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(12) **United States Plant Patent**
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- (54) **WESTRINGIA FRUTICOSA PLANT NAMED 'NFL25'**
- (50) Latin Name: *Westringia fruticosa*
Varietal Denomination: **NFL25**
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- (*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 85 days.
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- (51) **Int. Cl.**
A01H 5/00 (2006.01)
- (52) **U.S. Cl.**
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- (58) **Field of Classification Search**
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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

'NFL25' is a distinctive variety of *Westringia fruticosa* which is characterized by the combination of short plant height, decumbent growth habit, and large dark green leaves.

2 Drawing Sheets

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Latin name of the genus and species: The Latin name of the genus and species of the novel variety disclosed herein is *Westringia fruticosa*.

Variety denomination: The inventive variety of *Westringia* disclosed herein has been given the variety denomination 'NFL25'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct perennial variety of *Westringia fruticosa*, which has been given the variety denomination of 'NFL25'. Its market class is that of an ornamental plant. 'NFL25' is intended for use in landscaping as a groundcover and in decorative containers.

Parentage: The *Westringia fruticosa* variety 'NFL25' was finally selected in 2009 in an Australian nursery in Cobbitty, New South Wales following a selection process carried out from 2005 to 2008 involving approximately 1000 seedlings of *Westringia fruticosa* 'WES05' (Australia PBR 2008/312, unpatented in the US) production stock. 'NFL25' is a seedling selection from open pollinated *Westringia fruticosa* 'WES05'. 'NFL25' was selected due to its short plant height, decumbent growth habit, and larger leaves.

Asexual Reproduction: 'NFL25' was first propagated asexually by division at a wholesale nursery in Richmond, New South Wales, Australia and has since been asexually propagated by division. The distinctive characteristics of the inventive 'NFL25' variety are stable from generation to generation; clones of the variety produced by asexual reproduction maintain the distinguishing characteristics of the original plant.

A Provisional Patent application for variety 'NFL25' was filed with the US Patent and Trademark Office on Jan. 21, 2010 under Application No. 61/461,614.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

'NFL25' is a distinctive variety of *Westringia fruticosa* which is characterized by the combination of short plant height, decumbent growth habit, and large dark green leaves.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

FIG. 1 shows a mature 1-gallon 'NFL25' plant, at 10 months old from a rooted cutting.

FIG. 2 shows a macro view of the 'NFL25' flower.

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BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANT

The following is a detailed botanical description of a new and distinct variety of a *Westringia fruticosa* ornamental plant known as 'NFL25'. Unless indicated otherwise, the flower and reproductive organ descriptions disclosed herein are based upon observations made in Clarendon, N.S.W. Australia in October 2010 of mature 'NFL25' plants grown in nursery pots. All other observations were made on plants grown in Charleston, S.C. Unless indicated otherwise, the descriptions disclosed herein are based upon observations made from mature 'NFL25' plants grown from rooted cuttings from April 2011 to December 2011 in trade 1-gallon nursery pots. Pots were filled with soilless potting media, maintained with granular slow release fertilizer, and manually watered as needed. No pest and disease measures were taken.

Those skilled in the art will appreciate that certain characteristics will vary with older or, conversely, younger plants. 'NFL25' has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. Where dimensions, sizes, colors and other characteristics are given, it is to be understood that such characteristics are approximations or averages set forth as accurately as practicable. The phenotype of the variety may vary with variations in the environment such as season, temperature, light intensity, day length, cultural conditions and the like. Color notations are based on The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, The Royal Horticultural Society, London, 1986 edition. Note that generic color descriptions such as 'white' do not exist in the R.H.S. charts and the corresponding R.H.S. colors are quoted.

'NFL25' is a perennial *Westringia fruticosa* plant which is a seedling selection from a *Westringia fruticosa* 'WES05'. 'NFL25' has large yellow-green leaves, a decumbent branching habit, short plant height and white flowers displayed within the foliage.

These features and other characteristics are apparent from the description provided below.

Growth Habit, Dimensions and Color

Plant description:

Bloom period.—Spring with sporadic flowering through summer and fall.

FIG. 1



FIG. 2

