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Korlipara

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(54) **ECHINACEA PURPUREA PLANT NAMED**
'GREEN EYES'

(51) **Int. Cl.**
A01H 5/00 (2006.01)

(50) Latin Name: *Echinacea purpurea*
Varietal Denomination: **Green Eyes**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./263**
(58) **Field of Classification Search** **Plt./263**
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
patent is extended or adjusted under 35
U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

A new and distinct cultivar of *Echinacea purpurea* plant
named 'Green Eyes' characterized by its unique inflores-
cences of deep red purple ray florets that are spread out
perpendicular to the stem with lime green centers on young
inflorescences, lovely fragrance, and an upright vigorous
habit.

(21) Appl. No.: **11/155,226**

1 Drawing Sheet

(22) Filed: **Jun. 16, 2005**

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Botanical denomination: *Echinacea purpurea*.
Variety designation: 'Green Eyes'.

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of *Echinacea purpurea* and given the cultivar name 'Green
Eyes'. *Echinacea* is in the family Asteraceae. This new
cultivar originated from an open pollinated cross between
Echinacea 'Ruby Giant', an unpatented plant, as the seed
parent, and an unknown pollen parent.

This new *Echinacea purpurea* cultivar is distinguished
by:

1. Large red purple inflorescences with a double row of
ray florets.
2. Ray florets spread out stiffly, parallel to ground.
3. Lime green centers when disc florets are unopened.
4. Lovely fragrance.
5. Strong upright stems.
6. Good vigor.

This new cultivar has been reproduced only by asexual
propagation (division and tissue culture). Each of the prog-
eny exhibits identical characteristics to the original plant.
Asexual propagation by division and tissue culture using
standard micropropagation techniques with terminal and
lateral shoots, as done in Canby, Oreg., shows that the
foregoing characteristics and distinctions come true to form
and are established and transmitted through succeeding
propagations. The present invention has not been evaluated
under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype
may vary with variations in environment without a change
in the genotype of the plant.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

The photograph shows a close up of the inflorescence of
a one year old *Echinacea purpurea* 'Green Eyes' growing in
the ground in the field in the summer in Canby, Oreg.

DETAILED PLANT DESCRIPTION

The following is a detailed description of the new *Echina-*
cea purpurea cultivar based on observations of a one-year-
old specimen growing in the ground in full sun under typical
outdoor conditions Canby is Zone 8 on the USDA Hardiness

map. Temperatures range from a high of 95 degrees F. in
August to 32 degrees F. in January. Normal rainfall in Canby
in 42.8 inches per year in the trial fields in Canby, Oreg. The
color descriptions are all based on The Royal Horticultural
Society Colour Chart.

Botanical denomination: *Echinacea purpurea*.
Variety designation: 'Green Eyes'.
Plant:

- Type.*—Herbaceous perennial.
- Hardiness.*—USDA Zones 4 to 9.
- Size.*—30 cm wide and 78 cm tall to top of inflores-
cences.
- Form.*—Basal clump.
- Vigor.*—Excellent.
- Roots.*—Fibrous, with many downward growing and
few laterals, ivory in color, Yellow White 158D.
Roots develop easily from cuttings from the crown.

Leaf:

- Type.*—Simple.
- Shape.*—Ovate.
- Arrangement.*—Alternate.
- Blade size.*—8 to 15 cm long and 4.5 to 7 cm wide at
the widest part.
- Margins.*—Serrate.
- Apex.*—Acuminate.
- Base.*—Attenuate, continuing down petiole.
- Texture.*—Like sandpaper.
- Surface texture.*—Strigose.
- Venation.*—Pinnate, with three main veins from near
the base.
- Color.*—Topside — Deep Green, Closest to Yellow
Green 147A, but darker. Bottom — Yellow Green
147B.
- Petiole length.*—16.5 cm if basal leaf, 1 to 1.5 cm if
cauline leaf and 4 mm wide on both.
- Petiole surface texture.*—Strigose.
- Petiole color.*—Yellow Green 147B.

Peduncle:

- Height.*—78 cm.
- Diameter.*—6 mm near flower head.
- Surface texture.*—Strigose.

Color.—Yellow Green 146C speckled or mottled with Greyed Orange 177A.

Inflorescence:

Type.—Long stalked terminal heads, perfect, zygomorphic.

Size.—12.5 cm wide and 2 to 5 cm deep as disc enlarges.

Ray florets.—In 2 series, usually between 28 and 35 florets, with entire margins. Shape: Oblanceolate with the tip occasionally two toothed. Size: 5.7 cm long, 1.3 cm wide. Texture — Rubbery. Surface texture — Glabrous.

Disc.—Shape—Convex becoming conic. Size—4.5 to 4.8 cm wide and becoming 3.5 cm deep with maturity. Floret from the side—10 mm long, Yellow Green 145B, 5 lobed, each floret with one persistent, very stiff bract, 12 mm long, which gives the disc color. Pistil — 7 mm long, extruding, 2-branched stigma, Greyed Purple 187A. Stamen number — 5. Pollen color — Yellow Orange 19A.

Color.—Ray floret, topside — Red Purple 71B. Ray floret, bottom side — Red Purple 70A. Disc floret as seen from the top — Yellow Green 144A when in bud, change to orange, Yellow Orange 28B tipped with Greyed Red 179A then mature to Greyed Purple 187A.

Phyllaries (at the base of each head).—Phyllaries in four leafy series, lobes lanceolate in shape, reflexed, apex acute, margins entire, strigose on back side and glabrous on inside, in an area of 3.5 to 5 cm wide.

Phyllary size.—Grows to 17 mm long and 3 mm wide.

Phyllary color.—Yellow Green 147A on both sides.

Bloom period.—July through September in Canby, Oreg.

Fragrance.—Lovely, strong.

Seed: Not Seen.

Fertility.—Fertile.

Disease and pests: *Echinacea* are susceptible to leaf miners, powdery mildew, bacterial spots, and gray mold. None of these have been observed on plants grown under commercial conditions in Canby, Oreg.

COMPARISONS TO SIMILAR *ECHINACEA*

Compared to *Echinacea purpurea* ‘Ruby Giant’ and ‘Magnus’, unpatented plants, the ray florets of this new cultivar are deeper red purple and the young disc florets are a distinctive lime green, rather than orange.

I claim:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Echinacea purpurea* plant as herein illustrated and described.

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