

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

(10) **Patent No.:** **US PP20,496 P2**  
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Nov. 17, 2009**

(54) **EUPHORBIA PLANT NAMED ‘AUTUMN SUNSET’**

(50) Latin Name: *Euphorbia griffithii*  
Varietal Denomination: **Autumn Sunset**

(76) Inventor: **Barry Glick**, HC 67 PO 539B, Renick,  
WV (US) 24966

(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this  
patent is extended or adjusted under 35  
U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **12/157,177**

(22) Filed: **Jun. 6, 2008**

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

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **Plt./302**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** ..... **Plt./302**  
See application file for complete search history.

*Primary Examiner*—Annette H Para

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct *Euphorbia griffithii* × *ephithymoides* culti-  
var named ‘AUTUMN SUNSET’ is disclosed, characterized  
by distinct bright orange floral bracts, upright plant shape and  
free flowering habit. The new variety is a *Euphorbia* hybrid,  
and naturally blooms during June and July.

**1 Drawing Sheet**

## 1

Latin name of the genus and species: *Euphorbia griffithii*.  
Variety denomination: ‘AUTUMN SUNSET’.

### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The new cultivar is the product of a planned breeding  
program under the direction of the inventor, Barry Glick, a  
citizen of the United States. The objective of the breeding  
program was to produce *Euphorbia* cultivars with unique  
flower colors. The seed parent is the unpatented, variety  
referred to as *Euphorbia griffithii* ‘Fireglow.’ The pollen par-  
ent is *Euphorbia ephithymoides*, unpatented. The new variety  
was discovered June 1998, by the inventor in a group of  
seedlings resulting from that crossing, in Renick, W. Va.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar ‘AUTUMN  
SUNSET’ by vegetative cuttings was performed in Renick,  
W. Va. and has shown that the unique features of this cultivar  
are stable and reproduced true to type in successive genera-  
tions.

### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The cultivar ‘AUTUMN SUNSET’ has not been observed  
under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype  
may vary somewhat with variations in environment such as  
temperature, day length, and light intensity, without, how-  
ever, any variance in genotype.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are  
determined to be the unique characteristics of ‘AUTUMN  
SUNSET’ These characteristics in combination distinguish  
‘AUTUMN SUNSET’ as a new and distinct *Euphorbia* cul-  
tivar:

1. Free flowering habit.
2. Distinctive solid bright orange floral structures.
3. Upright plant shape.

### PARENT COMPARISON

Plants of the new cultivar ‘AUTUMN SUNSET’ are similar  
to plants of the seed parent, *Euphorbia griffithii* ‘Fireglow’ in  
most horticultural characteristics, however, plants of the new  
cultivar ‘AUTUMN SUNSET’ produce floral bracts of a solid

## 2

orange color, compared to reddish/orange. Plants of the new  
variety are more upright than the seed parent. Additionally,  
plants of the new variety have green stems, peduncles and  
pedicels, compared to the red stems, peduncles and pedicels  
of ‘Fireglow.’

Plants of the new cultivar ‘AUTUMN SUNSET’ are similar  
to plants of the pollen parent, *Euphorbia ephithymoides* in  
most horticultural characteristics, however, plants of the new  
cultivar ‘AUTUMN SUNSET’ are taller and have narrower  
leaves. Additionally floral bracts of ‘AUTUMN SUNSET’ are  
orange, compared to the pollen parent yellowish green floral  
bracts.

The parent varieties represent the best commercial com-  
parisons.

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying photograph in FIG. 1 illustrates in full  
color a close-up of typical floral bracts and leaves of  
‘AUTUMN SUNSET’ grown outdoors old. The photograph  
was taken using conventional techniques and although colors  
may appear different from actual colors due to light reflec-  
tance it is as accurate as possible by conventional photo-  
graphic techniques.

### DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

In the following description, color references are made to  
The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart except where  
general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.  
The following observations and measurements describe  
‘AUTUMN SUNSET’ plants grown in a commercial green-  
house in Renick, W. Va. during June and July. The growing  
temperature ranged from approximately 9 to 14° C. at night to  
21 to 29° C. during the day. Measurements and numerical  
values represent averages of typical flowering types. No  
chemical or photoperiodic treatments were given.



Botanical classification: *Euphorbia griffithii* × *epithymoides*  
cultivar 'AUTUMN SUNSET.'

### PROPAGATION

Time to rooting: 10 to 14 days at approximately 21° C.

Root description: Thick, well branched.

### PLANT

Growth habit: Upright, columnar, perennial subshrub.

Height: Approximately 105 cm.

Plant spread: Approximately 60 cm.

Age of plant described: Approximately 2 years.

Growth rate: Moderate.

Branching characteristics: Moderate branching.

Length of lateral branches: Approximately 20 cm.

Diameter of lateral branches: Approximately 0.5 cm.

Texture of lateral branches: Smooth, pubescence at nodes.

Internode length: Approximately 2 cm.

Strength of stem: Flexible and strong.

Color of lateral branches: Near RHS Green 144A.

Aspect: Upright.

Number of leaves per lateral branch: Approximately 20.

### FOLIAGE

Leaf: Two types, Basal, on plant stems, whorled, near inflorescence Basal Leaves:

*Arrangement*.—Alternate, single.

*Average length*.—Approximately 14.0 cm.

*Average width*.—Approximately 3.8 cm.

*Shape of blade*.—Oblanceolate.

*Apex*.—Acute.

*Base*.—Cordate.

*Attachment*.—Sessile.

*Margin*.—Entire.

*Texture of top surface*.—Smooth, leathery.

*Texture of bottom surface*.—Smooth.

*Leaf internode length*.—Approximately 0.7 cm.

*Color*.—Young foliage upper side: Near R.H.S. Yellow-Green 144A. Young foliage under side: Near RHS Yellow-Green 147C. Mature foliage upper side: Near RHS Yellow-Green 147A. Mature foliage under side: Near RHS Yellow-Green 147B.

*Venation*.—Type: Pinnate. Venation color upper side: Near RHS Yellow-Green 147D. Venation color under side: Near RHS Yellow-Green 146B.

Petiole: Not present.

Whorl leaves:

*Arrangement*.—Avg. 5 in a whorl at the base of primary cymes; Avg. 3 at the base of secondary cymes.

*Average length*.—Approximately 5 cm.

*Average width*.—Approximately 2 cm.

*Shape of blade*.—Oblanceolate.

*Apex*.—Acute.

*Base*.—Cordate.

*Attachment*.—Sessile.

*Margin*.—Entire.

*Texture of top surface*.—Smooth, leathery.

*Texture of bottom surface*.—Smooth.

*Color*.—Young foliage upper side: Near R.H.S. Yellow-Green 144A with Yellow 13A. Young foliage under side: Near RHS Yellow 13A with Yellow-Green 146B. Mature foliage upper side: Primarily near RHS Orange N25A, with Orange 25B and Yellow 15B.

Slight Yellow-Green 144A near tip. Mature foliage under side: Primarily near RHS Orange 25B and Yellow 15B. Slight Yellow-Green 144A near tip.

*Venation*.—Type: Pinnate. Venation color upper side: Near RHS Yellow 8B. Venation color under side: Near RHS Yellow 13C.

### FLOWER

Bloom period: Naturally blooming late June through mid July in W. Va.

Bud:

*Bud shape*.—Spherical.

*Bud length*.—Approximately 0.05 cm.

*Bud diameter*.—Approximately 0.05 cm.

*Bud color*: Between Yellow-Green 145A and 145B.

Inflorescence:

*Form*.—Umbel-like compound cyme. Primary Cymes: 5-merous. Secondary Cymes: 3-merous.

*Measurement of average primary cyme*.—Diameter of entire inflorescence: Approximately 8 cm. Depth of entire inflorescence: Approximately 5 cm.

Individual flowers:

*Length*.—Approximately 2 cm.

*Width*.—Approximately 0.9 cm.

*Aspect*.—Upright.

*Duration on plant*.—Approximately 3 to 4 weeks. Persistent.

Fragrance: None.

Floral bracts:

*Arrangement*.—2 or 3 opposite or whorled, subtending cyathium.

*Shape*.—Broadly ovate.

*Apex*.—Acute.

*Base*.—Attenuate.

*Length*.—0.8 cm, average.

*Width*.—0.7 cm.

*Texture*.—Glabrous.

*Color*.—Upper side of immature bract: Edge Near RHS Orange-Red N30A/B. Mid-bract: Near R.H.S. Orange-Red 30B. Interior-bract: Near RHS Yellow 13A. Under side of immature bract: Edge Near RHS Orange-Red N30A. Mid-bract: Near R.H.S. Orange-Red 30B. Interior-bract: Near RHS Yellow 13A. Upper side of mature bract: Edge with slight coloration Near RHS Orange-Red N30A/B. Mid-bract: Near RHS Orange 28B and Orange 25A. Interior-bract: Near RHS Yellow 13A. Under side of mature bract: Near RHS Orange-Red N30A/B. Mid-bract: Near RHS Orange 28B and Orange 25A. Interior-bract: Near RHS Yellow 13A.

Cyathia:

*Arrangement*.—Involucre of cyathium cup-shaped; 4-lipped, upright.

*Other*.—3 petaloid appendages subtending the cyathia: Height: Approx. 0.3 cm. Diameter: Approx. 0.5 cm. Color Immature: Near RHS Yellow 12A. Color Mature: Near RHS Orange 25B.

Peduncle:

*Peduncle length*.—Approximately 2.3.

*Peduncle diameter*.—Approximately 1 cm.

*Angle*.—Approximately 45 deg from center of whorl.

*Color*.—Near RHS Orange 26B 144A.

Pedicels:

*Length*.—Approx. 0.5 cm.

*Diameter*.—Approx. 0.1 cm.

*Angle.*—Near 45 deg. from vertical.  
*Strength.*—Strong, flexible.  
*Texture.*—Smooth.  
*Color.*—Near RHS Yellow-Green 152C.

REPRODUCTIVE ORGANS

*Androecium.*—Stamens: 2 to 4, branched and holding 4 anthers. Anther shape: Bi-lobed. Anther length: Approximately 0.05 cm. Anther color: Near RHS 22A  
Filament colored red 51A. Pollen quantity: None observed.  
*Gynoecium.*—Pistil number: 1. Pistil shape: Tri-parted. Pistil length: Approx. 0.5 cm. Style length: Approx. 0.2 cm. Style color: Near RHS 154B. Stigma shape: Bi-lobed. Stigma color: Near RHS Orange-Red 33A. Ovary diameter: Near RHS 0.2 cm. Ovary color: Near RHS 1 54A.

OTHER CHARACTERISTICS

Disease resistance: Neither resistance nor susceptibility to diseases or pests has been observed in this variety.  
5 Drought tolerance and cold tolerance: Tender perennial. Tolerates high temperature to at least 32° C. Tolerates low temperatures to −32° C. Drought tolerance has not been observed.  
10 Fruit/seed production: Fruit and seed production not observed.

What is claimed is:  
15 1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Euphorbia* plant named ‘AUTUMN SUNSET’ as herein illustrated and described.

\* \* \* \* \*





Fig. 1