



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

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(54) **RHODODENDRON PLANT NAMED**  
**'FARROW'**

(50) Latin Name: *Rhododendron hybrida*  
Varietal Denomination: **Farrow**

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(US)

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35  
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(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **Plt./238**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** ..... **Plt./238**  
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Rhododendron* plant named  
'Farrow', characterized by its compact, upright, somewhat  
outwardly spreading and mounding plant habit; freely  
branching habit; dense and bushy plant form; glossy green  
and pale yellow variegated leaves; freely flowering habit;  
large single type red purple-colored flowers; and good garden  
performance.

**2 Drawing Sheets**

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Botanical designation: *Rhododendron hybrida*.  
Cultivar denomination: 'FARROW'.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

The present Invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar  
of *Rhododendron* plant, botanically known as *Rhododendron*  
*hybrida* and hereinafter referred to by the name 'Farrow'.

The new *Rhododendron* plant is a naturally-occurring  
branch mutation of *Rhododendron hybrida* 'Silver Sword',  
not patented. The new *Rhododendron* plant was discovered  
and selected by the Inventor on a single flowering plant of  
'Silver Sword' in an outdoor nursery in Earleville, Md. during  
the summer of 2001.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Rhododendron* plant by  
softwood cuttings taken in a controlled environment in Ear-  
leville, Md. since 2001 has shown that the unique features of  
this new *Rhododendron* plant are stable and reproduced true  
to type in successive generations.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

Plants of the new *Rhododendron* 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 'Farrow'. These characteristics in combination distinguish  
'Farrow' as a new and distinct *Rhododendron* plant:

1. Compact, upright, somewhat outwardly spreading and  
mounding plant habit.
2. Freely branching habit, dense and bushy plant form.
3. Glossy green and pale yellow variegated leaves.
4. Freely flowering habit.
5. Large single type red purple-colored flowers.
6. Good garden performance.

Plants of the new *Rhododendron* differ primarily from  
plants of the female parent, 'Silver Sword', in the following  
characteristics:

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1. Plants of the new *Rhododendron* have glossier leaves  
than plants of 'Silver Sword'.
2. Leaves of plants of the new *Rhododendron* have a wider  
white-colored border than leaves of plants of 'Silver  
Sword'.
3. Plants of the new *Rhododendron* and 'Silver Sword'  
differed slightly in flower color.

Plants of the new *Rhododendron* can be compared to the  
plants of 'Girard's Rose', not patented. In side-by-side com-  
parisons plants of the new *Rhododendron* differ primarily  
from plants of 'Girard's Rose' in the leaf coloration as plants  
of 'Girard's Rose' have solid green-colored leaves.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS**

The accompanying colored photographs illustrate the over-  
all appearance of the new *Rhododendron* plant. These photo-  
graphs show 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 *Rhododendron*  
plant.

The photograph on the first sheet comprises a side perspec-  
tive view of a typical flowering plant of 'Farrow' grown in a  
container.

The photograph on the second sheet is a close-up view of a  
typical flowering plant of 'Farrow'.

**DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION**

The aforementioned photographs and following observa-  
tions and measurements describe plants grown during the  
spring and summer in an outdoor nursery in Grand Haven,  
Mich. and under commercial *Rhododendron* production con-  
ditions. Plants were four years old when the photographs 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: *Rhododendron hybrida* 'Farrow'.  
 Parentage: Naturally-occurring branch mutation of *Rhododendron hybrida* 'Silver Sword', not patented

Propagation:

*Type*.—By softwood cuttings.

*Time to initiate roots, summer*.—About 40 days at temperatures of about 34° C.

*Time to produce a rooted young plant, summer*.—About four months at temperatures of about 34° C.

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

*Rooting habit*.—Freely branching, dense.

Plant description:

*Plant form and growth habit*.—Perennial and evergreen flowering shrub; compact, upright, somewhat outwardly spreading and mounding plant habit; freely branching habit; dense and bushy plant form; vigorous growth habit; freely flowering habit with numerous showy single type flowers.

*Branching habit*.—Freely branching habit with about 57 lateral branches developing per plant; pinching (removal of terminal apex) enhances lateral branch development.

*Plant height*.—About 50 cm.

*Plant diameter, area of spread*.—About 35 cm.

*Lateral branch description*.—Length: About 11 cm. Diameter at base: About 2 mm. Internode length: About 1 cm. Strength: Strong. Aspect: About 20° to 30° from vertical. Texture, developing: Pubescent. Texture, mature: Pubescent, woody. Color, developing: Close to 144B. Color, developed: Close to 165A.

*Foliage description*.—Arrangement: Alternate or whorled; simple. Length: About 4 cm. Width: About 1.5 cm. Shape: Lanceolate to oblanceolate. Apex: Acute. Base: Cuneate to attenuate. Margin: Entire; undulate. Venation pattern: Pinnate; reticulate. Texture, upper surface: Smooth, glabrous. Texture, lower surface: Slightly pubescent. Luster: Glossy. Color: Developing leaves, upper and lower surfaces: Center, close to 146B; towards the margins, close to 10D. Fully expanded leaves, upper surface: Center, close to 146A; towards the margins, close to 11D; venation, similar to leaf surface coloration. Fully expanded leaves, lower surface: Center, close to 146B; towards the margins, close to 11D; venation, similar to leaf surface coloration. Petiole: Length: About 1 cm. Diameter: About 1 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 146C.

Flower description:

*Flower arrangement and appearance*.—Single type flowers arranged in clusters with usually about two to five flowers per lateral stem; freely flowering habit

with about 187 flowers per plant; flowers face upward or outwardly; flowers rotate with a single whorl of five petals.

*Natural flowering season*.—Plants flower in May in Grand Haven, Mich.

*Flower longevity*.—Durable and long-lasting; flowers last about three to five weeks on the plant; flowers not persistent.

*Fragrance*.—None detected.

*Flower diameter*.—About 6 cm.

*Flower depth*.—About 4.4 cm.

*Petals*.—Arrangement: Single whorl of five petals fused at the base forming a wide funnel-shaped corolla. Length: About 2.5 cm. Width: About 1.5 cm to 2 cm. Lobe shape: Ovate. Apex: Acute; undulate and ruffled. Margin: Entire; undulate and ruffled. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color: When opening, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 57A. Fully opened, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 57A.

*Sepals*.—Arrangement: Five in a single whorl, fused at the base forming a star-shaped corona. Length: About 9 mm. Width: About 3 mm. Shape: Lanceolate. Apex: Narrowly acute. Base: Fused. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 145D.

*Peduncles*.—Length: About 1.2 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Angle: Mostly upright. Strength: Strong. Texture: Pubescent. Color: Close to 145D tinged with close to 57A.

*Reproductive organs*.—Androecium: Quantity of stamens per flower: About five. Anther shape: Rounded. Anther length: Less than 1 mm. Anther color: Close to 57A. Pollen amount: Scarce. Pollen color: Close to 57A. Gynoecium: Pistil length: About 3.2 cm. Stigma shape: Rounded. Stigma color: Close to 57A. Style length: About 3 cm. Style color: Close to 57A. Ovary color: Close to 155C.

*Seeds*.—Quantity per fruit: Numerous. Length: Less than 1 mm. Diameter: Less than 1 mm. Color: Brown.

Garden performance: Plants of the new *Rhododendron* have been observed to have good garden performance and to be tolerant to rain, wind and temperatures ranging from about -24° C. to about 36° C.

Disease/pest resistance: Plants have not been observed to be resistant to pathogens and pests common to *Rhododendrons*.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Rhododendron* plant named 'Farrow' as illustrated and described.

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