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SUTERA PLANT NAMED 'DANCOP35'

Latin Name: Sutera cordata Varietal Denomination: **DANCOP35**

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(57)ABSTRACT

A new and distinct Sutera cordata plant named 'DANCOP35' particularly characterized by 5-petalled flowers, measuring about 2.4 cm in diameter and light purple in color with a yellow-orange colored throat; semi-trailing, compact growth habit; early flowering response; and suitable for use with hanging basket planters, combination planters and ground cover under full sunlight-and slight shade.

2 Drawing Sheets

Latin name of the genus and species of the claimed plant: Sutera cordata.

Variety denomination: 'DANCOP35'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of Sutera plant, botanically known as Sutera cordata, hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name 'DANCOP35'.

Sutera, of the Scrophulariaceae family, consists of annuals 10 which are grown in most climate zones in the U.S., and only in zones 9 and 10 if it is a perennial plant.

The new *Sutera* 'DANCOP35' is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the inventor, Gavriel Danziger, in Moshav Mishmar Hashiva, Israel. The objective of 15 the breeding program is to develop a new *Sutera* variety with branched, semi-trailing growth habit and large, light purple colored flowers.

The new Sutera 'DANCOP35' originated from open pollination by an unknown *Sutera* cultivar of the unpatented, 20 female/seed parent, Sutera cordata designated cv. 06-406, in a controlled breeding program by the inventor in 2008 in Moshav Mishmar Hashiva, Israel. The new Sutera 'DANCOP35' was discovered and selected by the inventor as a single flowering plant within the progeny of the stated cross 25 in a controlled environment in 2008 in Moshav Mishmar Hashiva, Israel.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Sutera* 'DANCOP35' by vegetative tip cuttings was first performed in February of 2008 in Moshav Mishmar Hashiva, Israel, and has demonstrated that the combination of characteristics as herein disclosed for the new cultivar are firmly fixed and retained through successive generations of asexual reproduction. The new cultivar reproduces true to type.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be unique characteristics of 'DANCOP35', which in combination distinguish this *Sutera* as a new and $_{40}$ distinct cultivar:

- 1. 5-petalled flowers, measuring about 2.4 cm in diameter and light purple in color with a yellow-orange colored throat;
- 2. Semi-trailing, compact growth habit;
- 3. Early flowering response; and
- 4. Suitable for use with hanging basket planters, combination planters and ground cover under full sunlight-and slight shade.

Plants of the new *Sutera* 'DANCOP35' differ from plants of the female/seed parent, Sutera cordata designated cv. 06-406 (unpatented), in the characteristics described in Table

TABLE 1

	Characteristic	New Cultivar 'DANCOP35'	Female Parent cv. 06-406 (unpatented)
20	Flower color	Light Purple	Light Pink
	Flower size	Large	Medium
	Growth habit	Semi-trailing	Trailing

Of the many commercial cultivars known to the present inventor, the most similar in comparison to the new Sutera 'DANCOP35' is the Sutera cordata 'DANCOP22' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 19,340). Plants of the new Sutera 'DANCOP35' differ from plants of Sutera 'DANCOP22', in the characteristics described in Table 2.

TABLE 2

		New Cultivar	Comparison Cultivar 'DANCOP22'
55	Characteristic	'DANCOP35'	(patented)
	Growth habit Flower color Flower size	Semi-trailing Light Purple Large, About 2.4 cm	More trailing Rose Medium, About 1.6 cm

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying photographs illustrate the overall appearance of the new *Sutera* 'DANCOP35' showing the colors as true as is reasonably possible with colored reproductions of this type. Colors in the photographs may differ slightly from the color value cited in the detailed botanical description which accurately describe the color of 'DANCOP35'.

FIG. 1 shows a side view perspective a typical flowering plant of 'DANCOP35' in a hanging planter, at 3 months of age.

FIG. 2 shows a close-up view of the typical flowers, buds and leaves of 'DANCOP35', at 3 months of age.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The new *Sutera* 'DANCOP35' has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype of the new cultivar may vary significantly with variations in environment such as temperature, light intensity, and day length without any change in the genotype of the plant.

The aforementioned photographs, together with the following observations, measurements and values describe the new *Sutera* 'DANCOP35' as grown in a greenhouse in Moshav Mishmar Hashiva, Israel, under conditions which closely approximate those generally used in commercial practice. Plants were grown in a partially shaded (up to 50%) greenhouse, at temperatures between 16° C. (night) to 30° C. (day). A balanced fertilizer was provided with each watering, at levels of 150 ppm N.

Color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart (R.H.S.), 2001 edition, except where general colors of ordinary significance are used. Color values 35 were taken under daylight conditions at approximately 12:00 noon in Moshav Mishmar Hashiva, Israel. The age of the plant described is 3 months.

Classification:

Botanical.—Sutera cordata.

Parentage:

Female or seed parent.—Sutera cordata cv. 06-406 (unpatented).

Male or pollen parent.—Open Pollination by unknown Sutera cordata cultivar.

Optimal growth conditions:

Vigor.—Strong.

Light intensities.—Full sunlight or slight shade.

Temperature.—Day: 20° C. to 24° C. Night: 16° C. to 20° C.

Temperature tolerance.—Tolerant to a low temperature 50 of about 5° C. and tolerant to a high temperature of about 30° C.

Fertilization.—A balanced fertilizer with level of 100 ppm Nitrogen.

Growth regulators.—Unnecessary.

Propagation:

Type.—Tip cuttings of side shoots.

Rooting habit and description.—Fine, fibrous roots.

Time to initiate roots.—About 7 to 10 days at 20° C.

Time to produce a rooted cutting.—About 14 days at 20° 60

Plant:

General appearance and form.—Height: About 15 cm. Spread: About 55 cm.

Shape.—Semi-trailing, compact growth habit.

Crop time.—About 6 to 8 weeks for a flowering pot.

Fragrance.—None.

Strength.—Strong.

Lateral branches:

TABLE 3

	Branch characteristic	Primary	Secondary
	Quantity Per Plant	About 6	About 60
0	Length	About 55 cm.	About 25 cm.
	Diameter	About 2 mm.	About 1 mm.
	Aspect:	About 90°	About 45°
	Internode Length	About 2 cm.	About 1.5 cm.
	Texture	Velvety	Velvety
	Pubescence	Slightly pubescent	Slightly pubescent
5	Color	Green, RHS 137A	Green, RHS 137B

Foliage:

Arrangement and attachment.—Opposite, petiolate.

Leaf length.—About 2.5 cm.

Leaf width.—About 2.0 cm.

Overall shape of leaf.—Ovate.

Apex shape.—Acute.

Base shape.—Acuminate.

Margin.—Crenate.

Texture.—Upper Surface: Slightly velvety; Under Surface: Slightly velvety.

Pubescence.—Upper Surface: Slightly pubescent; Under Surface: Slightly pubescent.

Color of mature leaf.—Upper Surface: Green, RHS 137A; Under Surface: Green, RHS 137B.

Color of immature leaf.—Upper Surface: Green, RHS 137A; Under Surface: Green, RHS 137B.

Venation.—Pattern: Pinnate. Color: Upper surface: Green, RHS 137A; Under Surface: Green, RHS 137C.

Petiole.—Length: About 5 mm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Color: Green, RHS 137A.

Leaf fragrance.—None.

40 Flower description:

Natural flowering season.—All year round in moderate climate. Flowering occurs between January and December outdoors in Israel.

Flowering response time.—About 5 weeks from planting.

Flowering longevity.—On the plant: Flowering of a single flower lasts for 7 days.

Flower fragrance.—None.

Quantity of flowers and buds per plant.—About 200.

Flower bud (about 2 days prior to opening).—Shape: Spatulate. Length: About 9 mm. Diameter: About 5 mm. Texture: Velvety. Color: Purple, RHS 77B.

Flower type.—Solitary, axillary.

Flower form.—Salverform.

Flower symmetry.—Radially symmetric.

Orientation at opening.—Slanted upward and outward. Corolla size.—Diameter (spread): About 24 mm. Diameter at lobes: About 24 mm. Overall flower height: About 11 mm. Length of corolla tube: About 9 mm. Diameter of corolla tube: About 3 mm.

Petals.—Quantity: 5. Length: About 8 mm. Width: About 8 mm. Overall shape: Rounded and gameopetalous. Apex: Rounded. Base: Fused. Margin: Entire. Texture (upper & under surfaces): Slightly velvety. Color: Upper surface, when opening: Purple, RHS N78C; Upper surface, opened

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flower: Light Purple, RHS 75A. Under Surface, when opening: Purple, RHS N78C. Under Surface, opened flower: Light Purple, RHS 75B. Corolla throat color: Yellow-orange, RHS 17A.

Calyx.—Sepals: Quantity: 5. Length: About 6 mm. 5 Seeds: Width: About 1 mm. Overall shape: Linear. Apex: Acute. Base: Fused. Margin: Entire. Texture: Upper surface: Velvety. Under Surface: Velvety. Upper surface color: Green, RHS 138A. Under Surface color: Green, RHS 138A. Anthocyanin pigmentation of 10 calyx limb: Absent. Pedicel: Aspect: Slanted upward. Length: About 10 mm. Diameter: About 1 mm. Angle: About 45°. Texture: Velvety. Color: Green, RHS 138A.

Reproductive organs:

Androecium.—Stamen: Number: 4. Arrangement: Didynamous. Type: Basifixed. Dehiscence of stamens: Extrorse. Color: Yellow-Orange, RHS 17C. Anthers: Shape Cylinder. Length: About 1 mm. Color: Yellow-Orange, RHS 17C. Filaments: Length: About 11 mm. 20 Disease/pest susceptibility: Low. Color: Green-Yellow, RHS 1D. Pollen: Amount: Moderate. Color: Yellow-orange, RHS 17B. Pollination requirements: Young, active pollen, and receptive, open stigma.

Gynoecium.—Pistils: Quantity: 1. Length: About 12 25 mm. Stigma: Shape: Undulate. Width: About 1 mm.

Color: Yellow-Green, RHS N144B. Style: Shape: Terete. Length: About 11 mm. Ovary: Shape: Ellipsoid Position: Superior. Length: About 1 mm. Width: About 1 mm. Color: Green, RHS 137 C.

Quantity per fruit.—About 20.

Shape.—Elliptic.

Length.—About 1 mm.

Width.—About 0.5 mm.

Texture.—Rough.

Color.—Greyed-orange, RHS N167D.

Fruit:

Type.—Capsule.

Shape.—Ellipsoid.

Length.—About 3 mm.

Width.—About 2 mm.

Texture.—Glabrous.

Color.—Greyed-orange, RHS 165A.

Disease/pest resistance: Good.

What is claimed is:

1. A new and distinct Sutera cordata plant named 'DANCOP35', substantially as illustrated and described herein.

FIG. 1

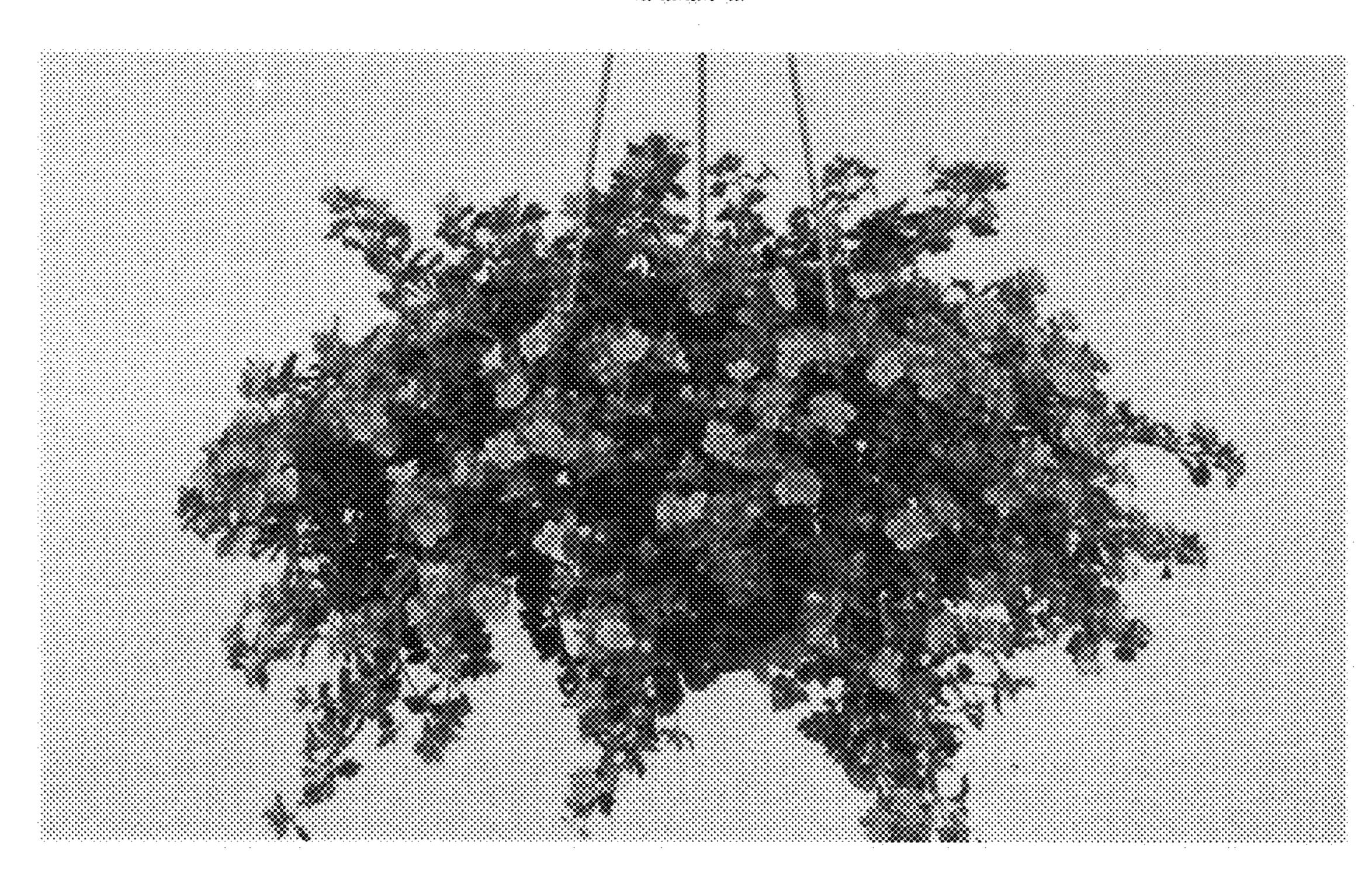


FIG. 2

