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Sanders

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(54) **AGERATUM PLANT NAMED ‘AGBABUL’**

(50) Latin Name: *Ageratum houstonianum*
Varietal Denomination: **Agbabul**

(75) Inventor: **Monica Maria Adelheid Sanders,**
Grootebroek (NL)

(73) Assignee: **Syngenta Crop Protection AG,** Basel
(CH)

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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(58) **Field of Classification Search** **Plt./263,**
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See application file for complete search history.

Primary Examiner—Susan B McCormick Ewoldt

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—S. Matthew Edwards

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct variety of *Ageratum* plant named
‘Agbabul,’ characterized particularly as to novelty by purple
red flowers, early and continuous flowering, and its compact,
upright, mounded and well branched growing habit.

1 Drawing Sheet

1

Latin name of the genus and species of the plant claimed:
Ageratum houstonianum.

Varietal denomination: ‘Agbabul’.

BACKGROUND OF THE NEW PLANT

The present invention comprises a new and distinct cultivar
of *Ageratum*, botanically known as *Ageratum houstonianum*.
The new cultivar is propagated from cuttings resulting from a
cross between ‘Z1107-1’ as the female, or seed, parent and
‘Z1107-2’ as the male parent. This cross was made in Sep-
tember 2001. ‘Z1107-1’ is not commercially available and is
not patented. ‘Z1107-2’ is not commercially available and is
not patented.

The new *Ageratum* was discovered and selected as a single
flowering plant within the progeny of the stated cross in 2005
in Enkhuizen, Netherlands. The new *Ageratum* has been
repeatedly asexually reproduced by cuttings in Enkhuizen,
Netherlands, in Gilroy, Calif., USA, in Angers, France, and in
Sarrians, France since 2005. The distinctive characteristics of
this new *Ageratum* are stable and reproduced true to type in
successive generations of asexual reproduction. It takes 7 to 9
weeks to produce a finished plant, depending on the tempera-
ture.

This new *Ageratum* plant is an annual in most climatical
zones in the US, only in zones 9 and 10 it is a perennial plant.

A Plant Breeder’s Right for this cultivar was applied for in
Europe in October 2008. ‘Agbabul’ has not been made pub-
licly available more than one year prior to the filing of this
application.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

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

1. Compact, upright and mounded growth habit.
2. Freely branching habit.
3. Early and continuous flowering with many capitula in
compound umbels.
4. Large mid purple capitula on medium sized, green col-
ored leaves.

2

DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW CULTIVAR

The following detailed descriptions set forth the distinctive
characteristics of this new *Ageratum*. The data which defines
these characteristics were collected from asexual reproduc-
tions carried out in Enkhuizen, Netherlands. The plant history
was taken on 28 week old plants, grown outdoors.

Color readings were taken in laboratory under ambient
light. Color references are primarily to The R.H.S. Colour
Chart of The Royal Horticultural Society of London.

TABLE 1

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE NEW CULTIVAR
‘AGBABUL’
AND THE SIMILAR CULTIVAR ‘AGSANTIS’

	‘Agbabul’	‘Agsantis’ (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 15,289)
Capitula size at beginning of flowering:	1 cm	0.7 cm
Number of capitula per flower head:	7-8	17

Plants of the new *Ageratum* differ primarily from the plants
of the female parent selection in the following characteristics:

Plants of the new *Ageratum* have a mid purple flower color
whereas plants of the female parent selection have a white
flower color.

Plants of the new *Ageratum* differ primarily from the male
plant selection in the following characteristics:

Plants of the new *Ageratum* have a mid purple flower color
whereas plants of the male parent section have an off white
flower color.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

This new *Ageratum* plant is illustrated by the accompany-
ing photographic drawing which shows blooms, buds and
foliage of the plant in full color, the color shown being as true
as can be reasonably obtained by conventional photographic
procedures.

The plant:

Growth habit.—Compact, upright, well branched.

Plant height.—18-21 cm.

Spreading area of plant.—36-40 cm.
Growth rate.—Compact.
Strength.—Very good.
Branching character.—Freely branching and lateral branching at every node.
Blooming period.—Year round.
 The stem:
Stem length.—9 cm.
Diameter.—4 mm.
Shape.—Round.
Color.—RHS 145B.
Anthocyanin pigmentation.—Absent.
Length of internode.—13 mm.
Pubescence.—Slightly pubescent.
 The foliage:
Phyllotaxis.—Alternate.
Shape of blade.—Ovate.
Texture.—Upper side: Slightly pubescent. Lower side: Slightly pubescent.
Venation.—Reticulate.
Leaf margin.—Serrate.
Leaf base.—Cordate.
Leaf apex.—Acute.
Length.—27 mm.
Width.—31 mm.
Color.—Upper side: RHS 141A. Lower side: RHS 138B.
Pubescence.—Slightly pubescent.
Length of petiole.—10 mm.
Diameter of petiole.—1 mm.
Color of petiole.—RHS 138B.
Petiole surface structure.—Slightly pubescent.
 Inflorescence:
Inflorescence.—Compound umbel of capitula.
Number of inflorescences per plant.—90-100.
Umbel size.—8 cm.
Umbel depth.—3.2 cm.
Length of peduncle.—35 mm.
Diameter of peduncle.—2 mm.
Color of peduncle.—RHS 138B.
Length of pedicel.—20 mm.
Diameter of pedicel.—1 mm.
Color of pedicel.—RHS 138B.
Number of capitula per inflorescence.—15.
Number of disc florets per capitulum.—80.
Number of ray florets per capitulum.—0.

Disc floret.—Corolla shape: Actinomorph. Number of lobes: 5. Length: 0.5 mm. Diameter: 0.1 mm. Color — upper side: RHS 88B. Color — lower side: RHS 155A.
Phyllaries.—Number per capitulum: 16. Length: 4.5 mm. Diameter: 1 mm. Color — upper side: RHS 140A with tip RHS 64A. Color — inner side: RHS 147C with tip RHS 64A.
Capitulum.—Shape in bud stage: Round, flat, showing unopened florets from the start. Depth: 8 mm. Diameter at beginning of flowering: 10 mm. Color at beginning of flowering: RHS N81A. Diameter at full flowering: 15 mm. Color at full flowering: RHS 83B.
Fragrance.—No fragrance.
Lastingness of the bloom.—Capitula of one umbel open over a period of 3-4 weeks.
 Reproductive organs:
Number of pistils.—1.
Shape of pistils.—Style with two filiform branches.
Length of stigma and style.—8 mm.
Color of stigma.—RHS 88A.
Inferior ovary.—5 ribbed.
Pappus.—Short.
Number of anthers.—5, connate in a tube, filaments free.
Shape of anthers.—Ecalcarate.
Pollen.—A little pollen is present.
Color of pollen.—RHS 155B.
 Seed:
Shape.—Pentagonal.
Length.—2 mm.
Diameter.—0.8 mm.
Color.—RHS 202A.
Pappus.—Very short.
 Roots:
Type of roots.—Fibrous.
Development.—Roots develop on every part of the stem that contacts the soil.
 Physiological and ecological characteristics: Plants of the new *Ageratum* are tolerant to temperatures between 4° C. and 35° C. Under commercial conditions, plants of the new *Ageratum* are strongly resistant to pests and diseases common to *Ageratum*.
 What is claimed is:
 1. A new and distinct variety of *Ageratum* plant named 'Agbabul,' substantially as illustrated and described herein.

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