



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

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(54) **HEUCHERA PLANT NAMED ‘CAROLINE’**

(50) Latin Name: *Heuchera*×*hybrida*
Varietal Denomination: **Caroline**

(76) Inventor: **Charles Oliver**, 921 Scottdale-Dawson
Rd., Scottdale, PA (US) 15683

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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See application file for complete search history.

Primary Examiner—Kent L Bell
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—C. A. Whealy

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Heuchera* plant named
‘Caroline’, characterized by its full, densely foliated and
uniformly mounded plant habit; vigorous growth habit;
purple bronze and silver-colored leaves; numerous large
white-colored flowers arranged on erect panicles; and excel-
lent garden performance.

2 Drawing Sheets

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Botanical designation: *Heuchera*×*hybrida*.
Cultivar denomination: ‘Caroline’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of *Heuchera*, botanically known as *Heuchera*×*hybrida* and
hereinafter referred to by the name ‘Caroline’.

The new *Heuchera* is a product of a planned breeding
program conducted by the Inventor in Scottdale, Pa. The
objective of the breeding program is to create new vigorous
Heuchera cultivars with uniform plant habit, and attractive
leaf and flower coloration.

The new *Heuchera* originated from a cross-pollination
made by the Inventor in May, 2001 in Scottdale, Pa. of
Heuchera ‘Shenandoah Mountain’, disclosed in U.S. Plant
Pat. No. 15,357, as the female, or seed, parent with
Heuchera ‘White Queen’, not patented, as the male, or
pollen, parent. The new *Heuchera* was discovered and
selected by the Inventor as a single flowering plant within
the progeny of the stated cross-pollination in a controlled
greenhouse environment in Scottdale, Pa. in June, 2002.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Heuchera* by cuttings in
a controlled greenhouse environment in Scottdale, Pa. since
April, 2004, has shown that the unique features of this new
Heuchera are stable and reproduced true to type in succes-
sive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The new *Heuchera* has not been observed under all pos-
sible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary
somewhat with variations in environment and cultural prac-
tices 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 ‘Caroline’.
These characteristics in combination distinguish ‘Caroline’
as a new and distinct cultivar of *Heuchera*:

1. Full, densely foliated and uniformly mounded plant
habit.
2. Vigorous growth habit.

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3. Purple bronze and silver-colored leaves.
4. Numerous large white-colored flowers arranged on
erect panicles.
5. Excellent garden performance.

Plants of the new *Heuchera* differ from plants of the
female parent, ‘Shenandoah Mountain’, in the following
characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Heuchera* are more compact than
plants of ‘Shenandoah Mountain’.
2. Plants of the new *Heuchera* have shorter inflorescences
than plants of ‘Shenandoah Mountain’.
3. Plants of the new *Heuchera* have larger flowers than
plants of ‘Shenandoah Mountain’.

Plants of the new *Heuchera* differ from plants of the male
parent, ‘White Queen’, in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Heuchera* are more compact than
plants of ‘White Queen’.
2. Plants of the new *Heuchera* have shorter inflorescences
than plants of ‘White Queen’.
3. Flowers of plants of the new *Heuchera* have smaller
petals than flowers of plants of ‘White Queen’.

Plants of the new *Heuchera* can be compared to plants of
the *Heuchera* ‘Harmonic Convergence’, disclosed in U.S.
Plant. Pat. No. 11,111. In side-by-side comparisons con-
ducted in Scottdale, Pa., plants of the new *Heuchera* differed
from plants of ‘Harmonic Convergence’ in the following
characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Heuchera* had smaller leaves than
plants of ‘Harmonic Convergence’.
2. Plants of the new *Heuchera* had shorter and narrower
inflorescences than plants of ‘Harmonic Convergence’.
3. Plants of the new *Heuchera* had larger flowers than
plants of ‘Harmonic Convergence’.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying colored photographs illustrate the
overall appearance of the new *Heuchera*, 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 *Heuchera*.

The photograph on the first sheet comprises a side perspective view of a typical plant of 'Caroline'.

The photograph on the second sheet is a close-up view of a typical inflorescence of 'Caroline'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photographs and following observations, measurements and values describe plants grown in Scottsdale, Pa. in one-gallon containers in a glass-covered greenhouse and under conditions which closely approximate commercial *Heuchera* production. During the production of the plants, day temperatures ranged from 15° C. to 26° C. and night temperatures ranged from 5° C. to 15° C. Plants were one year old when the photographs and the description were taken. In the 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: *Heuchera* × *hybrida* 'Caroline'.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—*Heuchera* × *hybrida* 'Shenandoah Mountain', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 15,357.

Male, or pollen, parent.—*Heuchera* × *hybrida* 'White Queen', not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—By cuttings.

Time to initiate roots, summer.—About 15 days at 23° C.

Time to initiate roots, winter.—About 21 days at 17° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, summer.—About 45 days at 23° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, winter.—About 60 days at 17° C.

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

Rooting habit.—Freely branching; moderately dense.

Plant description:

Appearance.—Herbaceous perennial; basal rosette plant habit with leaves developing from the base; densely foliated; full, mounded and uniform plant habit with upright panicles with white-colored flowers. Vigorous growth habit.

Plant size.—Height, soil level to top of foliar plane: About 10 cm. Height, soil level to top of panicles: About 45 cm. Diameter or spread: About 30 cm.

Foliage description:

Arrangement.—Basal rosette, simple.

Length.—About 9.5 cm.

Width.—About 8 cm.

Shape.—Rounded cordate; seven-lobed.

Apex.—Broadly obtuse, lobed.

Base.—Auriculate.

Margin.—Crenate with ciliation.

Texture, upper and lower surfaces.—Slightly pubescent; slightly rough.

Venation pattern.—Palmate; reticulate.

Color.—Developing and fully expanded leaves, upper surface: Close to 198A; venation, close to 189A underlain with close to 187A. Developing and fully expanded leaves, lower surface: Close to 187A; venation, 187A.

Petiole.—Length: About 14 cm. Diameter: About 1.8 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 187B.

Flower description:

Appearance/arrangement.—Single flared campanulate flowers arranged on loose, narrow and mostly erect panicles; about eight to ten panicles develop during the flowering season, each panicle with about 120 to 220 flowers and flower buds. Flowers face mostly outward to slightly downward. Flowers not fragrant.

Time of flowering.—Plants flower from May through August in Scottsdale, Pa., flowering continuous during this period.

Inflorescence longevity.—Individual inflorescences last about one week on the plant. Flowers persistent.

Inflorescence size.—Length: About 40 to 45 cm. Diameter: About 4 cm.

Flower size.—Diameter: About 5.5 mm. Depth (height): About 8 mm.

Flower buds.—Height: About 5 mm. Diameter: About 3.5 mm. Shape: Bulbous. Color: Close to 155D, shaded with close to 59B.

Sepals.—Quantity/arrangement: Five sepals; radially symmetrical and fused at base. Calyx length: About 6 mm. Calyx diameter: About 5.5 mm. Shape: Elongate. Apex: Obtuse. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent. Color, upper surface: Close to 155D. Color, lower surface: Close to 155D, shaded with close to 59B; glandular hairs, close to 59B.

Petals.—Quantity/arrangement: Five minute petals; radially symmetrical. Length: About 3 mm. Width: About 1.3 mm. Shape: Spatulate. Apex: Acute. Margin: Serrate. Texture, upper surface: Smooth, glabrous. Texture, lower surface: Glandular hairs. Color, upper surface: Close to 155D. Color, lower surface: Close to 155D; glandular hairs, close to 59B.

Flower bracts.—Length: About 2.2 mm. Width: About 0.7 mm. Shape: Lanceolate. Apex: Acute. Margin: Serrate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Glandular hairs. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 187B.

Peduncles.—Strength: Strong. Aspect: Mostly erect to about 30° from vertical. Length: About 27 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Texture: Pubescent. Color: Close to 187B.

Pedicels.—Strength: Strong. Aspect: About 30° from vertical. Length: About 2 mm. Diameter: About 0.2 mm. Texture: Pubescent. Color: Close to 195B, shaded with close to 187B.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Stamen number: Five per flower. Anther shape: Oval. Anther size: About 1 mm by 0.6 mm. Anther color: Close to 25A. Amount of pollen: Moderate. Pollen color: Close to 25A. Gynoecium: Pistil number: Two per flower. Pistil length: About 6 mm. Stigma shape: Round. Stigma color: Close to 157A. Style length: About 5 mm. Style color: Close to 157A. Ovary color: Close to 157A.

Seed.—Size: About 0.6 mm by 0.3 mm. Color: Close to 202A.

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

Garden performance: Plants of the new *Heuchera* have been observed to have excellent garden performance. Plants of the new *Heuchera* have demonstrated good tolerance to

rain, wind, night temperatures as low as –30° C. and day temperatures as high as 45° C.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Heuchera* plant named ‘Caroline’ as illustrated and described.

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