



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

(10) **Patent No.:** **US PP21,574 P2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Dec. 14, 2010**

(54) **GUZMANIA PLANT NAMED ‘AUREUS’**

(50) Latin Name: ***Guzmania* hybrid**
Varietal Denomination: **Aureus**

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(US)

(*) 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.: **12/383,759**

(22) Filed: **Mar. 27, 2009**

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

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./371**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** **Plt./371**
See application file for complete search history.

Primary Examiner—June Hwu

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct *Guzmania* cultivar named ‘Aureus’ is
disclosed, characterized a compact plant habit, and unique
bright yellow bracts.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Latin name of the genus and species: *Guzmania* hybrid.
Variety denomination: ‘Aureus’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The new cultivar is a product of a planned breeding pro-
gram. The new variety originated from a cross pollination of
the seed parent, an unnamed proprietary variety of *Guzmania*
hybrid with the pollen parent *Guzmania lingulata*, directed by
the inventor in October of 2004.

‘Aureus’ was discovered by the inventor, Rolf Kurt Zornig,
in October 2006 in Campinas, Brazil in a group of seedlings
resulting from the 2004 crossing.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar ‘Aureus’ was first
performed in Campinas, Brazil by tissue culture in July 2007.
‘Aureus’ has since produced several generations by micro-
propagation and has shown that the unique features of this
cultivar are stable and reproduced true to type.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The cultivar ‘Aureus’ has not been observed under all pos-
sible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary
somewhat with variations in environment such as tempera-
ture, day length, 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 ‘Aureus’ These
characteristics in combination distinguish ‘Aureus’ as a new
and distinct *Guzmania* cultivar:

1. Compact plant shape.
2. Long inflorescence.
3. Yellow inflorescence color.
4. Suitability as an indoor pot plant.

PARENTAL COMPARISON

Plants of the new cultivar ‘Aureus’ are similar to both
parent varieties in most horticultural characteristics. How-
ever, ‘Aureus’ differs from both the seed and pollen parents in
having a more compact plant shape and longer inflorescence.

COMMERCIAL COMPARISON

‘Aureus’ can be compared to the patented commercial vari-
ety *Guzmania* ‘Deplakar,’ U.S. Plant Pat. No. 13,754. Plants

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of ‘Deplakar’ are similar to plants of ‘Aureus’ in most horti-
cultural characteristics, however, ‘Aureus’ has shorter, nar-
row foliage, scape and terminal bracts more yellow than
orange-yellow in color.

‘Aureus’ can be compared to the unpatented commercial
variety *Guzmania* ‘Marjan’ Plants of ‘Marjan’ are similar to
plants of ‘Aureus’ in most horticultural characteristics, how-
ever, ‘Aureus’ has a wider inflorescence, and a shorter overall
plant height than ‘Marjan’.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying photograph in FIG. 1 illustrates in full
color a typical plant of ‘Aureus’ grown in a greenhouse in
Florida. This plant is approximately 1 year old, shown in a 6
inch pot. The photograph was taken using conventional tech-
niques and although colors may appear different from actual
colors due to light reflectance it is as accurate as possible by
conventional photographic 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
‘Aureus’ plants grown in a climate controlled greenhouse in
Miami, Fla. Temperatures ranged from 20° C. to 28° C. night
and day. No artificial light, photoperiodic treatments or
chemical treatments were given to the plants. Measurements
and numerical values represent averages of typical plant
types.

Botanical classification: *Guzmania* hybrid. ‘Aureus’.

Age of the plant described: Approximately 1 year.

Container size of the plant described: 6 inch.

PLANT

Growth habit: Upright, arching, forming compact rosettes
around a single axis. Single, straight, upright inflorescence
arising from the center of plant.

Height: Approximately 20 cm in a 6 inch pot, measured from
the soil level of the pot.

Plant spread: Approximately 39 cm in a 6 inch pot.

Normal pot size: 4", 6", 8" pots.
 Growth rate: Moderate.
 Branching characteristics: Upright, non-branching.
 Number of leaves per stem: Approximately 26.
 Stem length: Approximately 7.5 cm.
 Stem width: Approximately 4.5 cm.
 Stem color: Near RHS Yellow-Green 144D.
 Stem texture: Smooth.
 Age of plant described: Approximately 1 year.

FOLIAGE

Leaf:

Arrangement.—Whorled, single occurring basal rosettes.
Average length.—Approximately 18.2 cm.
Average width.—Approximately 2.5 cm.
Shape of blade.—Ligulate.
Aspect.—Slightly recurved.
Apex.—Apiculate.
Base.—Sheathing. Sheath length: Average 3.2 cm. Sheath width: Average 3.2 cm. Sheath color: Near RHS Yellow-Green 145D.
Margin.—Entire.
Texture of top surface.—Smooth, slightly glossy.
Texture of bottom surface.—Smooth, slightly glossy.
Color.—Young foliage upper side: Coloration divided into 3 sections: $\frac{1}{3}$ leaf blade closest to apex: Near RHS Yellow-Green 144A. Middle $\frac{1}{3}$ section: Near RHS N144C, very thin, margin Red-Purple 59C. $\frac{1}{3}$ leaf blade closest to base: Near RHS Yellow-Green 145C, very thin margin Red-Purple 59C. Young foliage under side: Coloration divided into 3 sections: $\frac{1}{3}$ leaf blade closest to apex: Near RHS Yellow-Green 144A. Middle $\frac{1}{3}$ section: Near RHS N144C., very thin, margin Red-Purple 59C. $\frac{1}{3}$ leaf blade closest to base: Near RHS Yellow-Green 145C, very thin margin Red-Purple 59C. Mature foliage upper side: Near RHS Yellow-Green 144A. Mature foliage under side: Near RHS Green 138A.
Venation.—Type: Parallel. Venation coloration: Indistinguishable from foliage coloration.
 Petiole: Not present, sessile.

INFLORESCENCE

General description: Simple spike(scape) consisting of many bracts only. No individual flowers are visible. Spike emerges from the centre of the rosette. Inflorescence is formed by conspicuous bracts.

Inflorescence height, excluding scape.—Approximately 8.5 cm.
Inflorescence width.—Approximately 14.5 cm.
Inflorescence lastingness.—Approximately 5 to 6 months.

Scape:

Length.—Approximately 9 cm.
Width.—Approximately 1.5 cm.
Aspect.—Very straight, Approximately 75° angle to rosette.
Strength.—Very strong.
Color.—Near RHS Yellow 2C.

Bracts:

Scape/lowermost bracts.—Shape: Ligulate. Length: Approximately 10.1 cm, excluding sheath. Width: Approximately 3.1 cm. Quantity: Average 4. Tip: Acute. Base: Sheathed. Sheath length: Approximately 2.1 cm. Sheath width: Approximately 4 cm. Sheath color: Near RHS Yellow 13D. Margin: Entire. Color upperside: Tip coloration near RHS Yellow-Green 144A, thin margin near RHS Red-Purple 59C, steaks near Yellow 13C, blotches near Red-Purple 59C. Most of blade near RHS Yellow-Orange 15D with fine streaks near Red-Purple 59C. Color underside: Tip coloration near RHS Yellow-Green 144B, thin margin near RHS Red-Purple 59C, steaks near Yellow-Orange 15D, blotches near Red-Purple 59C. Most of blade near RHS Yellow-Orange 15D with fine streaks near Red-Purple 59C.

Terminal bracts.—Shape: Ligulate. Length: Approximately 10.1 cm, excluding sheath. Width: Approximately 3.1 cm. Quantity: Average 12. Tip: Acute. Base: Sheathed. Sheath length: Approximately 2.1 cm. Sheath width: Approximately 4 cm. Sheath color: Near RHS Yellow 13D. Margin: Entire. Coloration terminal bracts: Upperside: Near RHS Yellow-Orange 17B, becoming lighter toward base, to Yellow-Orange 15C. Underside: Near RHS Yellow-Orange 21C, becoming lighter toward base, to Yellow-Orange 15D. To date, true flowers have not been observed. As no true flowers have been observed to date, the reproductive organs have not been observed for description.

OTHER CHARACTERISTICS

Disease resistance: Neither resistance nor susceptibility to diseases or pests has been observed in this variety.

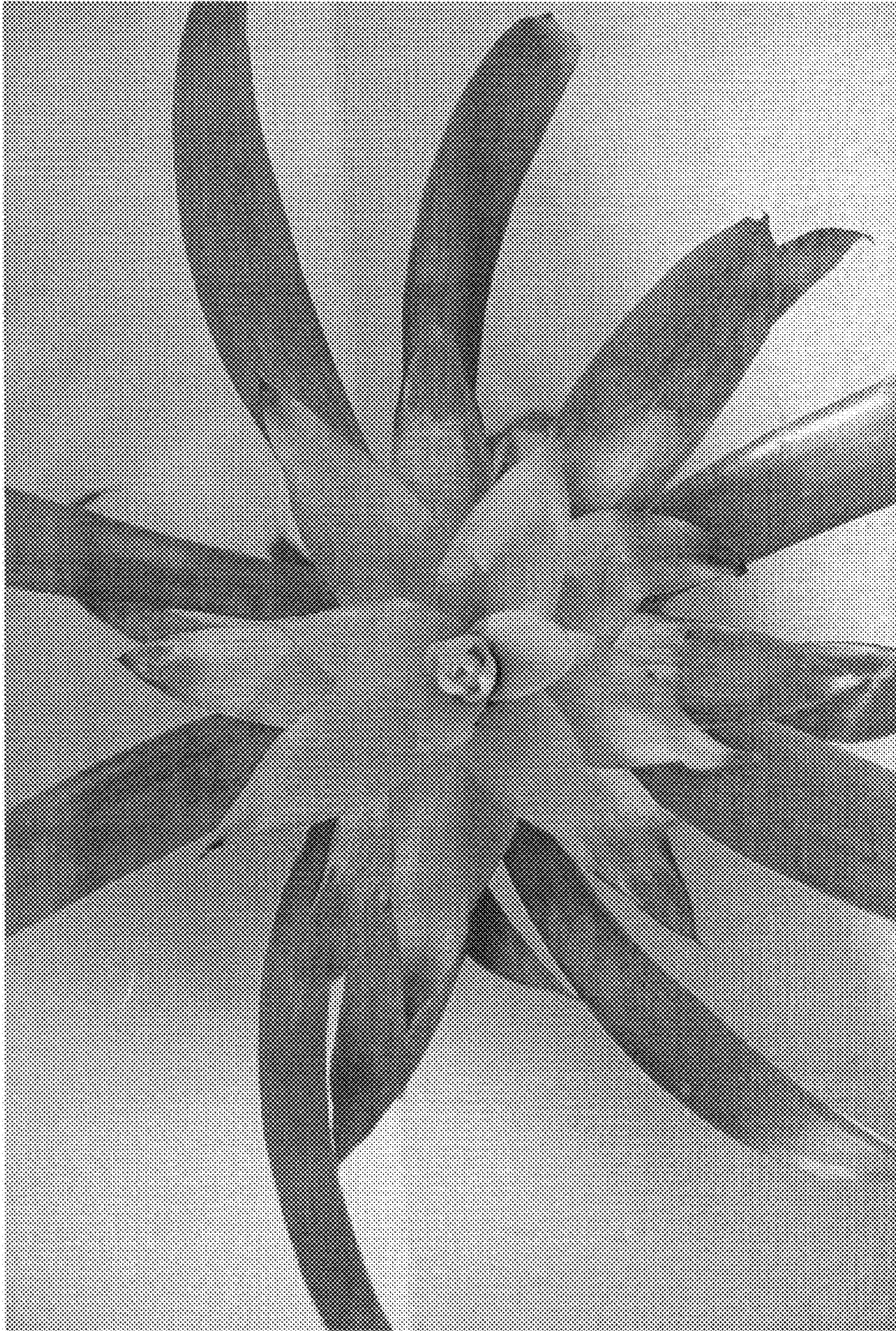
Drought tolerance and cold tolerance: Observed to tolerate temperatures to 40° C. without any negative effects. Temperature tolerance above this range has not been observed. Tolerance of cold temperatures has not been observed.

Fruit/seed production: Not observed.

What is claimed is:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Guzmania* plant named 'Aureus' as herein illustrated and described.

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