaller flowers than plants of the female parent selec-
tion.

Plants of the new *Verbena* differ primarily from plants of
the male parent selection in flower size as plants of the male
parent selection have smaller flowers than plants of the new
Verbena. In addition, plants of the new *Verbena* have longer
lateral branches and smaller leaves than plants of the male
parent selection.

Plants of the new *Verbena* can be compared to plants of
the cultivar Wesverdank, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No.
13,847. However, in side-by-side comparisons conducted in
Südlohn, Germany, plants of the new *Verbena* and the
cultivar Wesverdank differed in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Verbena* were not as compact as
plants of the cultivar Wesverdank.
2. Plants of the new *Verbena* had smaller leaves than
plants of the cultivar Wesverdank.
3. Plants of the new *Verbena* and the cultivar Wesverdank
differed in flower coloration.

Plants of the new *Verbena* can also be compared to plants
of the cultivar Scarlena, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No.
12,578. However, in side-by-side comparisons conducted in
Südlohn, Germany, plants of the new *Verbena* and the
cultivar Scarlena differed in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Verbena* had longer lateral branches
than plants of the cultivar Scarlena.
2. Plants of the new *Verbena* had broader leaves and larger
petioles than plants of the cultivar Scarlena.
3. Plants of the new *Verbena* had taller inflorescences than
plants of the cultivar Scarlena.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying colored photographs illustrate the
overall appearance of the new cultivar, showing the colors as
true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored repro-
ductions of this type. Colors in the photograph differ slightly
from the color values cited in the detailed botanical
description, which accurately describe the colors of the new
Verbena.

The photograph at the left of the sheet comprises a
close-up view of a typical inflorescence of ‘Wesverscar’.

The photograph at the right of the sheet comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'Wesverscar' grown in a patio container.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The cultivar Wesverrose has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in environment such as temperature and light intensity without, however, any variance in genotype. The aforementioned photographs and following observations and measurements describe plants grown in Süddlohn, Germany, under commercial practice during the spring and summer in a glass-covered greenhouse with day temperatures ranging from 20 to 25° C. and night temperatures ranging from 16 to 18° C. Cuttings were planted in 12-cm containers, pinched one time about two weeks after planting, and had been growing for about 20 weeks when the photographs and description were taken. In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 2001 Edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Botanical classification: *Verbena hybrida* cultivar Wesverscar.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Verbena hybrida* identified as code number 99FAT8, not patented.

Male, or pollen, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Verbena hybrida* identified as code number 99FAT13, not patented.

Propagation:

Type cutting.—Terminal cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—About 10 to 14 days at 18° C.

Time to develop roots.—About 21 to 23 days at 18° C.

Root description.—Fine.

Rooting habit.—Vigorous, freely branching.

Plant description:

Form.—Compact, outwardly spreading and trailing plant habit.

Growth and branching habit.—Vigorous and freely branching with the potential for two lateral branches to develop at every node after pinching.

Plant height.—About 12 cm.

Plant diameter or spread.—About 50 to 60 cm.

Lateral branches.—Length: About 33.2 cm. Diameter: About 1.8 mm. Internode length: About 4.7 cm. Strength: Strong. Texture: Densely pubescent. Color: 146A.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Opposite, simple. Length: About 4.3 cm. Width: About 2.4 cm. Shape: Ovate to deltoid. Apex: Acute. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Crenate to dentate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Leathery, dull; pubescent. Venation pattern: Pinnate. Color: Developing and fully expanded foliage, upper surface: 147A. Developing and fully expanded foliage, lower surface: 147B. Venation, upper surface: 147B to 147C. Venation: lower sur-

face: 147C. Petiole: Length: About 8.2 mm. Diameter: About 2.4 mm. Color: 147C.

Flower description:

Flower type and habit.—Single upright salverform flowers arranged on terminal racemes. Inflorescences compact and spherical in shape. Freely flowering with about 26 flowers and flower buds per raceme; about two racemes per lateral branch. Inflorescence is positioned above and beyond the foliage. Individual flowers last about two to four days under greenhouse conditions. Petals self cleaning; calyx and flower stalks persistent. Flowers sessile.

Fragrance.—None detected.

Flowering season.—In the garden, flowering is continuous from spring until fall.

Inflorescence size.—Diameter: About 5.4 cm. Height: About 3.4 cm.

Flower size.—Diameter: About 1.8 cm. Height: About 2.1 cm. Tube length: About 1.8 cm. Throat diameter: About 2.3 mm. Tube diameter, at base: About 1.4 mm.

Flower buds.—Length: About 1 to 1.6 cm. Diameter: About 3 to 5 mm. Shape: Tubular. Color: Towards the base, 146B; towards the mid-section, 145C; towards the apex, 45A.

Petals.—Quantity/arrangement: Five per flower fused at base. Petal length from throat: About 7.9 mm. Petal width: About 5.9 mm. Shape: Roughly cordate. Apex: Emarginate. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Velvety, smooth. Color: When opening, upper surface: 45A to 45B. When opening, lower surface: 45D. Fully opened, upper surface: 45B; towards the base, 73A to 73D. Fully opened, lower surface: 45C. Throat: 145C. Tube: 145C.

Sepals.—Quantity/arrangement: Five, fused into a tube. Length: About 1.2 cm. Diameter: About 1.8 mm. Shape: Ligulate. Apex: Acute. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Velvety, viscid. Color, upper and lower surfaces: 146B.

Peduncles.—Length: About 1.4 to 3 cm. Diameter: About 1.7 mm. Strength: Wiry. Color: 146A.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: Quantity per flower: Four. Anther shape: Two-parted, ovate. Anther length: About 1.1 mm. Anther color: 144C. Pollen amount: Scarce. Pollen color: 144D. Pistils: Quantity per flower: One. Pistil length: About 1.3 cm. Stigma shape: Ovate. Stigma color: 146B. Style length: About 1 cm. Style color: 145D. Ovary color: 144A.

Fruit/seed.—Fruit and seed production has not been observed.

Disease/pest resistance: Plants of the new *Verbena* have not been observed to be resistant to pathogens and pests common to *Verbena*.

Temperature tolerance: Plants of the new *Verbena* have been observed to be tolerant to temperatures ranging from 2 to 30° C.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Verbena* plant named 'Wesverscar', as illustrated and described.

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