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(54) ***FORSYTHIA* PLANT NAMED ‘MINDOR’**

(50) Latin Name: ***Forsythia*×*intermedia***
Varietal Denomination: **Mindor**

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./230**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** **Plt./230**
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Forsythia* plant named
‘Mindor’, characterized by its upright and somewhat out-
wardly spreading plant habit; freely branching growth habit;
dark green-colored foliage; and numerous bright yellow-
colored flowers.

2 Drawing Sheets

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Botanical designation: *Forsythia*×*intermedia*.
Cultivar denomination: ‘Mindor’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present Invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of *Forsythia* plant, botanically known as *Forsythia*×
intermedia, and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name
Mindor.

The new *Forsythia* is a naturally-occurring branch muta-
tion of the *Forsythia*×*intermedia* cultivar Fiesta, disclosed in
U.S. Plant Pat. No. 7,523. The new *Forsythia* was discovered
and selected by the Inventor in a controlled environment in
Angers, France on Mar. 15, 1997 from within a population
of plants of the cultivar Fiesta.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by softwood cut-
tings in Angers, France has shown that the unique features of
this new *Forsythia* are stable and reproduced true to type in
successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Plants of the cultivar Mindor have 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 vari-
ance in genotype.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and
are determined to be the unique characteristics of ‘Mindor’.
These characteristics in combination distinguish ‘Mindor’ as
a new and distinct *Forsythia* cultivar:

1. Upright and somewhat outwardly spreading plant habit.
2. Freely branching growth habit.
3. Dark green-colored foliage.
4. Numerous bright yellow-colored flowers.

Plants of the new *Forsythia* differ primarily from plants of
the parent, the cultivar Fiesta, in the following characteris-
tics:

1. Plants of the new *Forsythia* are larger than plants of the
cultivar Fiesta.

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2. Plants of the new *Forsythia* have dark green-colored
leaves whereas plants of the cultivar Fiesta have varie-
gated leaves.

3. Leaves of plants of the new *Forsythia* are thick and flat
whereas leaves of plants of the cultivar Fiesta are thin,
rugose and undulating.

4. Plants of the new *Forsythia* are more freely and uni-
formly flowering than plants of the cultivar Fiesta.

Plants of the new *Forsythia* can be compared to plants of
the cultivar Lynwood, not patented. In side-by-side compari-
sons conducted in Grand Haven, Mich., plants of the new
Forsythia differed from plants of the cultivar Lynwood in the
following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Forsythia* were much shorter than
plants of the cultivar Lynwood.
2. Leaves of plants of the new *Forsythia* were flat, elliptic
in shape and had entire margins whereas leaves of
plants of the cultivar Lynwood were folded at the
midrib, lanceolate in shape and had serrated margins.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying colored photographs illustrate the
overall appearance of the new cultivar, showing the colors as
true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored repro-
ductions of this type. Colors in the photographs may differ
slightly from the color values cited in the detailed botanical
description which accurately describe the colors of the new
Forsythia.

The photograph at the bottom of the sheet comprises a
side perspective view of a typical plant of ‘Mindor’ grown in
a container.

The photograph at the top of the sheet is a close-up view
of typical flowering stems of ‘Mindor’.

The photograph on the second sheet is a close-up view of
typical leaves of ‘Mindor’.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

Plants of the cultivar Mindor have 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 and following observations and measurements describe plants grown during the spring and summer in Grand Haven, Mich., under commercial practice in an outdoor nursery. Plants used for the photographs and description were about three years old. In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 1995 Edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Botanical classification: *Forsythia x intermedia* cultivar Mindor.

Parentage: Naturally-occurring branch mutation of the *Forsythia x intermedia* cultivar Fiesta, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 7,523.

Propagation:

Type cutting.—Softwood cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—About two weeks at 27° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant.—About three months at 25° C.

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

Rooting habit.—Freely branching; dense.

Plant description:

Form.—Perennial flowering shrub; upright to outwardly spreading plant habit. Freely basal branching habit; about 29 lateral branches per plant; pinching enhances branching.

Plant height.—About 82 cm.

Plant diameter.—About 75 cm.

Vigor.—Vigorous.

Lateral branches.—Length: About 82 cm. Diameter: About 4 mm to 5 mm. Internode length: About 4.2 cm. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Strength: Strong. Color: Between 141A and 137A. Lenticels: Shape: Rounded. Diameter: About 1 mm. Color: Close to 196B.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Opposite, simple. Length: About 7.9 cm. Width: About 3.5 cm. Shape: Elliptic. Apex: Obtuse to acute. Base: Obtuse. Margin: Mostly entire. Aspect: Mostly flat to slightly wavy. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Venation pattern: Pinnate. Color: Developing leaves, upper and lower surfaces: 144A. Fully expanded leaves, upper surface: 147A; venation, 147B. Fully expanded leaves, lower surface: 147B; venation, 147B. Petiole length: About 1.1 cm. Petiole diameter: About 2 mm. Petiole texture, upper and

lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Petiole color, upper and lower surfaces: 147B.

Flower description:

Flower type and habit.—Single axillary funnelform flowers arranged uniformly and densely along the lateral branches. Freely flowering habit, usually about 64 flowers and flower buds per lateral branch. Flowers face mostly outwardly. Flowers not persistent. Flowers slightly fragrant.

Natural flowering season.—Flowering begins in the early spring prior to leaf development in Michigan.

Flower longevity.—Flowers last about two to three weeks on the plant.

Flower diameter.—About 3.5 cm.

Flower depth.—About 1.5 cm.

Flower buds.—Length: About 4 mm. Diameter: About 3 mm. Shape: Elliptic. Color: 147B.

Petals.—Quantity/arrangement: Four per flower fused at the base. Length: About 2 cm. Width: About 1.6 cm. Shape: Oblong. Apex: Obtuse to retuse. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color: When opening, upper and lower surfaces: 13A. When opening, upper and lower surfaces: 13A; color becoming closer to 7A with development.

Sepals.—Quantity/arrangement: Four fused at the base. Length: About 5 mm. Diameter: About 4 mm. Shape: Elliptic. Apex: Obtuse. Margin: Entire. Sepal texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, upper and lower surfaces: 143A.

Peduncles.—Length: About 8 mm. Diameter: About 1.5 mm. Strength: Strong. Angle: About 45° from the stem axis. Color: 143A.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Stamen quantity: Two per flower. Anther size: About 2 mm by 1 mm. Anther shape: Elliptic. Anther color: 7A. Pollen amount: Moderate. Pollen color: 7A. Gynoecium: Pistil quantity: One per flower. Pistil length: About 3 mm. Style length: About 2 mm. Style color: 144A. Stigma shape: Two-parted. Stigma color: 144A. Ovary color: 144A.

Seeds/fruits.—Seed and fruit development has not been observed.

Disease/pest resistance: Plants of the new *Forsythia* have not been observed to be resistant to pathogens and pests common to *Forsythia*.

Temperature tolerance: Plants of the new *Forsythia* have been observed to tolerate temperatures from about -20° C. to about 38° C.

It is claimed:

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

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