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Gilford et al.

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(54) **STRAWBERRY PLANT NAMED 'DRISCOLL DESTIN'**

(50) Latin Name: ***Fragaria×ananassa***
Varietal Denomination: **Driscoll Destin**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

This invention relates to a new and distinct variety of strawberry named 'Driscoll Destin.' The variety is similar to the varieties 'Biscayne' and 'Key Largo.' The variety is distinguished from 'Biscayne' and 'Key Largo,' in particular, by its shorter plant height, larger flower diameter, an orange-red external fruit color, greater yield, weak leaf glossiness, very dense stipule pubescence, and a small hollow fruit center.

5 Drawing Sheets

1. Latin name of the genus and species of the plant claimed: The variety is botanically identified as *Fragaria× ananassa.*

1.1 Variety denomination: The strawberry variety denomination is 'Driscoll Destin'.

2. BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The new variety originated as a result of a controlled cross between the strawberry plants '73D144' (unpatented variety) and '88E94' (unpatented variety) in an ongoing breeding program, and was discovered as a seedling in Monterey, Calif. in 2000. The original seedling of the new cultivar was asexually propagated by stolons in a Nursery in Shasta County, Calif. Propagules were transplanted to a controlled breeding plot in Monterey county, Calif., where the variety was identified and selected for further evaluation. 'Driscoll Destin' was subsequently asexually propagated and underwent further testing in Hillsborough county, Fla. for three years. This propagation and testing has demonstrated that the combination of traits disclosed herein which characterize the new variety are fixed and retained true to type through successive generations of asexual reproduction.

3. SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct variety of strawberry named 'Driscoll Destin.' The variety is botanically identified as *Fragaria×ananassa.* The new variety is distinguished from other varieties by a number of characteristics as set forth in Tables 1–4.

4. COMPARISON TO SIMILAR VARIETIES

The varieties which we believe to be similar to 'Driscoll Destin' from those known to us are 'Biscayne' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 12,186) and 'Key Largo' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 8,649). There are several characteristics of the new variety that are different from, or not possessed by 'Biscayne' and

'Key Largo'. The new variety has a shorter plant height, larger flower diameter, an orange-red external fruit color, greater yield, weak leaf glossiness, very dense stipule pubescence, and a small hollow fruit center.

'Driscoll Destin' is distinguished from its maternal parent '73D144' by its larger average berry size and improved shipability. 'Driscoll Destin' is distinguished from its paternal parent '88E94' by its larger average berry size, improved shipping ability, and partial everbearing in comparison to the full everbearing of '88E94'.

5. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The accompanying photographs show typical specimens of the new variety, including fruit, foliage and flowers, in color as nearly true as it is reasonably possible to make in color illustrations of these characteristics.

FIG. **1** shows the upper side of the leaves of the plant.

FIG. **2** shows the whole the plant.

FIG. **3** shows the under side and underside of the flowers.

FIG. **4** shows a close-up of the fruit.

FIG. **5** shows the fruit in longitudinal cross-section.

6. DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW VARIETY

The following detailed description of the new variety is based upon observations taken of plants and fruit grown in Hillsborough county, Fla., U.S.A. This description is in accordance with UPOV terminology. Observations of 'Driscoll Destin', 'Biscayne' and 'Key Largo' were taken in side by side comparison in the 2003–2004 winter season. Plants for observation were harvested from McArthur, Calif., and held in refrigerated storage until planting in Hillsborough county, Fla. in October 2003. Plants were grown in raised beds of soil under conditions typical of commercial strawberry production in central Florida. Fruits were harvested twice weekly for yield determination from November 2003 to March 2004. Measurements of plant,

flower, and fruit characteristics were made in January 2004, approximately four months after planting. Color designations, color descriptions, and other phenotypical descriptions may deviate from the stated values and descriptions depending upon variation in environmental, seasonal, climatic and cultural conditions. Colors are described and the most similar color designations are provided from The Royal Horticultural Society (R.H.S.) Colour Chart.

6.1 PROPAGATION

The new variety is principally propagated by way of stolons. Although propagation by stolons is presently preferred, other known methods of propagating strawberry plants may be employed.

6.2 CHARACTERISTICS OF THE NEW VARIETY

Information on the new variety is presented in Tables 1, 2, 3 and 4. In the tables, the flowers described are secondary flowers except where indicated. The fruit described is the secondary fruit on five month old plants. Fruit and flower measurements are an average of both primary and secondary fruit and flowers.

Table 1 provides information on the plant and fruit characteristics of the new variety 'Driscoll Destin' compared with characteristics of 'Biscayne' and 'Key Largo.' Table 2 provides additional information of the plant and fruit characteristics of the new variety 'Driscoll Destin' compared with characteristics of the varieties 'Biscayne' and 'Key Largo.' Table 3 provides reactions of the new variety to stresses, pests and diseases compared with reactions of the varieties 'Biscayne' and 'Key Largo.' Table 4 provides isozyme characteristics of the new variety as compared to that of the varieties 'Biscayne' and 'Key Largo.'

TABLE 1

QUANTITATIVE COMPARISON OF 'DRISCOLL DESTIN', 'BISCAYNE,' AND 'KEY LARGO'

	'Driscoll Destin'	'Biscayne'	'Key Largo'
Plant Characteristics			
Height of Plant (cm)	8.1	10.0	11.6
Spread of Plant (cm)	32.4	31.3	32.1
Number of Crowns	3.4	3.2	4.2
Leaf Characteristics			
Terminal Leaflet Length (cm)	8.2	7.6	8.4
Terminal Leaflet Width (cm)	8.3	8.1	8.0
Terminal Leaflet Length/Width Ratio	0.99	0.93	1.06
# Teeth/Terminal Leaflet	24.5	27.0	21.6
Color of upper side	135A medium to dark green	137A light green	137A light green
Color of under side	136C light gray green	139C light gray green	139C light gray green
Petiole Length (cm)	8.6	9.2	11.5
Petiole Color	145B yellow green	142D yellow green	142D yellow green
Petiolule Length (mm)	7.0	5.5	6.3
Petiolule Diameter (mm)	2.1	2.2	1.9

TABLE 1-continued

QUANTITATIVE COMPARISON OF 'DRISCOLL DESTIN', 'BISCAYNE,' AND 'KEY LARGO'

	'Driscoll Destin'	'Biscayne'	'Key Largo'
Petiolule Color	145C yellow green	142D yellow green	142D yellow green
Bract Frequency	8% typically single	83% typically paired	0%
Stipule Length (cm)	3.8	3.7	3.4
Stipule Width (cm)	1.6	2.0	1.5
Stolon Characteristics			
Anthocyanin color	60A red	59B red	
Diameter at bract (mm)	3.59	3.24	3.30
Avg. # of Daughter plants (2003 Nursery)	51	72	52
Flower Characteristics			
Petal Length (cm)	1.5	1.36	1.65
Petal Width (cm)	1.3	1.49	1.46
Petal Length/Width Ratio	1.09	0.91	1.13
Flower Diameter (cm)	3.0	2.76	2.72
Calyx Diameter (cm)	4.0	3.86	5.11
Sepal Length (mm)	15.8	15.3	21.5
Sepal Width (cm)	6.6	7.22	9.15
Petal Color	155C white	155C white	155C white
Receptical Color	150A yellow green	150A yellow green	150A yellow green
Anther Color	13A yellow	9A yellow	9A yellow
Fruiting Truss Length (cm)	8.8	8.7	13.6
Fruit Characteristics			
Fruit Length (cm)	5.6	4.8	4.8
Fruit Width (cm)	4.3	4.0	3.5
Fruit Length/Width Ratio	1.31	1.20	1.37
Average Berry Weight (g)	28.9	26.5	23.2
External Color	45B orange red	46B red	46B red
Internal Color	179C orange red	44A medium red	44B medium red
Achene Coloration	184B to 150A greyed red to yellow green	180B to 150C greyed red to yellow green	182B to 150A greyed red to yellow green
Achenes per berry	194	109	104
Achene weight (g)	0.000077	0.00046	0.00058
2003–2004 Fruit Yield (g/plant)	285	243	251

TABLE 2

QUALITATIVE COMPARISON OF 'DRISCOLL DESTIN', 'BISCAYNE,' AND 'KEY LARGO'

	'Driscoll Destin'	'Biscayne'	'Key Largo'
Plant			
Habit	flat	flat globose	globose
Canopy Density	dense	medium	medium
Vigor	strong	strong	medium
Leaf			
Shape in cross section	concave	concave	slightly concave
Interveinal blistering	very strong	weak	weak
Glossiness	weak	medium	medium
Number of leaflets	three only	three only	three only

TABLE 2-continued

QUALITATIVE COMPARISON OF 'DRISCOLL DESTIN', 'BISCAYNE,' AND 'KEY LARGO'

	'Driscoll Destin'	'Biscayne'	'Key Largo'
Terminal leaflet margin profile	revolute to flat	revolute	revolute
Terminal leaflet shape of base	obtuse	rounded	slightly oblique
Terminal leaflet shape of teeth	acute to obtuse	rounded	rounded
Stipule pubescence	very dense	medium	medium
Petiole pubescence	medium	medium	medium
Petiole pose of hairs	outwards	outwards	upwards
Stolon			
Anthocyanin coloration	medium	strong	
Thickness	thick	medium	
Pubescence	medium	medium	
Inflorescence			
Position relative to foliage	beneath	level	level to above
Diameter of calyx relative to corolla on secondary flowers	same size	larger	much larger
Diameter of inner calyx relative to outer on secondary flowers	same size to larger	same size	smaller
Spacing of petals	overlapping	overlapping	overlapping
Fruiting Truss			
Attitude at first picking	prostrate	prostrate	semi-erect
Fruit			
Predominant shape	conical to almost cylindrical	conical	conical
Difference in shapes between primary and secondary fruits	moderate	slight	slight
Band without achenes	medium	narrow	narrow

TABLE 2-continued

QUALITATIVE COMPARISON OF 'DRISCOLL DESTIN', 'BISCAYNE,' AND 'KEY LARGO'

	'Driscoll Destin'	'Biscayne'	'Key Largo'
Unevenness of surface	weak	weak	weak
Evenness of color	uneven	even	even

6.4 ISOZYME ANALYSIS

In addition to the morphological description above, the new cultivar 'Driscoll Destin' has been analyzed to obtain an indication of its genetic makeup to provide further means for identifying the new variety and distinguishing it from other somewhat similar and/or related strawberry varieties. Specifically, leaf samples of 'Driscoll Destin', 'Biscayne' and 'Key Largo' were analyzed by electrophoresis for isozyme patterns of the enzymes phosphoglucoisomerase ("PGI"), leucine aminopeptidase ("LAP") and phosphoglucomutase ("PGM"). See J. Amer. Soc. Hort. Sci. 106:684–687. Isozyme characterization of the three varieties is presented in Table 4, with the letters representing the banding patterns for each enzyme as designated in the above-identified article.

TABLE 4

ISOZYME ANALYSIS FOR 'DRISCOLL DESTIN', 'BISCAYNE,' AND 'KEY LARGO'

Locus	'Driscoll Destin'	'Biscayne'	'Key Largo'
PGI	A2	A1	A1
LAP	B3	B3	B3
PGM	C2	C4	C4

What is claimed:

1. A new and distinct variety of strawberry plant, substantially as shown and described.

* * * * *

FIG.1

FIG.2

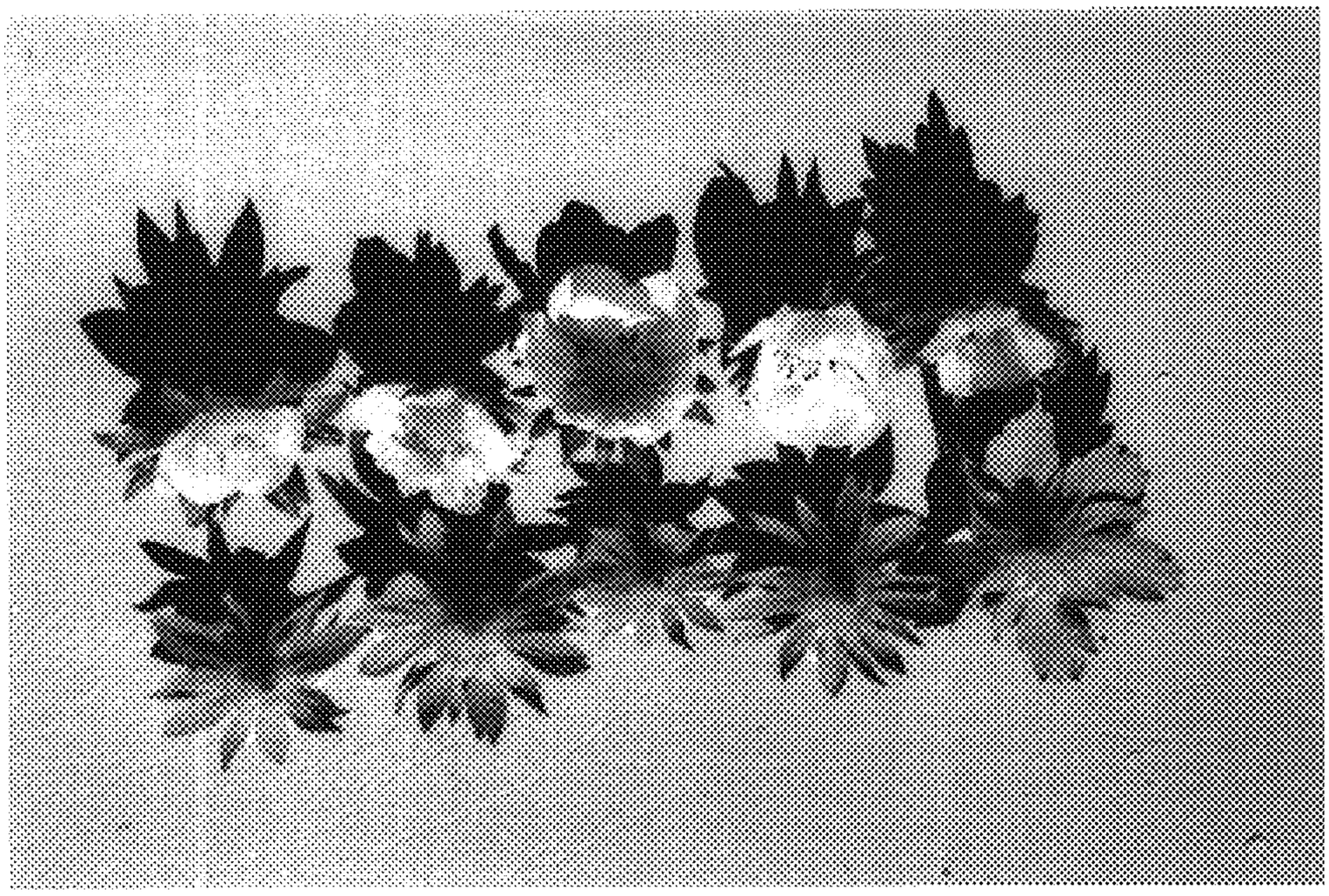

FIG.3

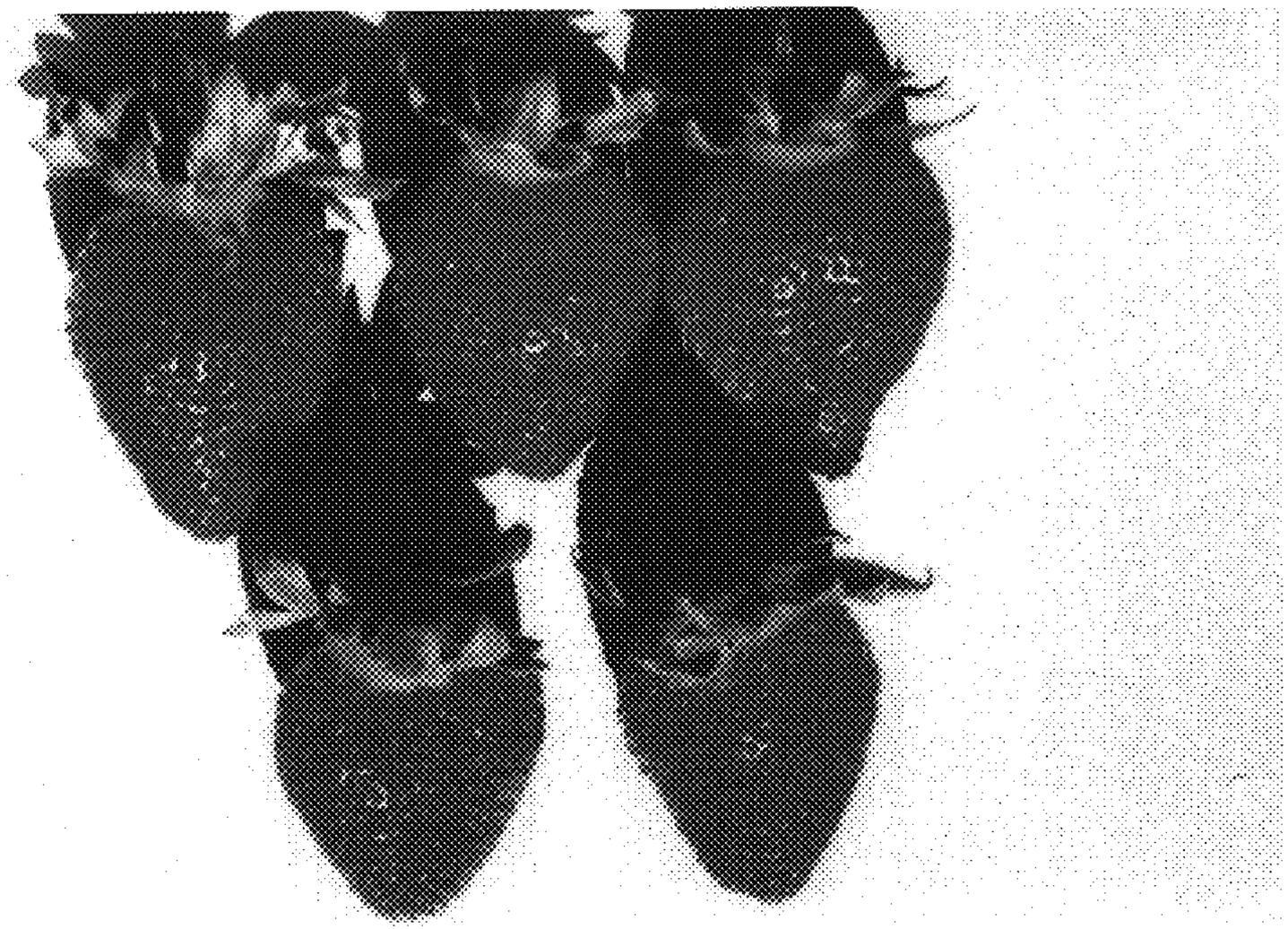

FIG.4

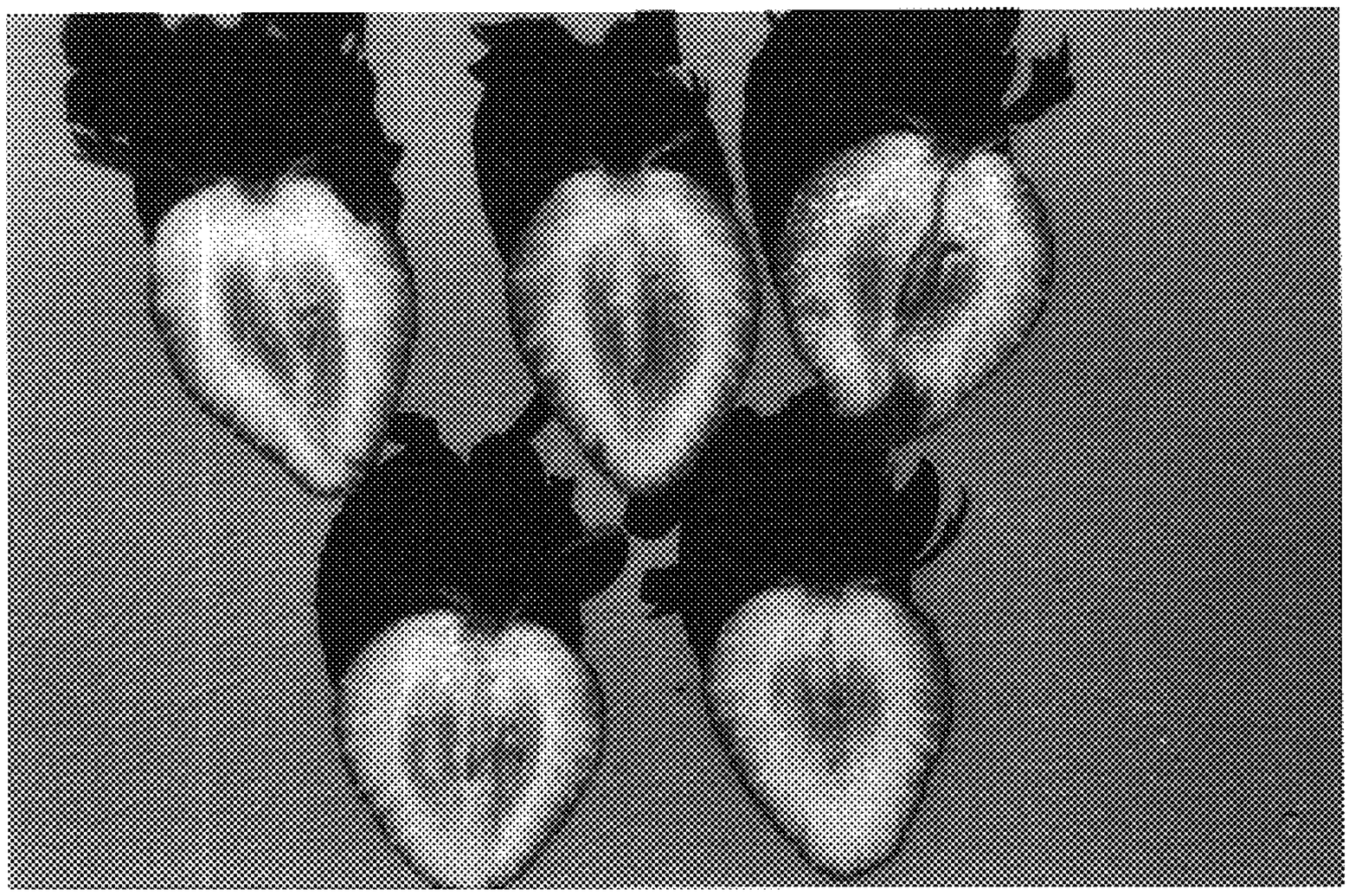

FIG.5