

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

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(54) **ST. AUGUSTINEGRASS NAMED ‘TR 6-10’**

(50) Latin Name: *Stenataphrum secundatum*  
Varietal Denomination: **TR 6-10**

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35  
U.S.C. 154(b) by 4 days.

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**A01H 5/00** (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **Plt./392**

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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

St. Augustinegrass ‘TR 6-10’ is a perennial St. August-  
inegrass cultivar with dwarf turfgrass characteristics. ‘TR  
6-10’ is a bright, dark green color and yet exhibits a dwarf,  
low growing habit. It is more wear tolerant than other St.  
Augustinegrasses and it is the most shade tolerant cultivar of  
a species that is highly regarded for this characteristic.

**5 Drawing Sheets**

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**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

St. Augustinegrass [*Stenataphrum secundatum* (Walt)  
Kuntze] is a perennial, low growing warm-season species  
adapted to Florida, Texas and other southern areas where  
freezing temperatures are not a severe annual problem. It  
thrives on sandy and heavy soils where adequate moisture is  
available. Common St. Augustinegrass is coarse textured,  
spreads by stolons and roots at each node that comes in  
touch with the soil. Its inflorescence is a spike that is usually  
found terminally on a stolon. Florets are fertile or sterile and  
the fertile floret produces male and female flowers whose  
color can often be used to help identify individual cultivars.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

This invention is regarding a new and distinct perennial  
St. Augustinegrass variety intended for use in turfgrass  
situations. This genotype was developed under a research  
contract in the research greenhouses at the University of  
Nebraska, Lincoln, from a cross between two clones of St.  
Augustinegrass that had multiple outstanding traits. Cultivar  
‘TR 6-10’ has been evaluated for a number of years in  
multiple locations and it was selected because of its excel-  
lent performance, tolerance to a number of pest problems,  
and specific traits of this turfgrass species. This plant exhib-  
its dwarf characteristics including shorter and narrower  
leaves than other St. Augustinegrass cultivars. These char-  
acteristics create a very attractive turf and will allow ‘TR  
6-10’ to be distinguished from other cultivars of St. August-  
inegrass.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

The numerous advantages of the present invention may be  
better understood by those skilled in the art by reference to  
the accompanying figures in which:

FIG. 1 is a photograph illustrating a section of turf  
produced by a typical stolon field of a St. Augustinegrass

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‘TR 6-10’ in accordance with an exemplary embodiment of  
the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a photograph providing an expanded view  
illustrating the section of turf produced by the stolon field of  
the St. Augustinegrass ‘TR 6-10’ in accordance with an  
exemplary embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 3 is a photograph illustrating a typical flower of the  
St. Augustinegrass ‘TR 6-10’ in accordance with an exem-  
plary embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 4 is a photograph providing an expanded view  
illustrating the flower of the St. Augustinegrass ‘TR 6-10’ in  
accordance with an exemplary embodiment of the present  
invention; and

FIG. 5 is a photograph illustrating a typical stolon of the  
St. Augustinegrass ‘TR 6-10’ in accordance with an exem-  
plary embodiment of the present invention.

**DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION OF  
THE INVENTION**

St. Augustinegrass ‘TR 6-10’ (‘TR 6-10’) was bred from  
a cross between two experimental clones of St. August-  
inegrass that had multiple outstanding characteristics. These  
parents were genotypes generated from crosses of selections  
with excellent turf quality and excellent cold tolerance. ‘TR  
6-10’ has a gross morphology similar to each of the parents  
(and to St. Augustinegrasses), but it only has some of the  
characteristics of each of these parents. After being bred it  
was vegetatively (asexually) propagated. St. Augustinegrass  
is a cross pollinated species that is capable of self pollinat-  
ing. In particular, ‘TR 6-10’ was propagated vegetatively  
(asexually) at the Scotts Company Cleveland, Tex. research  
facility. Stolons and plugs were used to propagate the ‘TR  
6-10’ cultivar. The ‘TR 6-10’ cultivar is completely stably  
reproduced by the aforementioned vegetative propagation  
(asexually). The morphological characteristics, molecular  
characteristics, and turfgrass evaluation ratings may be used



to distinguish 'TR 6-10' from other commercially produced St. Augustinegrass varieties.

### Morphological Characteristics

Referring generally to FIGS. 1 through 5, St. Augustinegrass 'TR 6-10' ('TR 6-10') exhibits dwarf cultivar characteristics. A comparison of 'TR 6-10' with '6-89-196', '6-89-175', Delmar, Floratam, and Seville was conducted. Tables 1 and 2 show that 'TR 6-10' exhibits shorter stolons and internodes, characteristic of a dwarf cultivar, which distinguishes it from '6-89-196' and '6-89-175'. Further, Tables 1 and 2 illustrate that the leaves of 'TR 6-10' are shorter and narrower than the Delmar, Floratam, and Seville. With this leaf structure, 'TR 6-10' exhibits a finer texture of leaf than Delmar, Floratam, and Seville as measured by leaf and density characteristics, which will be discussed herein below. 'TR 6-10' also has fewer stolons and a shorter average internode length when compared to the other cultivars. The combination of these characteristics, and others described herein below, results in fine turf quality and texture, as illustrated in FIG. 1.

'TR 6-10' is coarse textured, spreads by branching stolons and forms a dense, spongy turf. 'TR 6-10' is adapted to warmer climates of the United States where low temperatures and frost are not usual. 'TR 6-10' has a ligule consisting of a very short fringe of hairs. The vernation is folded, there are no auricles and the collar is broad, continuous and narrowed at the base of the leaf. There are a number of leaf hairs in the collar area. The 'TR 6-10' leaf blade is flat, smooth and has a blunt tip. The inflorescence is a spike. These characteristics are very similar to all other St. Augustinegrasses and can be used to identify the species, but can not be used to distinguish 'TR 6-10' from other St. Augustinegrasses genotypes.

'TR 6-10' is different and can be identified as different from its two parents and all other St. Augustinegrasses because of the characteristic, shade tolerance. St. Augustinegrass is known for having excellent shade tolerance, but 'TR 6-10' far exceeds any other St. Augustinegrass in its ability to grow under low light conditions (see below, Table 11). None of the selections that were the parents or grandparents of 'TR 6-10' have been identified as having shade tolerance better than other St. Augustinegrass selections.

TABLE 1

| <u>Leaf and stolon measurements from greenhouse evaluations.</u> |                   |                  |                        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| Selection                                                        | Leaf Length<br>cm | Leaf Width<br>cm | Internode length<br>cm |
| TR 6-10                                                          | 2.3               | 0.56             | 3.37                   |
| 6-89-196                                                         | 2.0               | 0.48             | 2.56                   |
| 6-89-175                                                         | 1.9               | 0.53             | 3.89                   |
| Delmar                                                           | 5.1               | 0.77             | 3.52                   |
| Floratam                                                         | 5.9               | 0.71             | 6.66                   |
| Seville                                                          | 3.8               | 0.58             | 5.16                   |
| LSD                                                              | 0.8               | 0.07             | 0.70                   |

TABLE 2

| <u>Stolon measurements from greenhouse evaluations.</u> |          |                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------|----------|---------------------|
| Selection                                               | Stolon # | Stolon Length<br>cm |
| TR 6-10                                                 | 3.8      | 23.9                |
| 6-89-196                                                | 6.8      | 24.6                |
| 6-89-175                                                | 10.2     | 41.2                |
| Delmar                                                  | 7.5      | 20.6                |

TABLE 2-continued

| <u>Stolen measurements from greenhouse evaluations.</u> |          |                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------|----------|---------------------|
| Selection                                               | Stolon # | Stolon Length<br>cm |
| Floratam                                                | 8.3      | 48.1                |
| Seville                                                 | 17.5     | 47.7                |
| LSD                                                     | 3.0      | 10.3                |

### Molecular Characteristics

Flow cytometry is a rapid way to differentiate between varieties having different numbers of chromosomes, and sometimes can differentiate among varieties having the same number of chromosomes. DNA contents of various St. Augustinegrass cultivars including 'TR 6-10', 6-89-196, 6-89-175, Delmar, and Floratam were determined. Using flow cytometry following standard protocols (Arumuganathan & Earle, 1991; Johnson, Riordan & Arumuganathan, 1998) with two runs of each St. Augustinegrass, a comparison study was performed. It was found that the DNA content of 'TR 6-10' is similar to Delmar. Comparing this to chromosome counts reported in the '6-72-182' patent document where Floratam is recorded with 27 chromosomes and Delmar with 18 chromosomes (Mixon, Riordan & Meier, 1989), 'TR 6-10' is an 18 chromosome type cultivar, shown in Table 3 below.

TABLE 3

| <u>DNA content and inferred chromosome number of St. Augustinegrass cultivars.</u> |                               |                   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Selection                                                                          | DNA content<br>Pg DNA/nucleus | Chromosome Number |
| 'TR 6-10'                                                                          | 1.16                          | 18                |
| 6-89-196                                                                           | 1.15                          | 18                |
| 6-89-175                                                                           | 1.17                          | 18                |
| Delmar                                                                             | 1.14                          | 18                |
| Floratam                                                                           | 2.29                          | 27                |

### Turfgrass Characteristics

Turfgrass quality may be established using a combination of several factors, such as color, texture, density, and uniformity. Based on color measurements alone, St. Augustinegrass 'TR 6-10' is similar to Seville, Floratam, and Delmar using cluster analysis (Table 4). 'TR 6-10' is a brighter green than the cultivars exhibited in '6-89-196' and '6-89-175'. Color measurements were made using a Minolta CR-200 chromometer. Color measurements were interpreted in accordance with standard color charting principles (McGuire, 1992).

TABLE 4

| <u>Color measurements from greenhouse evaluations.</u> |                       |                |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Selection                                              | Chroma C <sup>†</sup> | L <sup>‡</sup> |
| TR 6-10                                                | 27.84                 | 47.10          |
| 6-89-196                                               | 22.51                 | 42.16          |
| 6-89-175                                               | 26.12                 | 45.88          |
| Delmar                                                 | 30.52                 | 45.14          |
| Floratam                                               | 30.24                 | 48.46          |
| Seville                                                | 31.93                 | 45.19          |
| LSD                                                    | 2.35                  | 1.97           |



TABLE 4-continued

| <u>Color measurements from greenhouse evaluations.</u> |                       |                |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Selection                                              | Chroma C <sup>†</sup> | L <sup>‡</sup> |

<sup>†</sup>Color saturation. Lower values equate greater saturation.

<sup>‡</sup>'L' measures lightness and darkness. A high 'L' value indicated a light color (light green) and a low 'L' value indicates darker colors (dark green).

'TR 6-10' has an excellent dark green leaf color and this characteristic can be used to separate it from Raleigh in the field (Table 5). As seen in Table 5, from a color comparison with Floratam, Bitterblue, Seville, and Delmar cultivars, the color of 'TR 6-10' may be similar to these other St. Augustinegrass cultivars. The dark green leaf color of 'TR 6-10' is an excellent color for a turfgrass being used in a residential setting.

TABLE 5

| Genetic Color Ratings of St. Augustinegrass<br>Cultivars - NTEP Data.<br>Genetic Color Ratings Qualitative Scale for Plant Color 1-9;<br>1 = Yellow, 5 = Medium Green, 9 = Dark Green. |     |     |     |     |     |     |      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Name                                                                                                                                                                                   | FL2 | FL3 | FL4 | FL5 | SC1 | TX3 | Mean |
| Floratam                                                                                                                                                                               | 6.7 | 7.7 | 7.0 | 8.7 | 5.0 | 7.0 | 7.0  |
| TR 6-10 (DD-11)                                                                                                                                                                        | 6.7 | 8.3 | 8.3 | 4.7 | 5.0 | 8.0 | 6.8  |
| Bitterblue                                                                                                                                                                             | 6.7 | 7.7 | 5.7 | 7.7 | 5.0 | 7.0 | 6.6  |
| Seville                                                                                                                                                                                | 6.0 | 8.3 | 6.3 | 6.7 | 5.0 | 7.3 | 6.6  |
| Delmar                                                                                                                                                                                 | 7.7 | 6.3 | 5.7 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 8.7 | 6.4  |
| Raleigh                                                                                                                                                                                | 5.0 | 5.7 | 6.7 | 5.7 | 5.0 | 7.3 | 5.9  |
| LSD Value                                                                                                                                                                              | 1.5 | 1.5 | 3.7 | 1.1 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.7  |

To determine statistical differences among entries, subtract one entry's mean from another entry's mean. Statistical differences occur when this value is larger than the corresponding LSD value (LSD 0.05).

It is contemplated that having markers which may be used to identify hybrids may provide a significant advantage when it comes to the identification of the 'TR 6-10' cultivar. Observations of stigma and anther color in a number of commercially available cultivars indicate that this characteristic (color) is stable and it can be used to identify genotypes. Thus, these color "markers" may be used to identify hybrids. The colors of the stigmas and anthers of 'TR 6-10' are white, purple or yellow, as illustrated in FIGS. 3 and 4. The flower color readings in Table 6 show that the color of the flower of 'TR 6-10' may be used to distinguish it from several other cultivars.

TABLE 6

| <u>St. Augustinegrass Cultivar Flower Color.</u> |              |               |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Selection                                        | Stigma Color | Anther Color  |
| TR 6-10                                          | Light Purple | Light Yellow  |
| Texas Common                                     | White        | Light Yellow  |
| Raleigh                                          | White        | Medium Yellow |
| Delmar                                           | White        | White         |
| Floratam                                         | Deep Purple  | Deep Yellow   |
| Seville                                          | Light Purple | Light Yellow  |
| Gulf Star                                        | Deep Purple  | Light Purple  |

With its shorter and narrower leaves than the other cultivars, 'TR 6-10' has a very fine leaf texture, as shown in Table 7, and this characteristic may be used to distinguish it from other standard cultivars. The fine leaf texture provides

'TR 6-10' with an excellent appearance. The only cultivar that has a leaf texture similar to 'TR 6-10' is Seville. As previously stated, the fine leaf texture, density, and uniformity of growth of the 'TR 6-10' cultivar gives 'TR 6-10' multiple desirable turfgrass characteristics.

TABLE 7

| Leaf Texture Ratings of<br>St. Augustinegrass Cultivars - NTEP Data.<br>Leaf Texture Ratings Qualitative Scale for Plant Texture 1-9;<br>1 = Coarse, 5 = Medium Coarseness, 9 = Very Fine. |     |     |     |      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Name                                                                                                                                                                                       | FL2 | SC1 | TX3 | Mean |
| TR 6-10 (DD-11)                                                                                                                                                                            | 7.3 | 5.7 | 7.7 | 6.9  |
| Seville                                                                                                                                                                                    | 6.7 | 5.3 | 8.3 | 6.8  |
| Raleigh                                                                                                                                                                                    | 5.3 | 4.3 | 7.0 | 5.6  |
| Delmar                                                                                                                                                                                     | 3.7 | 5.0 | 7.3 | 5.3  |
| Bitterblue                                                                                                                                                                                 | 3.0 | 4.0 | 8.3 | 5.3  |
| Floratam                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1.0 | 3.3 | 8.3 | 4.2  |
| LSD Value                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1.6 | 1.1 | 0.9 | 0.7  |

To determine statistical difference among entries, subtract one entry's mean from another entry's mean. Statistical difference occur when this value is larger than the corresponding LSD value (LSD 0.05).

Twenty-five (25) commercially available and experimental St. Augustinegrass cultivars were evaluated for wear tolerance and other associated characteristics (Busey, 1991). 'TR 6-10' was identified because of its shorter internode length, smaller stolon thickness (except Seville), and shorter unmown height (except Seville). 'TR 6-10' is a dwarf cultivar which has a shorter stature than other available St. Augustinegrass cultivars, including the semi-dwarf cultivar, Seville. As shown in Table 8, below, the study revealed that 'TR 6-10' had a wear tolerance better than all 25 commercially available cultivars and experimentals included in the study, which is an important characteristic of turfgrasses.

TABLE 8

| Morphological characteristics and wear tolerance ratings<br>of selected St. Augustinegrass cultivars.<br>Wear Tolerance ratings from 1 to 9; 1 = Poor Wear Tolerance,<br>5 = Medium Wear Tolerance, 9 = Best Wear Tolerance. |                           |                           |                               |                        |                   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Cultivar/<br>Species                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Internode<br>Length<br>mm | Stolon<br>Thickness<br>mm | Leaf Blade<br>Thickness<br>mm | Unmown<br>Height<br>cm | Wear<br>Tolerance |
| TR 6-10'                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 31.6                      | 2.21                      | 0.203                         | 5.1                    | 8.8               |
| 'Delmar'                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 41.0                      | 2.97                      | 0.191                         | 9.3                    | 3.8               |
| 'Raleigh'                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 47.2                      | 3.08                      | 0.201                         | 11.8                   | 6.9               |
| 'Seville'                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 45.2                      | 2.50                      | 0.209                         | 7.3                    | 7.0               |
| 'Floratam'                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 58.4                      | 3.25                      | 0.221                         | 11.3                   | 3.0               |
| M.S.D.<br>(p = 0.05)                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 5.7                       | 0.26                      | 0.016                         | 3.7                    | 1.0               |

'TR 6-10' was an entry in the 1989 National Turfgrass Evaluation Program St. Augustinegrass trial. 'TR 6-10' was compared to standard cultivars at the time. As shown below in Tables 9 and 10, for the characteristic Turfgrass Quality, 'TR 6-10' performed very well at all locations except at the Texas location at Dallas. At this location low temperatures may have had an effect on the performance of all St. Augustinegrass cultivars. These trials were all in the open sun so that the shade performance ability of 'TR 6-10' was not a factor; however, the excellent performance of 'TR 6-10' may be used to distinguish it from other cultivars.



TABLE 9

| Mean Turfgrass Quality Ratings of St. Augustinegrass Cultivars at<br>Seven Locations in the United States - NTEP Data.<br>Selected Turfgrass Quality Ratings 1–9;<br>1 = Poor, 5 = Medium, 9 = Ideal. |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Name                                                                                                                                                                                                  | CA1 | FL2 | FL3 | MS1 | SC1 | TX1 | TX3 | MEAN |
| TR 6-10                                                                                                                                                                                               | 5.8 | 6.7 | 8.7 | 6.6 | 6.0 | 2.5 | 7.3 | 6.2  |
| Seville                                                                                                                                                                                               | 5.5 | 6.7 | 8.4 | 6.7 | 5.0 | 3.9 | 7.0 | 6.2  |
| Bitterblue                                                                                                                                                                                            | 5.7 | 7.3 | 8.1 | 5.2 | 4.3 | 3.1 | 5.2 | 5.6  |
| Delmar                                                                                                                                                                                                | 5.7 | 7.0 | 7.4 | 5.4 | 4.7 | 2.7 | 5.8 | 5.5  |
| Floratam                                                                                                                                                                                              | 4.8 | 6.0 | 6.4 | 5.8 | 5.0 | 3.6 | 5.2 | 5.3  |
| LSD Value                                                                                                                                                                                             | 0.9 | 1.8 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 1.1 | 1.6 | 0.5 | 0.4  |

To determine statistical difference among entries, subtract one entry's mean from another entry's mean. Statistical difference occur when this value is larger than the corresponding LSD value (LSD 0.05).

TABLE 10

| Mean Turfgrass Quality Ratings of St. Augustinegrass<br>Cultivars for Each Month Grown at Seven Location<br>in the United States - NTEP Data.<br>Selected Turfgrass Quality Ratings 1–9;<br>1 = Poor, 5 = Medium, 9 = Ideal. |     |     |     |     |     |      |     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|
| Name                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun  | Jul |
| TR 6-10                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 2.3 | 5.7 | 6.5 | 4.0 | 5.1 | 6.3  | 7.4 |
| Seville                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 2.3 | 5.5 | 6.0 | 4.2 | 5.3 | 6.3  | 7.1 |
| Delmar                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 3.3 | 6.3 | 7.2 | 3.2 | 4.3 | 5.5  | 5.8 |
| Floratam                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 2.7 | 5.2 | 5.3 | 3.3 | 4.3 | 5.3  | 5.9 |
| Raleigh                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 2.5 | 4.7 | 5.2 | 4.2 | 4.8 | 5.3  | 6.0 |
| LSD Value                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1.7 | 2.9 | 2.5 | 2.0 | 1.4 | 1.2  | 1.1 |
| Name                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Mean |     |
| TR 6-10                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 5.8 | 6.4 | 5.7 | 4.3 | 6.8 | 6.2  |     |
| Seville                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 6.6 | 6.6 | 6.4 | 4.7 | 6.5 | 6.2  |     |
| Delmar                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 5.4 | 5.5 | 5.3 | 3.7 | 6.2 | 5.5  |     |
| Floratam                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 5.4 | 5.7 | 5.8 | 4.0 | 5.5 | 5.3  |     |
| Raleigh                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 5.9 | 5.7 | 5.8 | 4.0 | 4.3 | 5.2  |     |
| LSD Value                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.4 | 2.6 | 1.1 | 0.9  |     |

To determine statistical difference among entries, subtract one entry's mean from another entry's mean. Statistical difference occur when this value is larger than the corresponding LSD value (LSD 0.05).

Another important factor in turfgrass quality may be shade tolerance. Shade tolerance and associated characteristics of thirty-one (31) St. Augustinegrass cultivars and experimentals were compared and reported (Leblanc & McCrimmon, 1997), the results of that study for the 'TR 6-10', Delmar, Raleigh, Seville, and Floratam cultivars are shown below in Table 11. In this study 'TR 6-10' was the highest ranked cultivar for percent cover, shoot dry weight, stolon number, total stolon length, and average ranking. Thus, clearly 'TR 6-10' has the ability to thrive and persist under lower light conditions. This ability may be used to distinguish 'TR 6-10' from all other St. Augustinegrass cultivars. The species, St. Augustinegrass, is known to be very shade tolerant, but a cultivar with enhanced shade tolerance, such as that provided by the St. Augustinegrass 'TR 6-10' of the present invention, may allow consumers to have a healthier and better performing lawn under often normal high shade conditions.

TABLE 11

| Turfgrass performance under natural tree shade, Rankings for<br>percent cover, shoot dry weight, stolon number, total stolon<br>length, and average ranking. |                  |                     |                  |                        |                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| Cultivar/<br>Species                                                                                                                                         | Percent<br>Cover | Shoot Dry<br>Weight | Stolon<br>Number | Total/Stolon<br>Length | Average<br>Ranking |
| 'TR 6-10'                                                                                                                                                    | 1                | 1                   | 1                | 1                      | 1.0                |
| 'Delmar'                                                                                                                                                     | 4                | 2                   | 10               | 13                     | 7.3                |
| 'Raleigh'                                                                                                                                                    | 10               | 9                   | 14               | 12                     | 11.3               |
| 'Seville'                                                                                                                                                    | 17               | 17                  | 17               | 17                     | 17.0               |
| 'Floratam'                                                                                                                                                   | 26               | 24                  | 26               | 27                     | 25.8               |

### VARIETY DENOMINATION

Origin: Cross pollination performed in greenhouse.

Classification: *Stenotaphrum secundatum* (Walt) Kuntze.

Chromosome number: 18.

Form: Monocot Gramineae.

Growth habit: A perennial plant, with a soloniferous growth habit, which allows it to be propagated vegetatively. A St. Augustinegrass cultivar that exhibits dwarf characteristics manifested in increased density and finer texture, but has a brighter dark green color when compared to other cultivars. This variety is well adapted and well suited for use in the typical area of St. Augustinegrass adaptation.

Establishment rate: Moderate to Moderate/Fast.

Regions of adaptation: Adapted to Florida, Texas and other southern areas where freezing temperatures are not a severe annual problem.

Blade:

*Shape*.—Short, Narrow.

*Length*.—2.3 cm.

*Width*.—0.56 cm.

Leaf color: Dark Green.

Mature plant height: Fifteen (15) to Twenty (20) Centimeters.

Above canopy stolons: Minimal.

Internode length: 3.37 cm.

Internode color: Light Green.

Node width: 2.21 mm.

Soil adaptation: Sandy and heavy soils where adequate moisture is available.

Inflorescence (m/f): Inflorescence is a spike, usually found terminally on a stolon.

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All references cited herein are hereby incorporated by reference in their entireties.

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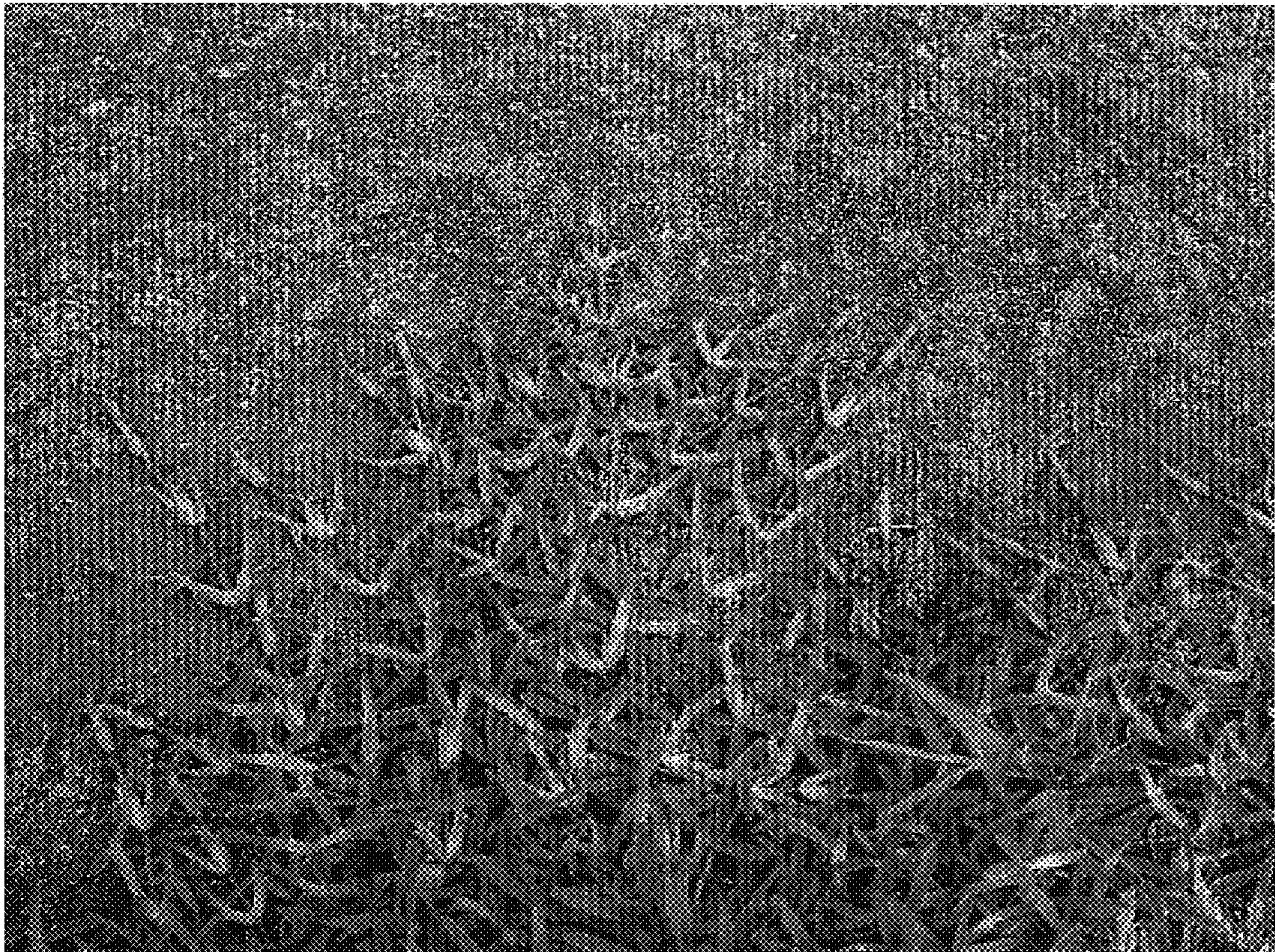
What is claimed is:

1. A new and distinct perennial St. Augustinegrass cultivar, substantially as herein shown and described, dis-

tinguished by its dark green color, improved turfgrass quality, shade tolerance, pest tolerance, dwarf characteristics including short narrow leaf structure, and short average internode length, and vegetative propagation which permits maintenance of a stable genotype.

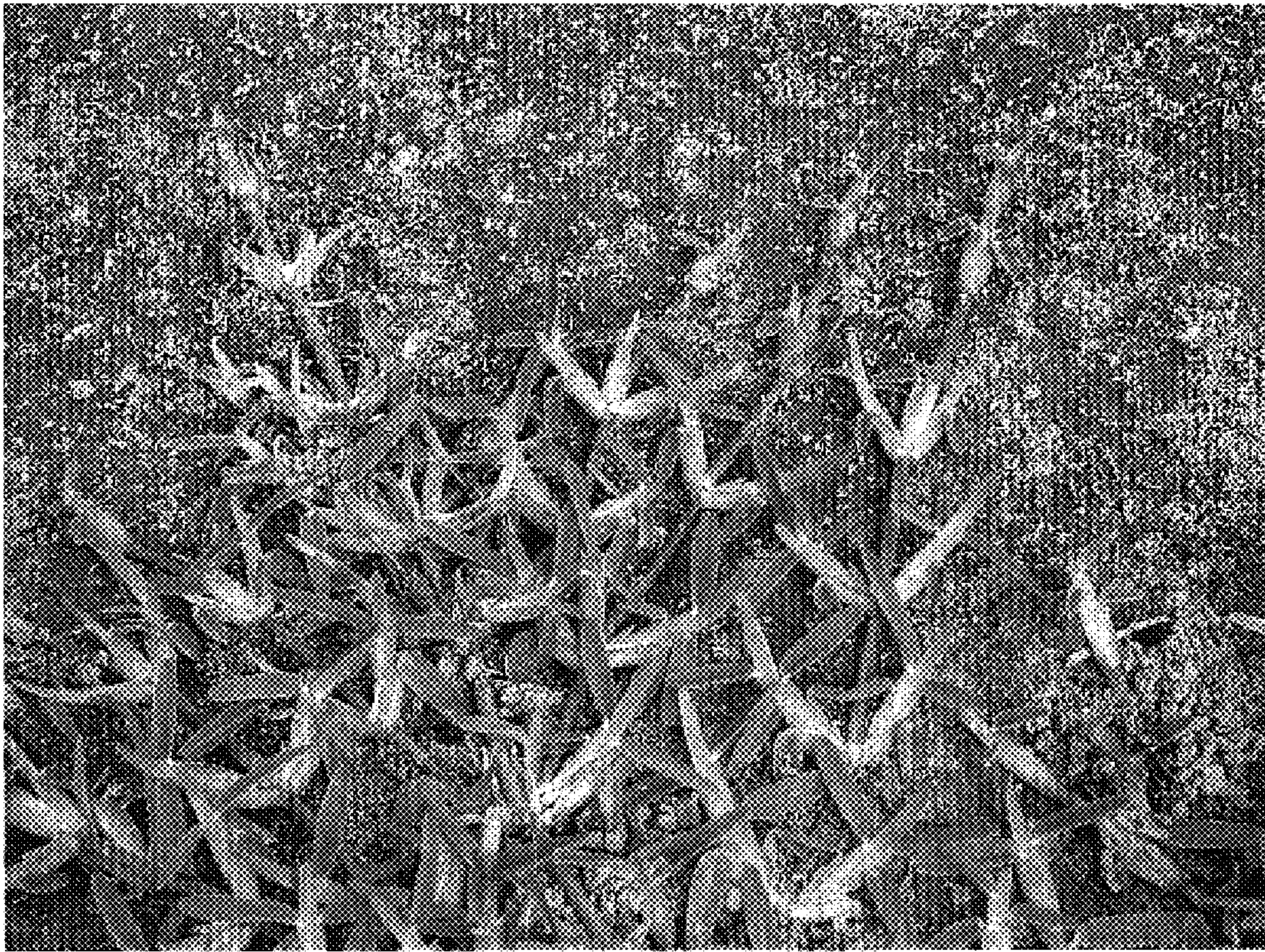
\* \* \* \* \*





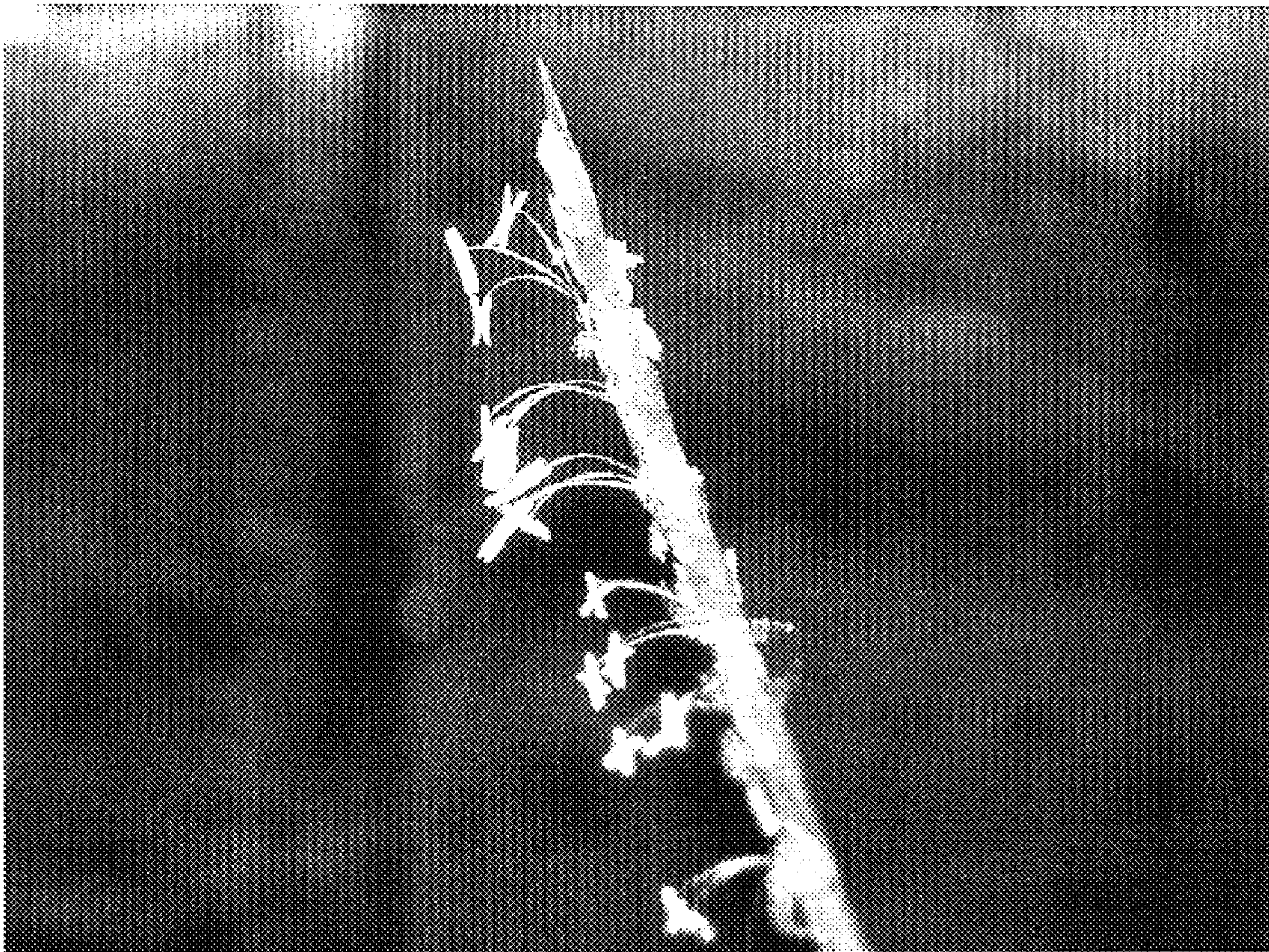
*FIG. 1*





*FIG. 2*





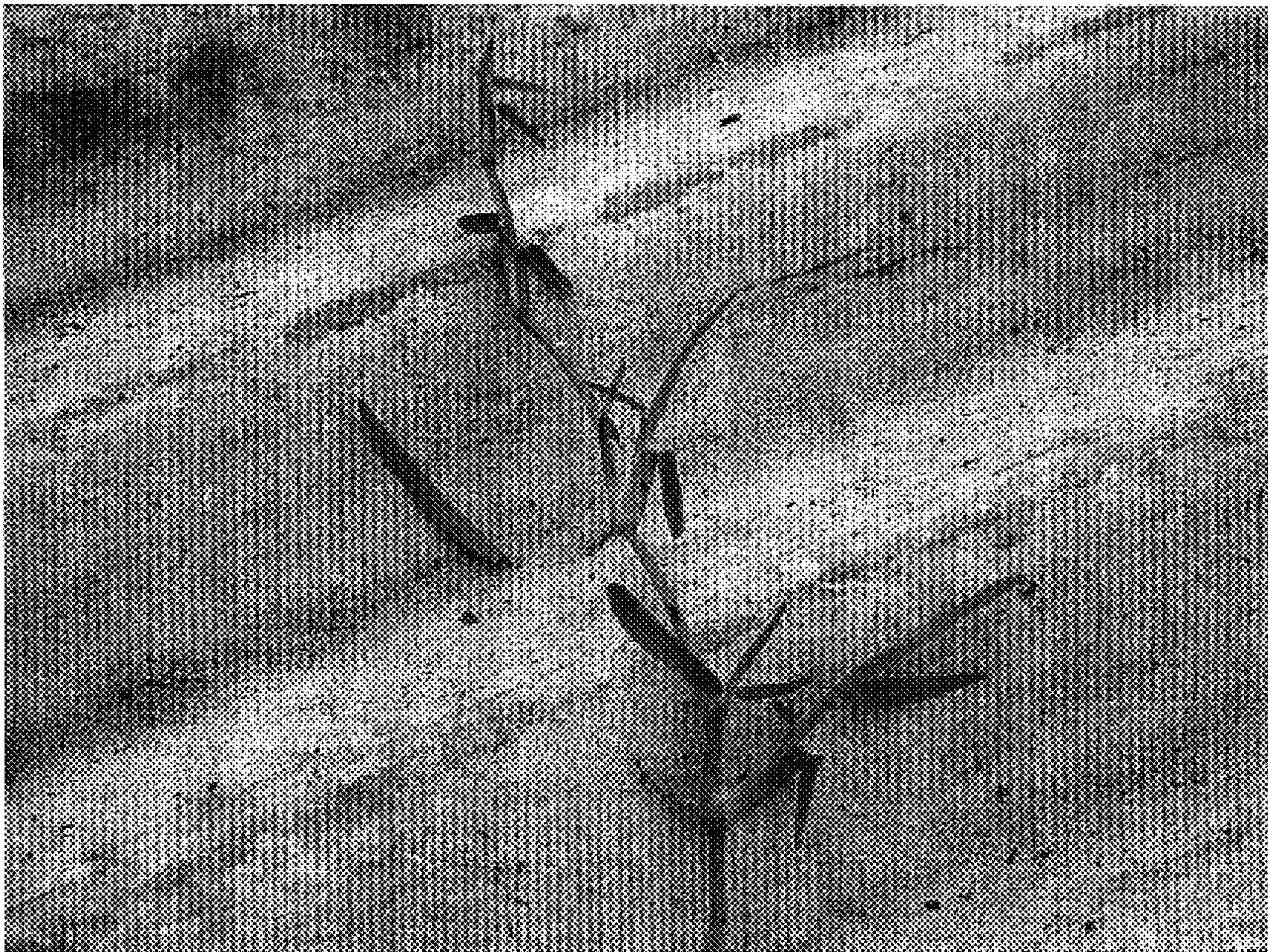
***FIG. 3***





*FIG. 4*





***FIG. 5***