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**Kristensen**

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(54) **OSTEOSPERMUM PLANT NAMED**  
**'SAKOST8076'**

(50) Latin Name: *Osteospermum hybrida*  
Varietal Denomination: **SAKOST8076**

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35  
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(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **Plt./360**  
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See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new *Osteospermum* plant particularly distinguished by  
having a violet ray floret color, medium flower size, and  
compact and mounding plant habit, is disclosed.

**1 Drawing Sheet**

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Genus and species: *Osteospermum hybrida*.  
Variety denomination: 'SAKOST8076'.

**BACKGROUND OF THE NEW PLANT**

The present invention comprises a new and distinct cultivar  
of *Osteospermum*, botanically known as *Osteospermum*  
*hybrida*, and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name  
'SAKOST8076'. 'SAKOST8076' originated from a hybrid-  
ization of proprietary hybrid *Osteospermum* commercial  
lines 'Akkalav' and 'Sun-sation Blue' in Aabyhoej, Denmark.  
The female parent, 'Akkalav' has a lavender with blue eye  
flower color and a compact plant habit. The male parent,  
'Sun-sation Blue', has a purple flower color and a mounding  
plant habit.

In May 2004, the two *Osteospermum* lines were crossed  
and seeds were obtained. The seeds were sown and 200 F<sub>1</sub>  
plants were grown in pots for evaluation. A single plant hav-  
ing medium-sized blue-colored flowers and a compact and  
mounding plant habit was selected for further evaluation and  
propagation.

In February 2005, the single plant was vegetatively propa-  
gated by cuttings and re-evaluated in an open field and a  
greenhouse, and assigned the breeder code number '205114'.

In spring 2005, '205114' plants were evaluated again in  
pots and in an open field. '205114' was named  
'SAKOST8076' and was found to reproduce true to type in  
successive generations of asexual propagation through veg-  
etative cuttings.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

The following are the most outstanding and distinguishing  
characteristics of this new cultivar when grown under normal  
horticultural practices in Salinas, Calif.

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1. Antique blue or violet ray floret color;
2. Medium flower size; and
3. Compact and mounding plant habit.

**DESCRIPTION OF PHOTOGRAPHS**

This new *Osteospermum* plant is illustrated by the accom-  
panying photographs which show the plant's overall plant  
habit including form, foliage, and flowers. The photographs  
are of a plant grown six months from transplant date and ten  
months from stick date into 8-inch pots from rooted cuttings  
in Salinas, Calif. in the spring of 2009 through the winter of  
2010. The colors shown are as true as can be reasonably  
obtained by conventional photographic procedures.

FIG. 1 shows overall plant habit of the plant grown in a pot.  
FIG. 2 shows the mature inflorescence of the plant.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW CULTIVAR**

The following detailed descriptions set forth the distinctive  
characteristics of 'SAKOST8076'. The data which define  
these characteristics were collected from asexual reproduc-  
tions carried out in Salinas, Calif. Data was collected on  
plants grown approximately six months from transplant date  
and ten months from stick date into 8-inch pots under green-  
house conditions in Salinas, Calif. in the spring of 2009  
through the winter of 2010. Color references are to The  
R.H.S. Colour Chart of The Royal Horticultural Society of  
London (R.H.S.), 4<sup>th</sup> edition.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW PLANT**

Classification:  
*Family*.—Compositae.  
*Botanical*.—*Osteospermum hybrida*.

*Common.*—*Osteospermum*, Cape Daisy, South African Daisy.

*Designation.*—‘SAKOST8076’.

Parentage:

*Female parent.*—A hybrid proprietary *Osteospermum* line ‘Akkalav’ (unpatented).

*Male parent.*—A hybrid proprietary *Osteospermum* line ‘Sun-sation Blue’ (unpatented).

Growth:

*Time to produce a rooted cutting.*—Cuttings will colonize a 2.5 cm diameter by 2.5 cm tall greenhouse tray cell with peat-based plant media in approximately four weeks. Cuttings are dipped in a normal dilution (1:9) of DIP 'N GROW root inducing solution in water. The trays are misted hourly during rooting.

*Environmental conditions for plant growth.*—Rooted cuttings are transplanted to pots with a 16 cm diameter, one plant per pot. Peat-based growing media is used. The pots are watered using a 150 ppm to 200 ppm fertilizer solution using 18-8-18 fertilizer. The soil is allowed to dry between watering. During the first few weeks after transplanting, the plants should have evening temperatures around 15° C. to 18° C. for good root growth. When plants reach 7.5 cm to 10 cm in height, they are pinched back to 5 to 6 leaves to promote branching. Spring and summer daytime high temperatures in Salinas, Calif., where the data was collected, range from 16° C. to 25° C.

*Time to bloom from propagation.*—Approximately four weeks when rooted vegetative cuttings are transferred to a 5-inch diameter pot. Flowering season is all year in the United States. Vernalization is not required to induce flowering.

Plant description:

*Habit.*—Compact and mounding.

*Life cycle.*—Perennial.

*Form.*—Compact, mounding.

*Height (from soil line to first node).*—2.0 cm.

*Height (from soil line to top of foliage).*—24.0 cm to 26.0 cm.

*Width.*—50.0 cm to 52.0 cm.

Stems:

*General.*—Multiple stems, circular in cross section.

*Stem length (total).*—12.0 cm to 14.0 cm.

*Diameter.*—0.2 cm.

*Internode length.*—2.0 cm.

*Color.*—RHS 143C (Green).

*Pubescence.*—Moderate. Color: RHS N155A (White). Shape: Short, hair-like fibers.

Branches:

*General.*—Circular in cross section.

*Number of main branches.*—1.

*Total number of branches.*—12.

*Length.*—12.0 cm to 14.0 cm, approximately 2.0 cm from soil line to first node, 2.0 cm between first and second nodes.

*Diameter.*—0.5 cm.

*Internode length.*—2.0 cm.

*Color.*—RHS 143B (Green).

*Pubescence.*—Moderate. Color: RHS N155A (White). Shape: Short, hair-like fibers.

Leaves:

*Arrangement.*—Alternate.

*Shape.*—Oblanceolate.

*Apex.*—Acute.

*Base.*—Attenuate.

*Margin.*—Serrate.

*Venation.*—Pinnate.

*Surface (both surfaces).*—Dull.

*Surface pubescence (both surfaces).*—Very slight, mainly around edge.

*Pubescence color (both surfaces).*—RHS N155A (White).

*Attachment.*—Decurrent.

*Length.*—7.0 cm.

*Width.*—3.0 cm.

*Thickness.*—Less than 0.1 cm.

*Color.*—Upper surface: RHS 137A (Green). Lower surface: RHS 137B (Green).

*Venation color.*—Upper surface: RHS 144A (Yellow-green). Lower surface: RHS 144B (Yellow-green).

Inflorescence:

*Number per plant.*—20.

*Type.*—Capitulum (head); disc florets are perfect and ray florets are carpellate.

*Flowering habit.*—Determinate.

*Lastingness of flowers.*—3 to 4 days.

*Fragrance.*—Absent.

*Seed production.*—None observed.

*Diameter.*—7.0 cm.

*Depth.*—1.0 cm.

*Petal (ray floret) number.*—20 to 26 per inflorescence.

*Disc diameter.*—1.2 cm.

*Disc floret number.*—50 to 60 per inflorescence.

*Peduncle length.*—5.0 cm from inflorescence to first node.

*Peduncle diameter.*—0.2 cm.

*Peduncle color.*—RHS 143B (Green).

*Peduncle texture.*—Dull, slight pubescence.

*Phyllaries.*—Arrangement: 20 per inflorescence, free, arranged symmetrically. Length: 1.2 cm. Width: 0.1 cm. Apex: Acute. Margin: Entire. Shape: Linear, acute. Color: Upper surface: RHS 143A (Green). Lower surface: RHS 143B (Green).

Ray florets (ligules):

*Corolla.*—One petal per ray floret; only the outer row of florets are the ray florets.

*Number of ray florets.*—22 to 26 per inflorescence.

*Length.*—3.0 cm.

*Width.*—0.7 cm.

*Shape.*—Lanceolate.

*Apex.*—Acute.

*Margin.*—Entire.

*Color.*—Upper surface: RHS N87C. Lower surface: RHS N87D.

*Pubescence.*—Glabrous.

Disc florets:

*Color.*—RHS 77A (Purple).

*Shape.*—Tubular.

*Apex.*—Pointed.

*Surface.*—Dull, pubescent.

*Size.*—Length: 0.4 cm. Width: 0.1 cm.

Reproductive organs:

*Ovary.*—Superior in ray florets.

*Pistil form.*—One style with two stigma branches in ray florets.

*Pistil length.*—0.5 cm in ray florets.

*Stigma color.*—RHS 187A (Greyed-purple) in ray florets.

*Style color.*—RHS 155A (White) in ray florets.

*Ovary*.—Superior in disc florets.

*Pistil form*.—One style with two stigma branches in disc florets.

*Stamens*.—5, fused into a single tube in disc florets.

*Anther color*.—RHS 187A (Greyed-purple) in disc florets.

*Pollen color*.—RHS 17A (Yellow-orange) in disc florets.

*Filament color*.—RHS 155A (White) in disc florets.

Disease and insect resistance: Plants are susceptible to aphids, thrips, whiteflies, and worms.

COMPARISON WITH PARENTAL LINES AND KNOWN CULTIVARS

‘SAKOST8076’ is a distinct variety of *Osteospermum* owing to its violet ray floret color, medium flower size, and compact and mounding plant habit. ‘SAKOST8076’ is distinguished from its parents as described in Table 1 (color references are to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 4<sup>th</sup> edition):

TABLE 1

Comparison with Parental Lines			
Characteristic	‘SAKOST8076’	Male Parent ‘Sun-sation Blue’	Female Parent ‘Akkalav’
Ray floret (ligule) color, upper surface	RHS N87C	Purple	Lavender with blue eye

TABLE 1-continued

Comparison with Parental Lines			
Characteristic	‘SAKOST8076’	Male Parent ‘Sun-sation Blue’	Female Parent ‘Akkalav’
Plant growth habit	Compact and mounding	Mounding	Compact

‘SAKOST8076’ is a distinct variety of *Osteospermum* owing to its violet ray floret color, medium flower size, and compact and mounding plant habit. ‘SAKOST8076’ is most similar to the *Osteospermum* plant named ‘Malindi’ (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 13,343). Differences between the two varieties are described in Table 2 (color references are to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 4<sup>th</sup> edition):

TABLE 2

Comparison with Similar Variety		
Characteristic	‘SAKOST8076’	‘Malindi’
Ray floret (ligule) color, upper surface	RHS N87C	RHS N78A
Plant growth habit	Compact and mounding	Upright habit

I claim:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Osteospermum* plant as shown and described herein.

\* \* \* \* \*



Fig. 1



Fig. 2