



US00PP17805P2

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

(10) **Patent No.:** **US PP17,805 P2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Jun. 12, 2007**

(54) **OSTEOSPERMUM PLANT NAMED**
'LANAPAL'

(50) Latin Name: ***Osteospermum ecklonis***
Varietal Denomination: **Lanapal**

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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 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **11/311,671**

(22) Filed: **Dec. 19, 2005**

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

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./360**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** **Plt./360**
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Osteospermum* plant named
'Lanapal', characterized by its compact, upright, somewhat
outwardly spreading and mounded plant habit; freely
branching habit; early and freely flowering habit; inflores-
cences with soft pink-colored ray florets; and tolerance to
high temperatures.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical designation: *Osteospermum ecklonis*.
Botanical denomination: 'Lanapal'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present Invention relates to a new and distinct culti-
var of *Osteospermum* plant, botanically known as
Osteospermum ecklonis, and hereinafter referred to by the
name 'Lanapal'.

The new *Osteospermum* is a product of a planned breed-
ing program conducted by the Inventor in Tiptree, Essex,
United Kingdom. The objective of the breeding program
was to create new *Osteospermum* cultivars with uniform and
freely branching plant habit, unique and attractive floret
coloration, and tolerance to high temperatures.

The new *Osteospermum* originated from a cross-
pollination during the spring of 2002 of an *Osteospermum*
ecklonis seedling selection identified as code number 09-49-
01, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with an
Osteospermum ecklonis seedling selection identified as code
number 18-21-01, not patented, as the male, or pollen,
parent. The new *Osteospermum* was discovered and selected
by the Inventor as a single flowering plant within the
progeny of the stated cross-pollination grown in a controlled
environment in Tiptree, Essex, United Kingdom in 2003.
The new *Osteospermum* was selected on the basis of its
freely branching habit, attractive ray floret coloration and
tolerance to high temperatures.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Osteospermum* by ter-
minal vegetative cuttings has shown that the unique features
of this new *Osteospermum* are stable and reproduced true to
type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The cultivar Lanapal has not been observed under all
possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary
somewhat with variations in environment such as
temperature, daylength and light intensity without, however,
any variance in genotype.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and
are determined to be the unique characteristics of 'Lanapal'.

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These characteristics in combination distinguish 'Lanapal'
as a new and distinct *Osteospermum*:

1. Compact, upright, somewhat outwardly spreading and
mounded plant habit.
2. Freely branching habit.
3. Early and freely flowering habit.
4. Inflorescences with soft pink-colored ray florets.
5. Tolerant to high temperatures.

Plants of the new *Osteospermum* differ primarily from
plants of the parent selections in ray floret coloration.

Plants of the new *Osteospermum* can be compared to
plants of the cultivar Akope, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No.
12,684. However, in side-by-side comparisons conducted in
Tiptree, Essex, United Kingdom, plants of the new
Osteospermum differed from plants of the cultivar Akope in
the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Osteospermum* were more compact
than plants of the cultivar Akope.
2. Plants of the new *Osteospermum* were more freely
branching than plants of the cultivar Akope.
3. Plants of the new *Osteospermum* were more outwardly
spreading than and not as upright as plants of the
cultivar Akope.
4. Plants of the new *Osteospermum* and the cultivar
Akope differed in ray floret coloration as plants of the
cultivar Akope had lighter pink-colored ray florets.
5. Plants of the new *Osteospermum* and the cultivar
Akope differed in disc coloration as plants of the
cultivar Akope had brown-colored discs.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying colored photographs illustrate the
overall appearance of the new *Osteospermum* showing the
colors as true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored
reproductions of this type. Colors in the photographs may
differ from the color values cited in the detailed botanical
description which accurately describe the colors of the new
Osteospermum.

The photograph at the top of the sheet comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'Lanapal' grown in a container.

The photograph at the bottom of the sheet is a close-up view of a typical inflorescence of 'Lanapal'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The new *Osteospermum* 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, following observations and measurements describe plants grown in Tiptree, Essex, United Kingdom in a glass-covered greenhouse and under typical production practices. Plants were about five months old when the photographs and description were taken. Plants were grown in 15-cm containers and were pinched one time. During the production of the plants, day temperatures averaged 19° C. and night temperatures averaged 14° C. 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: *Osteospermum ecklonis* cultivar Lanapal.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Seedling selection of *Osteospermum ecklonis* identified as code number 09-49-01, not patented.

Male, or pollen, parent.—Seedling selection of *Osteospermum ecklonis* identified as code number 18-21-01, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—Terminal vegetative cuttings.

Time to initiate rooting.—About two weeks at 20° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant.—About one month at 20° C.

Root description.—Fine, fibrous; white in color.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching.

Plant description:

Plant form and growth habit.—Perennial herbaceous container and garden plant. Compact, upright, somewhat outwardly spreading and mounded plant habit. Freely branching habit, about five primary lateral branches and numerous secondary lateral branches. Moderately vigorous growth habit.

Plant height.—About 15 cm.

Plant width or area of spread.—About 14 cm.

Lateral branches.—Length: About 4.2 cm. Diameter: About 4 mm. Internode length: About 3 mm. Aspect: Upright and somewhat outwardly spreading. Strength: Strong. Texture: Sparsely pubescent. Color: 143C.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Alternate, simple; sessile. Length: About 4.7 cm. Width: About 1.3 cm. Shape: Oblanceolate to obovate with protruding points. Apex: Acute to obtuse. Base: Cuneate. Margin: Entire with six protruding points. Venation pattern: Pinnate. Texture, upper surface: Sparsely pubescent. Texture, lower surface: Smooth, glabrous; towards the margins, sparsely pubescent. Color: Developing foliage, upper surface: 143A. Developing foliage, lower surface: 137D. Fully

expanded foliage, upper surface: 137B; venation, 143B. Fully expanded foliage, lower surface: 137C; venation, 143C.

Inflorescence description:

Appearance.—Solitary terminal and axillary inflorescences held above and beyond the foliage on strong peduncles. Composite inflorescence form, radially symmetrical, with narrowly oblanceolate-shaped ray florets and disc florets massed at the center; ray and disc florets develop acropetally on a capitulum. Inflorescences persistent. Inflorescences face mostly upright.

Flowering response.—Early flowering; plants flower continuous and freely from the late spring until the early autumn in the United Kingdom.

Postproduction longevity.—Inflorescences maintain good color and substance for about two weeks on the plant.

Quantity of inflorescences.—Freely flowering; at one time, about five to six inflorescences per lateral stem.

Fragrance.—None detected.

Inflorescence bud.—Length: About 1.5 cm. Diameter: About 9 mm. Shape: Broadly elliptic. Color: 144B; towards the apex, 143C.

Inflorescence size.—Diameter: About 6.5 cm. Depth (height): About 2.9 cm. Disc diameter: About 1 cm. Receptacle height: About 1.3 cm. Receptacle diameter: About 1.7 cm.

Ray florets.—Length: About 3.1 cm. Width: About 7.5 mm. Shape: Narrowly oblanceolate. Apex: Praemorse. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Orientation: Initially upright then about 70° from vertical. Number of ray florets per inflorescence: About 20 in one to two whorls. Color: When opening, upper surface: 12C tinged with close to 48D; towards the base, 49C. When opening, lower surface: 10A; longitudinal stripes, 177A to 177B. Fully opened, upper surface: 11C tinged with close to 35D; towards the base, 50D; longitudinal stripes, 55A to 55B. Fully opened, lower surface: 162A; central band, 165A.

Disc florets.—Shape: Tubular, elongated. Apex: Five-pointed. Length: About 5 mm. Width: At apex: About 1.5 mm. At base: About 1 mm. Number of disc florets per inflorescence: About 85. Color: Immature: 65C. Mature: Apex: N92A. Mid-section: 65A. Base: 145D.

Phyllaries.—Length: About 1 cm. Diameter: About 1.3 mm. Shape: Linear. Apex: Acute. Base: Cuneate. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Sparsely pubescent. Number per inflorescence: About 16 in a single whorl. Color, upper and lower surfaces: 143A.

Peduncles.—Length, terminal peduncle: About 5.4 cm. Length, fourth peduncle: About 3.4 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Angle: Terminal peduncles, mostly upright; axillary peduncles about 28° from stem axis. Strength: Strong. Texture: Sparsely pubescent. Color: 143B.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Present on disc florets only. Stamen number: Five per floret; fused around style. Anther shape: Lanceolate. Anther length: About 2.5 mm. Anther color: N92C. Pollen amount: Moderate. Pollen color: N25B. Gynoecium: Present on both ray and disc florets. Pistil number: One per floret. Pistil length: About 7 mm. Stigma shape: Two-parted. Stigma color: 186A to 186C.

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Style length: About 6 mm. Style color: 145D. Ovary color: 145D.

Seed/fruit.—Seed and/or fruit production has not been observed.

Disease/pest resistance: Resistance to pathogens and pests common to *Osteospermums* has not been observed on plants grown under commercial greenhouse or outdoor conditions.

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Temperature tolerance: Plants of the new *Osteospermum* have been observed to tolerate temperatures from about 0° C. to 40° C.

It is claimed:

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

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