

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

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

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

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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(51) **Int. Cl.**
A01H 5/00 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./360**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** Plt./360
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**
PUBLICATIONS

UPOV-ROM GTITM, Plant Variety Database, 2010/03, GTI Jouve
Retrieval Software, citation for *osteospermum* ‘Duetisunray’.*

* cited by examiner

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Osteospermum* plant named
‘Duetisunray’, 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 yellow in color.

1 Drawing Sheet

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

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 ‘Duetisun-
ray’.

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 *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, 2004 of a pro-
prietary selection of *Osteospermum ecklonis* identified as
code number F-03-15, not patented, as the female, or seed,
parent with a proprietary selection of *Osteospermum ecklonis*
identified as code number F-01-13, not patented, as the male,
or pollen, parent. The new *Osteospermum* plant was discov-
ered 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 Rheinberg, 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.

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The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are
determined to be the unique characteristics of ‘Duetisunray’
. These characteristics in combination distinguish ‘Duetisun-
ray’ 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 yellow in color.

In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Rheinberg, Ger-
many, plants of the new *Osteospermum* differ primarily from
plants of the female parent selection in inflorescence size as
plants of the new *Osteospermum* have larger inflorescences
than plants of the female parent selection. Plants of the new
Osteospermum differ primarily from plants of the male parent
selection in ray floret color.

Plants of the new *Osteospermum* can be compared to plants
of the *Osteospermum ecklonis* ‘Countryside’, not patented. In
side-by-side comparisons conducted in Rheinberg, Germany,
plants of the new *Osteospermum* differed primarily from
plants of ‘Countryside’ in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Osteospermum* were larger than plants
of ‘Countryside’.
2. Plants of the new *Osteospermum* were more freely
branching than plants of ‘Countryside’.
3. Plants of the new *Osteospermum* had larger inflores-
cences with more ray florets per inflorescence than
plants of ‘Countryside’.
4. Plants of the new *Osteospermum* and ‘Countryside’
differed slightly in ray floret color.

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 comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'Duetisunray' grown in a container.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photograph, following observations and measurements describe plants grown in Rheinberg, Germany 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* 'Duetisunray'.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Osteospermum ecklonis* identified as code number F-03-15, not patented.

Male, or pollen, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Osteospermum ecklonis*, identified as code number F-01-13, 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 19 cm.

Plant diameter.—About 17 cm.

Lateral branches.—Quantity per plant: Freely branching, about six lateral branches per plant. Length: About 10 cm. Diameter: About 5 mm. Internode length: About 5 mm. Strength: Strong. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: Close to 144A to 144B.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Alternate, simple. Length: About 6.3 cm. Width: About 3.4 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 and lower surfaces: Close to 143A. 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 3 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.

5 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; inflorescences face mostly upright to somewhat outwardly; freely flowering habit; about 20 to 25 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 9.3 mm. Shape: Ovate. Color: Close to 137B and 144C.

Inflorescence size.—Diameter: About 7.2 cm. Depth (height): About 3.5 cm. Disc diameter: About 1.5 cm. Receptacle diameter: About 4 mm. Receptacle height: About 3 mm.

Ray florets.—Shape: Elongated oblong. Length: About 4 cm. Width: About 1 cm. Apex: Emarginate. Base: Obtuse. Margin: Entire. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Number of ray florets per inflorescence: About 30 to 35 arranged in about two whorls. Color: When opening, upper surface: Towards the apex, close to 14B; towards the base, close to 12D. When opening, lower surface: Close to 9A; longitudinal stripes, close to 183A. Fully opened, upper surface: Towards the apex, close to 14A, becoming closer to 14C with development; towards the base, close to 2D; at the base, close to 82B. Fully opened, lower surface: Close to 14A; longitudinal stripes, close to 177A.

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 20 to 25. Length: About 1.3 cm. Width: About 2 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 9.5 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 5 about 5° C. to about 35° C.

It is claimed:
1. A new and distinct *Osteospermum* plant named ‘Duet-isunray’ as illustrated and described.

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