

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

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(54) **OSTEOSPERMUM PLANT NAMED**  
**‘DUETISOPi’**

(50) Latin Name: *Osteospermum ecklonis*  
Varietal Denomination: **Duetisopi**

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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 cultivar of *Osteospermum* plant named  
‘Duetisopi’, characterized by its compact, upright and  
mounded plant habit; freely branching growth habit; early  
and freely flowering habit; and daisy-type inflorescences with  
elongated oblong-shaped ray florets that are light purple in  
color.

**1 Drawing Sheet**

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Botanical designation: *Osteospermum ecklonis*.  
Cultivar denomination: ‘DUETISOPi’.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar  
of *Osteospermum* plant, botanically known as *Osteospermum*  
*ecklonis*, and hereinafter referred to by the name ‘Duetisopi’.

The new *Osteospermum* plant is a product of a planned  
breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Rheinberg,  
Germany. The objective of the program is to create and  
develop compact and freely branching *Osteospermum* plants  
with uniformly mounded plant habit and numerous attractive  
inflorescences.

The new *Osteospermum* plant originated from a cross-  
pollination conducted by the Inventor in July, 2006 of a pro-  
prietary selection of *Osteospermum ecklonis* identified as  
code number Q05-7282-003, not patented, as the female, or  
seed, parent with a proprietary selection of *Osteospermum*  
*ecklonis* identified as code number Q03-0708-002, not pat-  
ented, as the male, or pollen, parent. The new *Osteospermum*  
plant was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a single  
flowering plant from within the progeny of the stated cross-  
pollination in a controlled greenhouse environment in Rhei-  
nberg, Germany in May, 2008.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Osteospermum* plant by  
terminal cuttings in a controlled environment in Rheinberg,  
Germany since May, 2008, has shown that the unique features  
of this new *Osteospermum* plant are stable and reproduced  
true to type in successive generations.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

Plants of the new *Osteospermum* have not been observed  
under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype  
may vary somewhat with variations in environment such as  
temperature and light intensity, without, however, any vari-  
ance in genotype.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are  
determined to be the unique characteristics of ‘Duetisopi’.

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These characteristics in combination distinguish ‘Duetisopi’  
as a new and distinct cultivar of *Osteospermum*:

1. Compact, upright and mounded plant habit.
2. Freely branching growth habit.
3. Early and freely flowering habit.
4. Daisy-type inflorescences with elongated oblong-  
shaped ray florets that are light purple in color.

In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Rheinberg, Ger-  
many, plants of the new *Osteospermum* differ primarily from  
plants of the parent selections in ray floret color as plants of  
the parent selections have yellow-colored ray florets.

Plants of the new *Osteospermum* can be compared to plants  
of the *Osteospermum ecklonis* ‘Sunny Bianca’, disclosed in  
U.S. Plant Pat. No. 19,193. In side-by-side comparisons con-  
ducted in Rheinberg, Germany, plants of the new *Osteosper-  
mum* differed primarily from plants of ‘Sunny Bianca’ in the  
following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Osteospermum* were more compact  
than plants of ‘Sunny Bianca’.
2. Plants of the new *Osteospermum* had shorter internodes  
than plants of ‘Sunny Bianca’.
3. Plants of the new *Osteospermum* had smaller leaves than  
plants of ‘Sunny Bianca’.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH**

The accompanying photograph illustrates the overall  
appearance of the new *Osteospermum* plant. This photograph  
shows the colors as true as it is reasonably possible to obtain  
in colored reproductions of this type. Colors in the photo-  
graph may differ slightly from the color values cited in the  
detailed botanical description which accurately describe the  
colors of the new *Osteospermum* plant. The photograph com-  
prises a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of  
‘Duetisopi’ grown in a container.

**DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION**

The aforementioned photograph, following observations  
and measurements describe plants grown in Rheinberg, Ger-  
many during the summer in a glass-covered greenhouse and



under conditions and practices which approximate those generally used in commercial *Osteospermum* production. During the production of the plants, day and night temperatures averaged 18° C. and light levels averaged 4,500 lux. Measurements and numerical values represent averages for typical flowering plants. Plants were grown in 10.5-cm containers, pinched three weeks after planting and were 13 weeks old when the photograph and description were taken. In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 2001 Edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Botanical classification: *Osteospermum ecklonis* 'Duetisopi'.  
Parentage:

*Female, or seed, parent.*—Proprietary selection of *Osteospermum ecklonis* identified as code number Q05-7282-003, not patented.

*Male, or pollen, parent.*—Proprietary selection of *Osteospermum ecklonis*, identified as code number Q03-0708-002, not patented.

#### Propagation:

*Type.*—Terminal vegetative cuttings.

*Time to initiate roots, summer.*—About five days at 20° C.

*Time to initiate roots, winter.*—About seven days at 20° C.

*Time to produce a rooted young plant, summer.*—About three weeks at 20° C.

*Time to produce a rooted young plant, winter.*—About four weeks at 20° C.

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

*Rooting habit.*—Freely branching; dense.

#### Plant description:

*Plant form/growth habit.*—Compact, upright and mounded plant habit; inflorescences positioned above the foliar plane; moderately vigorous growth habit.

*Plant height.*—About 16 cm.

*Plant diameter.*—About 18 cm.

*Lateral branches.*—Quantity per plant: Freely branching, about six lateral branches per plant. Length: About 12 cm. Diameter: About 4 mm. Internode length: About 5 mm. Strength: Strong. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: Close to 144B.

*Foliage description.*—Arrangement: Alternate, simple. Length: About 5.5 cm. Width: About 3 cm. Shape: Spatulate. Apex: Acute. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Dentate. Texture, upper surface: Pubescent; leathery. Texture, lower surface: Smooth, glabrous; leathery. Venation pattern: Pinnate. Color: Developing leaves, upper surface: Close to 137B. Developing leaves, lower surface: Close to 144A. Fully expanded leaves, upper surface: Close to 137A; venation, close to 144B. Fully expanded leaves, lower surface: Close to 137B to 137C; venation, close to 144B. Petiole length: About 4 mm. Petiole diameter: About 5.2 mm. Petiole texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Petiole color, upper surface: Close to 144A to 144B. Petiole color, lower surface: Close to 144B.

#### Inflorescence description:

*Appearance/habit.*—Daisy-type inflorescence form with elongated oblong-shaped ray florets; inflorescences positioned above the foliage, disc and ray florets developing acropetally on a capitulum; inflores-

cences face mostly upright to somewhat outwardly; freely flowering habit; about 15 to 20 inflorescences develop per plant.

*Fragrance.*—None detected.

*Natural flowering season and flowering response.*—In Germany, plants of the new *Osteospermum* flower continuously during the spring and summer; early flowering habit, plants begin flowering about six weeks after planting.

*Flower longevity.*—Inflorescences last about three days on the plant; inflorescences not persistent.

*Inflorescence bud.*—Height: About 1 cm. Diameter: About 9 mm. Shape: Ovate. Color: Close to 137B and 144C.

*Inflorescence size.*—Diameter: About 6.2 cm. Depth (height): About 2.3 cm. Disc diameter: About 1 cm. Receptacle diameter: About 4 mm. Receptacle height: About 3 mm.

*Ray florets.*—Shape: Elongated oblong. Length: About 3.2 cm. Width: About 1.2 cm. Apex: Emarginate. Base: Obtuse. Margin: Entire. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Number of ray florets per inflorescence: About 15 to 20 arranged in about two whorls. Color: When opening, upper surface: Close to 155D. When opening, lower surface: Close to 7A; longitudinal stripes, close to 201B. Fully opened, upper surface: Close to 78B to 78C; color becoming closer to 71A with development. Fully opened, lower surface: Close to 8C; longitudinal stripes, close to 201C.

*Disc florets.*—Shape: Tubular; apex dentate, five-pointed. Length: About 5 mm. Diameter, apex: About 2 mm. Diameter, base: About 1 mm. Number of disc florets per inflorescence: About 50. Color: Immature: Close to 93C. Mature: Close to 93A to 93C.

*Phyllaries.*—Quantity per inflorescence: About 15 to 20. Length: About 1.1 cm. Width: About 1.6 mm. Shape: Lanceolate. Apex: Apiculate. Base: Acute. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; leathery. Color, upper surface: Close to 137B to 137C. Color, lower surface: Close to 137C.

*Peduncles.*—Length: About 6 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Strength: Strong. Aspect: Mostly upright. Texture: Smooth, glabrous; leathery. Color: Close to 144A.

*Reproductive organs.*—Androecium: Present on disc florets only. Anther shape: Ovate. Anther length: About 2 mm. Anther color: Close to 79A to 79B. Pollen amount: Abundant. Pollen color: Close to 23A. Gynoecium: Present on both ray and disc florets. Pistil length: About 7 mm. Stigma shape: Crested. Stigma color: Close to 79A. Style length: About 3 mm. Style color: Close to 79A. Ovary color: Close to 144C.

*Seeds.*—Length: About 7 mm. Diameter: About 3 mm. Color: Close to 199A.

Disease/pest resistance: Plants of the new *Osteospermum* have not been shown to be resistant to pathogens and pests common to *Osteospermums*.

Temperature tolerance: Plants of the new *Osteospermum* have been observed to tolerate temperatures ranging from about 5° C. to about 35° C.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Osteospermum* plant named 'Duetisopi' as illustrated and described.



