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

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(54) **GRAPEVINE (SHEEGENE-11)**

(50) Latin Name: *Vitis vinifera*
Varietal Denomination: **Sheegen-11**

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct variety of grapevine characterized by the
production of large, green-colored seedless grapes that have
a muscat flavor and mature in mid to late July, approximately
two to three weeks earlier than Thompson Seedless
(unpatented) when grown in the San Joaquin Valley of Cen-
tral California. The grapes of this new variety are produced
on strong woody stems and branches and are well adapted to
commercial handling.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Latin name of the genus and species of the plant claimed:
The claimed plant relates to a new and distinct variety of
Vitis vinifera to be known as Sheegene-11.

Variety denomination:

This invention relates to a discovery and asexual repro-
duction of a new variety of *Vitis vinifera*. The new variety of
Vitis vinifera is the result of hybridization of Princess (unpat-
ented), the pollen parent, and Red Globe (U.S. Plant Pat. No.
4,787), the seed parent. The new variety was first hybridized
by Timothy P. Sheehan of Porterville, Calif. in the late
Spring 2000. The new variety was asexually propagated in
the dormant season of 2003, bud-grafted on Harmony, virus-
free rootstock on one vine. The new variety was planted at
that time in a *Vitis vinifera* variety block located near Fowler,
Calif. on the west side of Thompson Road, north of Adams
Road. The new variety produces large, green-colored seed-
less grapes with a Muscat flavor that mature approximately
two to three weeks earlier than Thompson Seedless (unpat-
ented).

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct variety
of grapevine that produces large, green-colored seedless
grapes that mature in mid to late July when grown in the San
Joaquin Valley of Central California. The new invention
resembles Thompson Seedless (unpatented) but the large,
green-colored seedless grapes produced by the new variety
have a muscat flavor and mature about two to three weeks
earlier.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The Sheegene-11 grapevine is characterized by producing
a large, green-colored seedless grape with a muscat flavor
that mature for harvesting and shipment in mid to late July
when grown in the San Joaquin Valley of Central California.
The new variety can be compared to Thompson Seedless
(unpatented) but matures approximately two to three weeks
earlier, among other distinguishing characteristics.

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The accompanying drawing is a colored photograph of the
grapes produced by the new variety; several leaves are dis-
played as well as a typical section of the vine. The top left of
the color photograph displays a secondary growth grape
cluster; below is a primary growth grape cluster; and to the
right of the primary growth grape cluster is another second-
ary growth grape cluster. The bottom left of the color photo-
graph is a mature leaf with the stem pointing up and left; the
leaf is upside down displaying the bottom surface and petio-
le. The bottom right of the color photograph displays two
new shoot growth tips and tendrils, small leaves with reddish
pigment. Above the growth tips are four grapes cut in half
longitudinally as well as horizontally displaying the flesh
and shape of the fruit. To the right of the grapes that are cut
in half is a mature cane displaying nodes, small leaves and
one mature leaf which displays the topside with petioles.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

Referring more to the horticultural description of the new
and distinct variety of grapevine, the following has been
observed under the ecological conditions prevailing at the
origin vineyard located near Fowler, Calif., in the San
Joaquin Valley of Central California. All major color desig-
nations are by reference to the Dictionary of Color by Maerz
and Paul, First edition, published in 1930. Common color
names are also used in several instances.

Vine:

Size.—Large for four-year old vine.

Vigor.—Very good.

Chilling requirements.—Normal for grapevine in the
San Joaquin Valley of Central California.

Figure.—Wide cordons forming a “T” shaped figure.

Production capacity.—Very good.

Regularity of bearing.—Regular.

Trunk:

Size.—Large: 11 inches [27.94 cm] in circumference,
28 inches [71.12 cm] above graft.

Surface texture.—Rough, shaggy.

Color of dark.—P1.17 J9 Tanagras Castillian Brown Old Cedar.

Mature cane color.—P1.6 F9 Cameo Br.

Nodes.—Five nodes on cane, 27–¹³/₁₆ inches [70.64 cm] in length.

Length between nodes.—3–³/₄ to 6 inches [9.53 to 15.24 cm].

Lenticel number.—0.

Lenticel size.—0.

Shoot shape.—Droopy.

Tendrils number.—One at node.

Tendrils length.—1.97 to 3.94 inches [5 to 10 cm].

Tendrils location.—At nodes.

Tendrils form.—Bifurcate.

Tendrils texture.—Firm to slightly woody.

Bud shape.—Convex.

Bud Size.—1.92 inches [5 mm] in width; 2.76 inches [7 mm] in length.

Branches:

Size.—3¼ to 3½ inches [8.26 to 8.89 cm] in circumference.

Cordons.—49 inches [124.46 cm] on one side of trunk, 37 inches [93.98 cm] on the other side of trunk.

Surface texture.—Slightly rough.

Color (One year or older wood).—P1.6 G10 Cedar wood Tokay.

Color (immature branches).—P1.17 L7 Viridine.

Surface texture (immature growth).—Smooth.

Lenticel numbers.—0.

Lenticels size.—0.

Leaves:

Size.—Large.

Density.—Dense.

Average length.—5.31 to 6.50 inches [13.5 to 16.5 cm].

Average width.—7.56 to 9.25 inches [19.2 to 23.5 cm].

Shape.—Pentagonal.

Texture (upper surface).—Smooth.

Texture (lower surface).—Glabrous.

Color (upward disposed surface).—P1.22 L11 Paradise green.

Color (downward disposed surface).—P1.17 L8 Neva green.

Color (leaf vein).—P1.17 I6 Viridine green.

Marginal form.—Slightly undulate.

Leaf vein thickness.—0.079 inches [2 mm].

Leaf margin.—Toothed.

Glandular characteristics.—0.

Petiole size.—Large.

Petiole length.—5.79 to 6.77 inches [14.7 to 17.2 cm].

Petiole thickness.—0.16 inches [4 mm].

Petiole color.—P1.17 I6 Viridine green.

Petiole sinus form.—Upside down “U” shape.

Stem glands form.—0.

Stem glands position.—0.

Stem glands pattern.—0.

Stem glands color.—0.

Lobe (Average).—Four.

Tooth size.—0.55 inches [14 mm] in length; 0.55 inches [14 mm] in width.

Tooth number.—Three to four between lobes.

Tooth shape.—Convex.

Fruit:

Harvesting and shipment.—Mid to late July in San Joaquin Valley of Central California.

Solids.—18.8° Brix.

Acids.—0.60.

Sugar/Acid ratio.—31.1.

Juice pH.—3.54.

Seeds.—None

Capstem pedicel.—0.28 to 0.35 inches [7 to 9 mm].

Berry weight.—8.52 to 9.94 grams.

Juice color.—P1.17 I6 Viridine green.

Cluster size.—Medium to large.

Compactness.—Compact

Cluster weight.—1 lb. 8 oz. to 1 lb. 12 oz. (681.6 grams to 795.2 grams).

Cluster average length (without stem).—0.91 to 0.94 inches [23 to 24 cm].

Cluster average width.—0.46 to 0.51 inches [11.8 to 13.0 cm].

Cluster form.—Conical.

Stem.—Generally variable; 3–¼ inches [8.26 cm].

Stem caliper.—0.197 inches (5 mm).

Berry size.—Generally large.

Berry shape.—Ovate.

Berry number.—80 to 158 berries per bunch.

Berry size (average dimension along longitudinal axis).—3 0.98 inches [25 mm].

Berry size (average dimension along transverse axis).—0.88 inches [21 mm].

Skin:

Skin thickness.—Thin.

Texture.—Tough.

Tendency to crack.—None known.

Ground color.—P1.20 K6 Piquant green.

Pulp.—Clear.

Lenticels.—None

Flesh:

Flesh color.—P1.19 L6 Calliste green.

Juice production.—Very good.

Flavor.—Excellent.

Aroma.—Mild.

Texture.—Firm.

Ripening.—Even.

Eating quality.—Very good.

Use.—Fresh market.

Keeping quality.—Very good.

Resistance to disease.—None known.

Shipping & handling qualities.—Very good.

Having thus described and illustrated our new variety of grapevine, we claim:

1. A new variety of grapevine to be known as Sheegene-11 and parts thereof, substantially as illustrated and described, characterized principally by its production of large, green-colored seedless grapes that have a muscat flavor and mature approximately two to three weeks earlier in the season of ripening than does Thompson Seedless (unpatented) which it resembles.

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