



US00PP23258P2

(12) **United States Plant Patent**
Francis(10) **Patent No.:** US PP23,258 P2
(45) **Date of Patent:** Dec. 18, 2012(54) **LEUCADENDRON PLANT NAMED 'EBONY'**(50) Latin Name: *Leucadendron salignum×laureolum*
Varietal Denomination: **Ebony**(76) Inventor: **John Francis**, Waimauku Auckland
(NZ)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 20 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **12/927,129**(22) Filed: **Nov. 8, 2010**(51) **Int. Cl.***A01H 5/00* (2006.01)(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./226**(58) **Field of Classification Search** Plt./226,
Plt./263.1

See application file for complete search history.

Primary Examiner — June Hwu(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Mark P. Bourgeois**ABSTRACT**

A new cultivar of *Leucadendron* plant named 'Ebony' that is characterized by purple-black foliage, yellow flowers with purple-black bracts and an upright compact habit.

2 Drawing Sheets**1**Botanical classification: *Leucadendron salignum×laureolum*.

Variety denomination: 'Ebony'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of *Leucadendron* plant botanically known as *Leucadendron salignum×laureolum* and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name 'Ebony'.

'Ebony' is a naturally occurring branch mutation of *Leucadendron salignum×laureolum* 'Safari Sunset' (not patented). The new cultivar was discovered by the inventor in 2007 in a cultivated area of Waimauku Auckland, New Zealand. 'Ebony' was discovered in an outdoor field of 'Safari Sunset' cultivars being grown for cut foliage.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar 'Ebony' by terminal cuttings was first performed in 2007 in Waimauku Auckland, New Zealand. Since that time, under careful observation, the unique characteristics of the new cultivar have been uniform, stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations of asexual reproduction.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following represent the distinguishing characteristics of the new *Leucadendron* cultivar 'Ebony'. These traits in combination distinguish 'Ebony' as a new and distinct cultivar.

1. *Leucadendron* 'Ebony' exhibits purple-black foliage.
2. *Leucadendron* 'Ebony' exhibits yellow flowers with purple-black bracts.
3. *Leucadendron* 'Ebony' exhibits an upright compact habit.

The closest comparison varieties are the parent plant *Leucadendron* 'Safari Sunset' and *Leucadendron* 'Goldstrike' (not patented).

The new cultivar 'Ebony' is distinguishable from the parent plant 'Safari Sunset' by the following characteristics: 'Ebony' has purple-black leaves. The leaves of 'Safari Sunset' are green. 'Ebony' has yellow flowers with purple-black

2

bracts. The flowers of 'Safari Sunset' are yellow with red bracts. 'Ebony' has a more compact habit and is slower growing than 'Safari Sunset'.

The new cultivar 'Ebony' is distinguishable from 'Goldstrike' by the following characteristics: 'Ebony' has purple-black leaves. The leaves of 'Goldstrike' are green. 'Ebony' has yellow flowers with purple-black bracts. The flowers of 'Goldstrike' are yellow with yellow bracts.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

The accompanying photograph illustrates the distinguishing traits of *Leucadendron* 'Ebony'.

The plant in the photograph on sheet 1 shows an overall view of a 30 month old plant.

The photograph on sheet 2 illustrates an enlarged view of the flower. The photograph was taken using conventional techniques and although colors may appear different from actual colors due to light reflectance it is as accurate as possible by conventional photographic techniques.

BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANT

The following is a detailed description of the new *Leucadendron* cultivar named 'Ebony'. Data was collected in Waimauku Auckland, New Zealand from 30 month old field grown plants. The time of year was Summer and the average temperature was 20 to 30° Centigrade during the day and 9 to 18° Centigrade at night. Color determinations are in accordance with The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart 2007 edition, except where general color terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used. The growing requirements are similar to the species. 'Ebony' has not been tested under all possible conditions and phenotypic differences may be observed with variations in environmental, climatic, and cultural conditions, however, without any variance in genotype. Botanical classification: *Leucadendron salignum×laureolum* 'Ebony'.

Use: Ornamental Perennial.

Parentage: 'Ebony' is a naturally occurring branch mutation of *Leucadendron salignum×laureolum* 'Safari Sunset'.

Vigor: Moderate.

Container size: 3 to 6 liter pots.



