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

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(54) **PORTULACA PLANT NAMED ‘BALRIOYEL’**

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

(50) Latin Name: *Portulaca oleracea*  
Varietal Denomination: **Balrioyel**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **Plt./263**

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

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(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this  
patent is extended or adjusted under 35  
U.S.C. 154(b) by 95 days.

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Portulaca* plant named  
‘Balrioyel’ characterized by its large, bright yellow-colored  
flowers, medium green-colored foliage with grayed orange-  
colored margin, and vigorous, spreading growth habit.

(21) Appl. No.: **11/284,045**

**1 Drawing Sheet**

(22) Filed: **Nov. 21, 2005**

**1**

**2**

Latin name of genus and species of plant claimed: *Portu-  
laca oleracea*.

Variety denomination: ‘Balrioyel’.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar  
of *Portulaca* plant botanically known as *Portulaca oleracea*  
and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name ‘Balrioyel’.

The new cultivar originated in a controlled breeding  
program in Cartago, Costa Rica during January 2002. The  
objective of the breeding program was the development of  
free flowering *Portulaca* cultivars with well-branched, and  
vigorous, spreading growth habit.

The new cultivar was the result of a self-pollination of the  
proprietary *Portulaca oleracea* breeding selection design-  
ated ‘Yubi Yellow’, not patented, characterized by its light,  
yellow-colored flowers and trailing growth habit. The new  
cultivar was discovered and selected by the inventor as a  
single flowering plant within the progeny of the above stated  
self-pollination during June 2002 in a controlled environ-  
ment at Cartago, Costa Rica.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal stem  
cuttings since June 2002 at Cartago, Costa Rica and West  
Chicago, Ill. has demonstrated that the new cultivar repro-  
duces true to type with all characteristics, as herein  
described, firmly fixed and retained through successive  
generations of such asexual propagation.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

The following characteristics of the new cultivar have  
been repeatedly observed and can be used to distinguish  
‘Balrioyel’ as a new and distinct cultivar of *Portulaca* plant:

1. Large, bright yellow-colored flowers;
2. Medium green-colored foliage with grayed orange-  
colored margin; and
3. Vigorous, spreading growth habit.

Plants of the new cultivar differ from plants of the parent  
primarily in flower size, and flower color.

Of the many commercially available *Portulaca* cultivars  
known to the inventor, the most similar in comparison to the

new cultivar is ‘Summer Joy Yellow’, U.S. Plant Pat. No.  
12,256. However, in side by side comparisons, plants of the  
new cultivar differ from plants of ‘Sunny Joy Yellow’ in the  
following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new cultivar have more flowers per plant  
at any one time than plants of ‘Summer Joy Yellow’;
2. Plants of the new cultivar have larger flowers than  
plants of ‘Summer Joy Yellow’; and
3. Plants of the new cultivar have flowers with fewer  
anthers than plants of ‘Summer Joy Yellow’.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS**

The accompanying photographs show, as nearly true as it  
is reasonably possible to make the same in color illustrations  
of this type, typical flower and foliage characteristics of the  
new cultivar. Colors in the photographs differ slightly from  
the color values cited in the detailed description, which  
accurately describes the colors of ‘Balrioyel’. The plants  
were grown in 10 cm pots for 10 weeks in a greenhouse at  
West Chicago, Ill.

FIG. 1 illustrates a side view of the overall growth and  
flowering habit of ‘Balrioyel’.

FIG. 2 illustrates a close-up view of an individual flower  
of ‘Balrioyel’.

**DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION**

The new cultivar has not been observed under all possible  
environmental conditions to date. Accordingly, it is possible  
that the phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in the  
environment, such as temperature, light intensity, and day  
length, without, however, any variance in genotype.

The chart used in the identification of colors described  
herein is The R.H.S. Colour Chart of The Royal Horticul-  
tural Society, London, England, 2001 edition, except where  
general color terms of ordinary significance are used. The  
color values were determined on Aug. 2, 2005 between 3:00  
p.m. and 4:00 p.m. under natural light conditions, in West  
Chicago, Ill.

The following descriptions and measurements describe  
plants produced from cuttings taken from stock plants and



grown in a double polycarbonate-covered greenhouse under conditions comparable to those used in commercial practice. The plants were grown at West Chicago, Ill. in 10 cm pots for 10 weeks utilizing a soilless growth medium. Greenhouse temperatures were maintained at approximately 70° F. to 80° F. (21° C. to 26° C.) during the day and approximately 62° F. to 68° F. (17° C. to 20° C.) during the night. Greenhouse light levels of 5,000 to 10,000 footcandles were maintained during the day.

Botanical classification: *Portulaca oleracea* cultivar Balrioyel.

Parentage:

*Parent.*—‘Yubi Yellow’, not patented.

Propagation:

*Type cutting.*—Terminal stem.

*Time to initiate roots.*—Approximately 4 to 7 days.

*Time to produce a rooted cutting.*—Approximately 14 to 21 days.

*Root description.*—Fibrous.

*Rooting habit.*—Freely branching.

Plant description:

*Crop time.*—Approximately 5 to 6 weeks from a rooted cutting.

*Growth habit and general appearance.*—Vigorous, spreading.

*Size.*—Height from soil level to top of plant plane: Approximately 9.1 cm. Width: Approximately 46.3 cm.

*Branching habit.*—Freely basal branching. Approximately 4 main branches per plant and approximately 19 secondary branches per plant.

*Branch.*—Strength: Strong pliable. Shape: Square in cross section: Length: Approximately 8.4 cm. Diameter: Approximately 4.0 mm. Texture: Glabrous. Color of stem: 144B with overlay of 177B. Internode length at center of branch: Approximately 2.2 cm.

*Foliage.*—Number of leaves per main branch: Approximately 10. Fragrance: None. Form: Simple, fleshy succulent. Arrangement: Alternate. Aspect: Right angle to stem. Shape: Elliptic. Margin: Entire. Apex: Obtuse. Base: Obtuse. Venation pattern: Pinnate. Length of mature leaf: Approximately 2.1 cm. Width of mature leaf: Approximately 1.1 cm. Depth of mature leaf: Approximately 1.0 mm. Texture of upper and lower surfaces: Glabrous. Color of upper surface of mature foliage: Between 146A and 147A with 177A along margin and venation of 144C. Color of lower surface of mature foliage: 146A with venation of 144C. Petiole length: Approximately 2.0 mm. Petiole diameter: Approximately 2.0 mm. Petiole texture of both surfaces: Glabrous. Petiole color of both surfaces: 144C.

Flowering description:

*Flowering habit.*—‘Balrioyel’ is freely flowering under outdoor growing conditions with substantially continuous blooming from spring through autumn and year round in greenhouse environment.

*Time to first flower.*—Approximately 11.5 weeks after sticking of unrooted cutting.

*Lastingness of individual bloom.*—Approximately 1 day.

Flower description:

*Type.*—Solitary, rotate, sessile, not persistent. Quantity of fully open flowers per plant at ten weeks: Approximately 19.

*Bud rate of opening.*—Generally takes 1 day for bud to progress from first color to fully open flower.

*Bud just before opening.*—Shape: Ovate. Length: Approximately 1.1 cm. Diameter: Approximately 6.2 mm. Texture: Glabrous. Color: 144C with overlay of 53C.

*Corolla.*—Form: Single. Diameter: Approximately 4.7 cm. Depth: Approximately 1.4 cm.

*Petals.*—Quantity: 5. Shape: Obovate. Apex: Emarginate. Margin: Entire. Appearance: Shiny. Texture of upper and lower surfaces: Glabrous. Petal length: Approximately 2.2 cm. Petal width: Approximately 1.9 cm. Color of upper and lower surfaces: 9A at margin gradually transitioning to between 12A and 13A at base.

*Sepals.*—Quantity per flower: 2. Shape: Ovate. Apex: Micronate. Sepal length: Approximately 7.2 mm. Sepal width: Approximately 6.8 mm. Texture of upper and lower surfaces: Glabrous. Color of upper surface: 144A. Color of lower surface: 144B.

*Reproductive organs.*—Androecium: Stamen quantity: Approximately 62. Stamen length: Approximately 6.0 mm. Filament color: 14B. Anther shape: Elliptic, bilobed. Anther length: Approximately 0.8 mm. Anther color: 151B. Pollen amount: Abundant. Pollen color: 23A. Gynoecium: Pistil quantity: One per flower. Pistil length: Approximately 1.4 cm. Stigma shape: Five-branched. Stigma length: Approximately 4.0 mm. Stigma color: 7A. Style length: Approximately 7.0 mm. Style color: 151B. Ovary diameter: Approximately 3.0 mm. Ovary color: 143A.

Seed and fruit production: Neither seed nor fruit production has been observed.

Disease and pest resistance: Resistance to pathogens and pests common to *Portulaca* has not been observed.

What is claimed is:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Portulaca* plant named ‘Balrioyel’, substantially as herein shown and described.

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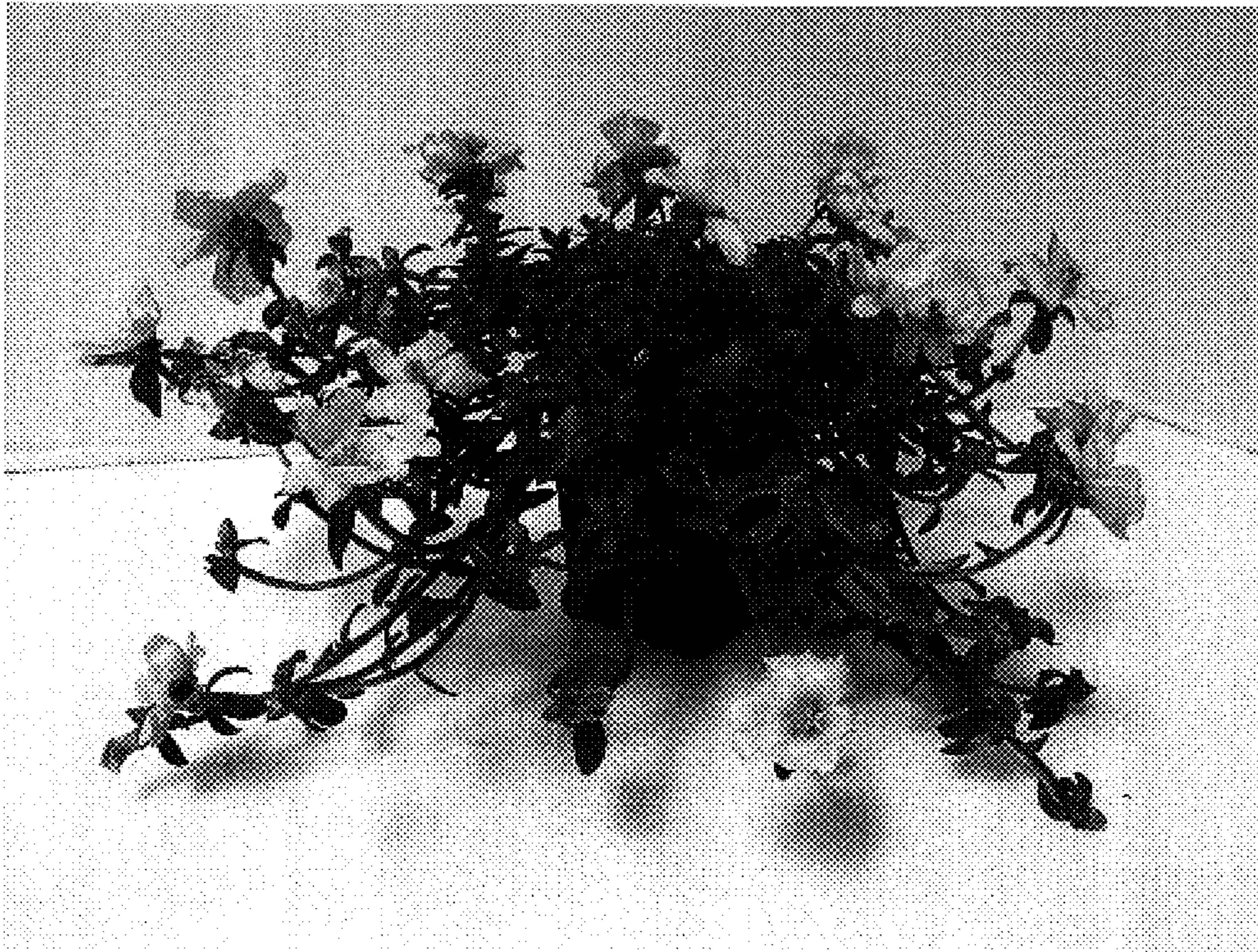


FIG. 1

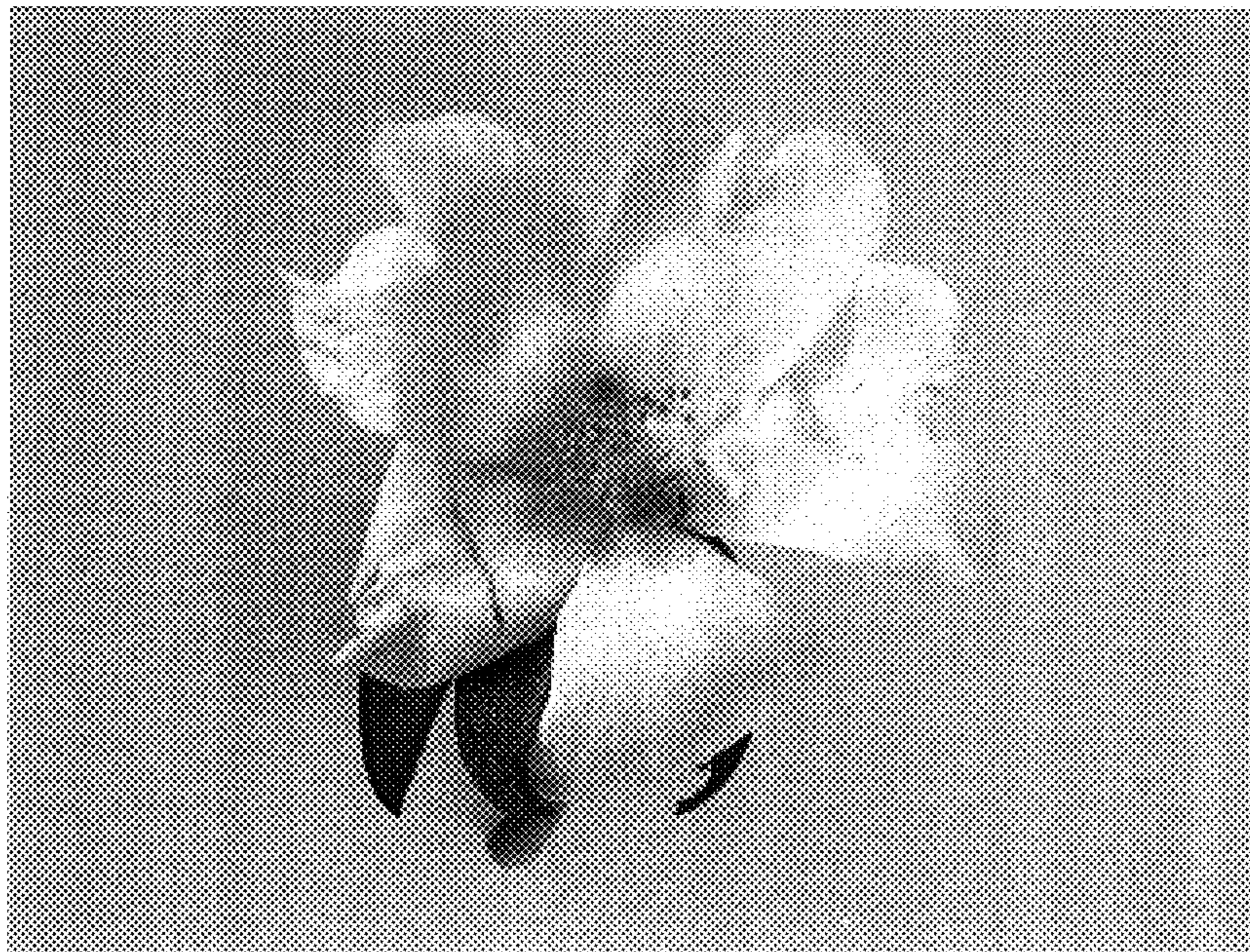


FIG. 2