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

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(54) ***ECHINACEA PURPUREA* PLANT NAMED  
'LILLIPUT'**

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

(50) Latin Name: *Echinacea purpurea*  
Varietal Denomination: **Lilliput**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **Plt./428**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** ..... Plt./428,  
Plt./263

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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 118 days.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

(21) Appl. No.: **11/389,407**

A new and distinct *Echinacea purpurea* plant named 'Lil-  
liput' characterized by its well branched habit, compact,  
dwarf habit, numerous medium-small red purple flowers,  
strong upright stems, and good vigor.

(22) Filed: **Mar. 24, 2006**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

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**1 Drawing Sheet**

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Botanical denomination: *Echinacea purpurea*.  
Variety designation: 'Lilliput'.

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar  
of *Echinacea purpurea* and given the cultivar name 'Lil-  
liput'. *Echinacea* is in the family Asteraceae. This new  
cultivar originated as an open pollinated seedling from a  
breeding program using *Echinacea* 'Ruby Giant' (an unpat-  
ented plant).

This new *Echinacea purpurea* cultivar is distinguished  
by:

1. Red purple, medium-small flowers.
2. Well branched, compact, dwarf habit.
3. Strong, upright stems.
4. 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 flowers of a two  
year old *Echinacea purpurea* 'Lilliput' 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 in Canby, Oreg. Canby is in Zone 8 on

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the USDA Hardiness map. Temperatures range from an  
average high of 95 degrees F. in August to an average of 32  
degrees F. in January. Normal rainfall in Canby is 42.8  
inches per year in the trial fields in Canby, Oreg. The color  
descriptions are all based on The Royal Horticultural Soci-  
ety Colour Chart.

Plant:

*Type*.—Herbaceous perennial.

*Hardiness*.—USDA Zones 4 to 9.

*Size*.—44 cm wide and 31 cm tall to top of flowers.

*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 or  
crown divisions.

Stem:

*Type*.—Ascending.

*Size*.—30 cm tall to terminal head and 7 mm wide.

*Internode length*.—1.5 cm to 7 cm.

*Surface texture*.—Strigose.

*Color*.—Yellow Green 147C with mottling of Greyed  
Green 197A.

Leaf:

*Type*.—Simple.

*Shape*.—Ovate.

*Arrangement*.—Alternate.

*Blade size*.—Basal leaves grow to 20 cm long and 8 cm  
wide, stem leaves grow to 13 cm long and 7 cm wide.

*Margins*.—Serrate.

*Apex*.—Acuminate.

*Base*.—Attenuate, continuing down petiole.

*Surface texture*.—Strigose.

*Venation*.—Pinnate.

*Color*.—Topside — Deep Green, Between Green 138A  
and Yellow Green 147A with veins Yellow Green  
145C. Bottom — Yellow Green 147B with veins  
Yellow Green 145C.

*Petiole description.*—Grows to 12 cm if basal leaf, 5.5 cm if cauline leaf and 5 mm wide on both, strigose, Yellow Green 147C overall.

Inflorescence:

*Type.*—Stalked terminal heads.

*Peduncle description.*—Grows to 10.5 cm where leafless, with diameter growing to 6 mm near the flower head, strigose, branched, with one to three flowers per flowering stem; Yellow Green 147C with mottling of Greyed Green 197A.

*Number of flowering stems per plant in summer.*—Ranging from 7 to 12.

*Bloom time.*—Summer until frost in Canby, Oreg.

Flower:

*Type.*—Perfect, zygomorphic.

*Size.*—7 cm wide and 3 cm deep as disc enlarges.

*Form.*—Single row of ray florets held horizontally, cones are flat topped becoming dome shaped with maturity.

*Immature inflorescence.*—2.5 cm wide and 2 cm deep, ray florets held upright and colored Red Purple 59D with greenish tinge, Greyed Yellow 160D. The disc is Red Purple 59A where the bracts are with the very center Yellow Green 144B.

*Ray florets.*—In one series with 23 to 31 ray florets, each oblanceolate, entire, tip two toothed, 3 cm long, 7 mm wide, glabrous on both sides, color on both sides is closest to Red Purple 64C, infertile, no stamen or pistil.

*Disc.*—Flat topped becoming dome shaped with maturity, grow to 5 cm wide and 1.4 cm deep, Orange 28B with Greyed Purple 187A in background.

*Disc florets.*—About 200 in number, 1.2 cm long and 1 mm to 2 mm wide, each floret with one persistent, very stiff bract, 11 mm long, which gives the disc its color, corolla 4 mm long, Yellow Green 144C on

bottom  $\frac{2}{3}$  and Greyed Red 178B on top  $\frac{1}{3}$ ; pistil, 1 in number, in disc florets only; ovary 3 mm long, White 155A, style 5 mm long exerted from the corolla, Yellow Green 144C, stigma two-branched Greyed Purple 185A, stamen, 5 in number, in disc florets only, 4 mm long, with the filaments 1.5 mm long and White 155A and the anthers 2.5 mm long and Brown 200A, pollen Yellow Orange 22A.

*Involucral bracts.*—In six leafy series with size largest where closest to the stem, grow to 16 mm long and 3 mm wide, lanceolate, acute, entire, reflexed, strigose, Yellow Green 147B.

*Fragrance.*—Lovely.

*Lastingness.*—Each inflorescence lasts about two weeks.

Seed: Not found.

*Fertility.*—Assumed to be sterile.

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* ‘Little Giant’, U.S. Plant application Ser. No. 10/872,349, the new variety has smaller, lighter red purple flowers, more flowers, and fewer petal layers. The overall plant habit is lower and wider.

Compared to the parent line using *Echinacea purpurea* ‘Ruby Giant’ (an unpatented plant), ‘Lilliput’ has smaller flowers and is a much shorter plant with a much lower and more compact habit.

What is claimed is:

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

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