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

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(54) ***BUDDLEJA* PLANT NAMED 'PODARAS #1'**

(50) Latin Name: ***Buddleja weyeriana*×*Buddleja davidii***
Varietal Denomination: **Podaras #1**

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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Buddleja* plant named 'Podaras #1', characterized by its upright and somewhat outwardly spreading plant habit; freely flowering habit; sterile creamy white-colored flowers with orange-colored centers; and good garden performance.

1 Drawing Sheet

1

Botanical designation: *Buddleja weyeriana*×*Buddleja davidii*.

Cultivar denomination: 'PODARAS #1'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of *Buddleja* plant, botanically known as *Buddleja weyeriana*×*Buddleja davidii* and hereinafter referred to by the name 'Podaras #1'.

The new *Buddleja* plant is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Ithaca, N.Y. The objective of the breeding program was to create new compact and sterile *Buddleja* plants with unique and attractive flower coloration.

The new *Buddleja* plant originated from a cross-pollination on Mar. 15, 2005 in Ithaca, N.Y., of *Buddleja weyeriana* 'Honeycomb', not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with an unnamed selection of *Buddleja davidii*, not patented, as the male, or pollen, parent. The new *Buddleja* plant was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a single flowering plant within the progeny of the stated cross-pollination in a controlled environment in Ithaca, N.Y. in August, 2005.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Buddleja* plant by cuttings in a controlled greenhouse environment in West Chicago, Ill. since February, 2008, has shown that the unique features of this new *Buddleja* plant are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Plants of the new *Buddleja* have not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in environment and cultural practices such as temperature 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 'Podaras #1'. These characteristics in combination distinguish 'Podaras #1' as a new and distinct *Buddleja* plant:

1. Upright and somewhat outwardly spreading plant habit.
2. Freely flowering habit.

2

3. Sterile creamy white-colored flowers with orange-colored centers.
4. Good garden performance.

Plants of the new *Buddleja* differ from plants of the female parent, 'Honeycomb', in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Buddleja* are more compact than plants of 'Honeycomb'.
2. Plants of the new *Buddleja* are more uniformly branched than plants of 'Honeycomb'.
3. Plants of the new *Buddleja* and 'Honeycomb' differ in flower color as plants of 'Honeycomb' have yellow-colored flowers.

Plants of the new *Buddleja* differ from plants of the male parent selection in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Buddleja* and the male parent selection differ in flower color as plants of the male parent selection have white-colored flowers.
2. Flowers of plants of the new *Buddleja* are sterile whereas flowers of plants of the male parent selection are fertile.

Plants of the new *Buddleja* can be compared to plants of *Buddleja davidii* 'White Profusion', not patented. In side-by-side comparisons, plants of the new *Buddleja* and 'White Profusion' differed in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Buddleja* were more compact than plants of 'White Profusion'.
2. Plants of the new *Buddleja* and 'White Profusion' differed in flower color as plants of 'White Profusion' had white-colored flowers.
3. Flowers of plants of the new *Buddleja* were sterile whereas flowers of plants of 'White Profusion' were fertile.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying colored photographs illustrate the overall appearance of the new *Buddleja* plant showing the colors as true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored reproductions of this type. Colors in the photographs may differ slightly from the color values cited in the detailed botanical description which accurately describe the colors of the new *Buddleja* plant.

The photograph at the bottom of the sheet comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'Podaras #1' grown in a container.

The photograph at the top of the sheet is a close-up view of a typical inflorescence of 'Podaras #1'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photographs and following observations, measurements and values describe plants grown in Arroyo Grande, Calif. under commercial practice during the summer in 12.5-cm containers in a polyethylene-covered greenhouse with day temperatures averaging 21° C. and night temperatures averaging 7° C. Plants were pinched two times and were one year old when the photographs and description were taken. In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 2007 Edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Botanical classification: *Buddleja weyeriana*×*Buddleja davidii* 'Podaras #1'.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—*Buddleja weyeriana* 'Honeycomb', not patented.

Male, or pollen, parent.—Unnamed selection of *Buddleja davidii*, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—By cuttings.

Time to initiate roots plant, summer.—About two weeks at temperatures of 18° C. to 24° C.

Time to initiate roots plant, winter.—About two to three weeks at temperatures of 18° C. to 24° C.

Time to produce a rooted plant, summer.—About three weeks at temperatures of 18° C. to 24° C.

Time to produce a rooted plant, winter.—About three to four weeks at temperatures of 18° C. to 24° C.

Root description.—Fibrous, fine; white in color.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching; moderately dense.

Plant description:

Plant form/habit.—Deciduous perennial shrub; upright and somewhat outwardly spreading habit; broad inverted triangle; vigorous growth habit.

Plant height.—About 82 cm.

Plant width (spread).—About 38 cm by 54 cm.

Lateral branches.—Quantity: About nine main branches per plant. Length: About 78 cm. Diameter: About 8 mm. Internode length: About 3.5 cm to 4 cm. Strength: Strong. Texture, developing stems: Lanulose. Texture, mature stems: Smooth, glabrous. Color, developing: Close to 196A. Color, mature: Close to 199C.

Foliage description:

Arrangement.—Opposite, simple.

Length.—About 15.5 cm.

Width.—About 2.3 cm.

Shape.—Narrowly elliptic.

Apex.—Acute.

Base.—Attenuate.

Margin.—Serrulate.

Texture, upper and lower surfaces.—Lanulose.

Venation pattern.—Pinnate, reticulate.

Color.—Developing leaves, upper surface: Close to N189C. Developing leaves, lower surface: Close to 196C. Fully expanded leaves, upper surface: Close to 189A; venation, close to 189A. Fully expanded leaves, lower surface: Close to 189D; venation, close to 193A.

Petiole.—Length: About 8 mm. Diameter: About 2.5 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Lanulose. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 189D.

Flower description:

Flower type/habit.—Single rotate and salverform flowers arranged in compound terminal and axillary panicles; flowers face upright and outward; panicles roughly conical in shape; freely flowering habit with about 525 flower buds and flowers developing per inflorescence.

Fragrance.—Faint, sweet.

Natural flowering season.—Plants begin flowering about three months after planting; flowering continuous from spring until frost in California.

Postproduction longevity.—Flowers last about three to four days on the plant; flowers persistent.

Flower buds.—Height: About 1.3 cm. Diameter: About 3 mm. Shape: Oblong. Color: Close to NN155C.

Inflorescence height.—About 11 cm.

Inflorescence diameter.—About 5.8 cm.

Flower diameter.—About 8 mm.

Flower depth.—About 1.4 cm.

Flower throat, diameter.—About 2 mm.

Flower tube, length.—About 1 cm.

Flower tube, diameter at base.—About 2 mm.

Petals.—Quantity per flower: Typically four in a single whorl; petals fused into a narrow tube. Lobe length: About 4 mm. Lobe width: About 3 mm. Lobe shape: Roughly spatulate. Lobe apex: Rounded. Lobe margin: Erosulate, crinkled. Texture, upper and lower lobe surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Texture, throat: Slightly pubescent. Texture, tube: Slightly pubescent. Color: Developing petals, upper surface: Close to NN155D. Developing petals, lower surface: Close to NN155D. Fully expanded petals, upper surface: Close to NN155A; towards the base, close to 10B; venation, close to NN155A. Fully expanded petals, lower surface: Close to 155B; venation, close to 155A. Throat: Close to N25B; venation, close to N25B. Tube: Close to 24C; venation, close to 24C.

Sepals.—Quantity per flower: Typically four in a single whorl, fused towards the base; campanulate calyx. Length: About 2 mm. Width: About 1 mm. Shape: Lanceolate. Apex: Acute. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper surface: Smooth, glabrous. Texture, lower surface: Pubescent. Color, upper surface: Close to 144C. Color, lower surface: Close to 145B.

Peduncles.—Length: About 1.8 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Angle: Erect to about 45° from vertical. Strength: Strong. Texture: Lanulose. Color: Close to 194B.

Pedicels.—Length: About 4 mm. Diameter: About 1 mm. Angle: About 45° from peduncle axis. Strength: Strong. Texture: Lanulose. Color: Close to 194C.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: Quantity per flower: Typically four; filaments adnate to the corolla tube. Filament length: About 2.5 mm. Filament color: Close to 1C. Anther shape: Lanceolate. Anther length: About 1 mm. Anther color: Close to 194B. Pollen amount: None. Pistils: Quantity per flower: One. Pistil length: About 3 mm. Stigma shape: Oval. Stigma

color: Close to 144D. Style length: About 1.5 mm. Style color: Close to 145D. Ovary color: Close to 145A.

Seed/fruit.—Flowers of plants of the new *Buddleja* are sterile and seed and fruit development have not been observed.

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

Garden performance: Plants of the new *Buddleja* have been observed to have good garden performance and tolerate rain, wind and temperatures ranging from about 0° C. to about 40° C.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Buddleja* plant named 'Podaras #1' as illustrated and described.

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