



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

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(54) **BROWALLIA SPECIOSA ‘UNHBR15’**

(50) Latin Name: ***Browallia hybrida***
Varietal Denomination: **UNHBR15**

(75) Inventor: **Rosanna Freyre**, Gainesville, FL (US)

(73) Assignee: **University of New Hampshire**,
Durham, NH (US)

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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Primary Examiner—Annette H Para

Assistant Examiner—Georgia Helmer

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Devine, Millimet & Branch,
PA; Paul C. Remus; Raymond I. Bruttomesso, Jr.

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Browallia* plant named
‘UNHBR15,’ characterized by numerous single flowers that
are light lavender in color with a darker rim, compact and
rounded growth habit, stems that do not break or separate on
the center of the mature plant, and good performance in
partial shade in the garden and as a hanging basket.

2 Drawing Sheets

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GOVERNMENT SPONSORSHIP

The U.S. Government has a paid-up license in this inven-
tion and the right in limited circumstances to require the
patent owner to license others on reasonable terms as pro-
vided for by the terms of contract No. 01-90015-0420
awarded by the USDA/Cooperative State Research, Educa-
tion and Extension Service.

Botanical classification/cultivar designation: *Browallia*
hybrida named ‘UNHBR15’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present Invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of *Browallia* plant, botanically known as *Browallia*
speciosa, and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name
‘UNHBR15’.

The new *Browallia* is a product of a planned breeding
program conducted by the Inventor in Durham, N.H. The
objective of the breeding program is to create new compact
Browallia plants with attractive flowers in a range of colors,
profuse flowering and reduced fruit set.

The new ‘UNHBR15’ originated from a manual self pol-
lination made by the Inventor on Dec. 4, 2001 on proprietary
selection UNH B06-1 resulting from hybridization between
a proprietary selection of *Browallia speciosa* code BROW4,
not patented, used as female, and a proprietary selection of
Browallia speciosa BROW6, not patented, used as male.
BROW4 had large purple flowers with a white center while
BROW6 had compact habit and small light lavender flowers.
Seed was sown on Feb. 14, 2002. From the segregating
progeny, a single plant BR2-28-2, later coded as
‘UNHBR15’ was selected in Durham, N.H. USA, on the
basis of its profuse flowering, compact growth habit and
attractive, large light lavender flowers. ‘UN11BR15’ dif-
fered from its female parent BROW4 in that its flowers were
light lavender with a darker rim rather than purple: it also

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differed from its male parent BROW6 in that its flowers were
on average 0.8–1 cm larger.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal veg-
etative cuttings since June 2002 taken in Durham, N.H. has
shown that the unique features of this new *Browallia* are
stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Plants of the cultivar ‘UNHBR15’ have not been observed
under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype
may vary somewhat with variations in environment such as
temperature, light intensity and daylength without, however,
any variance in genotype.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and
are determined to be the unique characteristics of
‘UNHBR15’. These characteristics in combination distin-
guish ‘UNHBR15’ as a new and distinct cultivar:

1. Numerous single flowers that are light lavender in
color, with a darker rim.
2. Compact and rounded plant growth habit.
3. Stems do not break or separate on the center of the
mature plant.
4. Good performance in partial shade in the garden and as
a hanging basket.

Of the *Browallia* cultivars known to the inventor, the most
similar to ‘UNHBR15’ is seed propagated *Browallia spe-*
ciosa ‘Powder Blue’ not patented. In side-by-side compari-
sons conducted in Durham, N.H., plants of *Browallia spe-*
ciosa ‘Powder Blue’ grown from seed exhibit some trait
variation. Primarily, plants of the new *Browallia* differed
from plants of *Browallia speciosa* ‘Powder Blue’ in the fol-
lowing characteristics:

1. Flowers of plants of the new *Browallia* were about 0.5
cm larger than flowers of ‘Powder Blue’.

2. Flowers of plants of the new *Browallia* tend to curve back as they age and flowers of 'Powder Blue' do not curve.
3. Lateral branches in the new *Browallia* were about 5 cm shorter than branches of 'Powder Blue'.
4. Mature plants on the new *Browallia* had a more compact and rounded growth habit than mature plants of 'Powder Blue', which tended to break up open on the center and give an empty appearance.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

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

One photograph comprises a side perspective view of one typical five-month 20-cm container of 'UNHBR15' with three plants.

A second photograph is a close-up view of typical flowers and leaves in a five-month old plant of 'UNHBR15'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photographs and following observations and measurements describe plants grown in Durham, N.H., in a heated greenhouse with 21° C. day/18° C. night set points. After planting rooted cuttings, plants were grown for about three months in 20-cm containers with three plants per container. Color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 1995 Edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used. Color was evaluated under indirect, natural light.

Botanical classification: *Browallia speciosa* cultivar 'UNHBR15'.

Parentage:

Female parent.—Proprietary selection of *Browallia speciosa* code UNH B06-1, not patented

Male parent.—Proprietary selection of *Browallia speciosa* code UNH B06-1, not patented.

Propagation:

Type cutting.—Terminal vegetative cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—About seven days at 21° C.

Time to develop roots.—About 15 days at 21° C.

Root description.—Fine, fibrous; white, color 155D.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching.

Plant description:

Form.—Annual flowering plant; moderately vigorous; compact plant habit; uniformly mounded plant form. Freely branching habit with lateral branches potentially forming at very node. Continuous flowering, day neutral.

Plant height.—About 20 cm.

Plant diameter (area of spread), single plant.—About 55 cm.

Vigor.—Moderately vigorous.

Lateral branches.—Length: 13 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Internode length: 2.5 cm. Texture: glabrous. Color: 143B.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Alternate. Length: About 3–4 cm. Width: 1.3–2 cm. Shape: elliptic to lanceolate. Apex: Acute. Base: Rounded. Margin: Ciliolate. Texture: With minute hairs. Venation pattern: Pinnate. Color: Developing leaves, upper sur-

face: 143A; developing leaves, lower surface: 143B. Fully expanded leaves, upper surface: 137A. Fully expanded leaves, lower surface: 137C. Venation, upper and lower surfaces: 143A.

Flower description:

Flower type and habit.—Salverform; single, axillary. Flowers face outward at foliage level. Flowers not fragrant. Very freely flowering, typically about three open flowers and three flower buds per lateral branch at one time.

Natural flowering season.—Plants flower from April to October in the Northern Hemisphere until frost in the autumn; flowering continuous during this period. Plants will flower under short or long days in a greenhouse.

Flower longevity on the plant.—About seven days.

Fragrance.—None detected.

Flower size.—Diameter: 4–4.8 cm. Depth (height from base of the calyx): 2.5–3 cm.

Flower buds (showing color).—Length: About 2.2 cm. Diameter: About 4 mm. Shape: Oblong. Color: 138B.

Petals.—Quantity/arrangement: Salverform corolla, five petal lobes fused in a star shape. Occasionally six lobes. Petal length: About 1.2–1.5 cm. Petal width: About 1.1–1.8 cm. Shape: Star. Apex: Rounded. Base: Fused. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, with longitudinal venation. Color: When opening, upper surface: 91A. When opening, lower surface: 91B. Fully opened, upper surface: 91B; upper center: 155C. Fully opened, lower surface: 91C; lower center, 91D.

Sepals.—Arrangement/appearance: Five sepals. Length: About 6 mm. Width: About 1–2 mm. Shape: ovate. Apex: Acute. Base: Fused. Margin: Ciliolate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Covered with hairs. Color, upper and lower surfaces: 143B. Total length of calyx: 1.8 cm.

Pedicels.—Length: About 2 cm. Width: About 1 mm. Angle: About 45° from the main stem.

Strength: Moderately strong. Texture: Glabrous. Color: 144A.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: Quantity per flower: Four, 2 long and 2 short. Filaments on the long stamens are folded over, visible in the center of the corolla, and are covered with a light green fuzz. Anther shape: Kidney, with two theca. Anther length: About 1 mm. Anther width: About 1 mm. Anther color: 14C. Pollen amount: Abundant. Pollen color: 14D. Pistils: Quantity per flower: One. Pistil length: About 2.2 cm. Style length: About 1.9 cm. Style color: 145C. Stigma shape: Oval. Stigma color: 144A. Ovary color: 144A.

Seed/fruit.—Seed and/or fruit production is moderate under open pollination with other *Browallia* plants. About 80% fruit set observed from manual self pollination.

Disease/pest resistance: Plants of the new *Browallia* have not been noted to be resistant to pathogens or pests common to *Browallia*.

Garden performance: 'UNHBR15' has good tolerance to drought conditions and will recover well from wilt. Better growth and flowering is seen under part-shade conditions. Flowers tend to fade under full sun.

What is claimed is:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Browallia* plant named 'UNHBR15' as illustrated and described.

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