

US00PP24560P3

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

(10) **Patent No.:** **US PP24,560 P3**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Jun. 17, 2014**

(54) **SOLENOSTEMON PLANT NAMED**
'BALCOVINO'

(50) Latin Name: *Solenostemon scutellarioides*
Varietal Denomination: **Balcovino**

(75) Inventor: **Rolando Solano Ramirez**, Dulce
Nombre de Cartago (CR)

(73) Assignee: **Ball Horticultural Company**, West
Chicago, IL (US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
patent is extended or adjusted under 35
U.S.C. 154(b) by 162 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **13/507,909**

(22) Filed: **Aug. 6, 2012**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**
US 2013/0174308 P1 Jul. 4, 2013

(51) **Int. Cl.**
A01H 5/00 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
USPC **Plt./373**

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
USPC **Plt./373**
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

PP19,180 P2 * 9/2008 Ramirez **Plt./373**

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Upov pluto citations for 'balcovino' Apr. 2012.*

* cited by examiner

Primary Examiner — Wendy C Haas

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Audrey Charles

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Solenostemon* plant named
'Balcovino', characterized by its deep-burgundy colored foli-
age having dark green-colored margins, and vigorous,
upright growth habit, is disclosed.

1 Drawing Sheet

1

Latin name of genus and species of plant claimed: *Sole-
nostemon scutellarioides*.

Variety denomination: 'Balcovino'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of *Solenostemon* plant botanically known as *Solenostemon*
scutellarioides and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar
name 'Balcovino'.

The new cultivar originated in a controlled breeding pro-
gram in Cartago, Costa Rica during January 2008. The objec-
tive of the breeding program was the development of *Sole-
nostemon* cultivars with unique foliage coloration and leaf
shape, upright growth habit, and good sun tolerance.

The new *Solenostemon* cultivar is the result of cross-poll-
ination. The female (seed) parent of the new cultivar is
'Duck's Foot Camouflage', not patented, characterized by its
small, deeply lobed, maroon-colored foliage having green-
colored margins, low vigor and mounded growth habit. The
male (pollen) parent of the new cultivar is the proprietary
Solenostemon scutellarioides breeding selection coded
0Co33-1-13-1-2, not patented, characterized by its medium
yellow-colored foliage and vigorous, upright growth habit.
The new cultivar was discovered and selected as a single
flowering plant within the progeny of the above stated cross-
pollination during July 2008 in a controlled environment in
Cartago, Costa Rica.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal stem
cuttings since July 2008 in Cartago, Costa Rica and West
Chicago, Ill. has demonstrated that the new cultivar repro-
duces true to type with all of the characteristics, as herein

2

described, firmly fixed and retained through successive gen-
erations of such asexual propagation.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following characteristics of the new cultivar have been
repeatedly observed and can be used to distinguish 'Bal-
covino' as a new and distinct cultivar of *Solenostemon* plant:

1. Deep-burgundy colored foliage having dark green-col-
ored margins; and
2. Vigorous, upright growth habit.

Plants of the new cultivar differ from plants of the female
parent primarily in leaf margin and growth habit and from
plants of the male parent primarily foliage color.

Of the many commercially available *Solenostemon* culti-
vars, the most similar in comparison to the new cultivar is
COLORBLAZE 'Dark Star', not patented. However, in side
by side comparisons, plants of the new cultivar differ from
plants of 'Dark Star' in at least the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new cultivar have a dark green-colored leaf
margin unlike plants of 'Dark Star';
2. Plants of the new cultivar have a smoother leaf texture
than plants of 'Dark Star'; and
3. Plants of the new cultivar have smaller leaf lobes than
plants of 'Dark Star'.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying photographs show, as nearly true as it is
reasonably possible to make the same in color illustrations of
this type, and typical foliage characteristics of the new culti-
var. Colors in the photographs differ slightly from the color
values cited in the detailed description, which accurately

describes the colors of 'Balcovino'. The plants were grown in 4-inch pots for 8 weeks in a greenhouse in West Chicago, Ill.

FIG. 1 illustrates a side view of the overall growth habit of 'Balcovino'.

FIG. 2 illustrates a close-up view of an individual leaf of 'Balcovino'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The new cultivar has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions to date. Accordingly, it is possible that the phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in the environment, such as temperature, light intensity, and day length, without, however, any variance in genotype.

The chart used in the identification of colors described herein is The R.H.S. Colour Chart of The Royal Horticultural Society, London, England, 2007 edition, except where general color terms of ordinary significance are used. The color values were determined in May 2012 under natural light conditions in West Chicago, Ill.

The following descriptions and measurements describe plants produced from cuttings from stock plants and grown in a glass-covered greenhouse under conditions comparable to those used in commercial practice. The plants were grown in West Chicago, Ill. in 4-inch pots for 8 weeks utilizing a soilless growth medium. Greenhouse temperatures were maintained at approximately 70° F. to 77° F. (21° C. to 25° C.) during the day and approximately 65° F. to 68° F. (18° C. to 20° C.) during the night. Greenhouse light levels of 2,500 footcandles to 6,000 footcandles were maintained during the day. Measurements and numerical values represent averages of typical plants.

Botanical classification: *Solenostemon scutellarioides* cultivar Balcovino.

Parentage:

Female parent.—'Ducksfoot Camouflage', not patented.

Male parent.—Proprietary *Solenostemon scutellarioides* breeding selection coded 0Co33-1-13-1-2, not patented.

Propagation:

Type cutting.—Terminal stem.

Time to initiate roots.—Approximately 4 to 6 days.

Time to produce a rooted cutting.—Approximately 21 to 24 days.

Root description.—Fibrous.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching.

Plant description:

Commercial crop time.—Approximately 5 to 7 weeks from a rooted cutting to finish in a 10 cm pot.

Growth habit and general appearance.—Vigorous, upright.

Size.—Height from soil level to top of plant plane: Approximately 24.5 cm. Width: Approximately 30.6 cm.

Branching habit.—Freely branching, pinching improves basal branching. Quantity of lateral branches per plant: Approximately 8.

Branch.—Strength: Strong. Shape: Square in cross section. Length of lateral branch: Approximately 12.9 cm. Diameter of lateral branch at central internode: Approximately 5.5 mm. Length of central internode of lateral branch: Approximately 3.5 cm. Texture: Densely pubescent with short hairs. Color of young and mature stems: 144A with an overlay of 187B.

Foliage description:

General description.—Quantity of leaves per main stem: Approximately 8. Fragrance: None. Form: Simple. Arrangement: Opposite.

Leaves.—Aspect: Petiole is at an acute angle to stem; leaf blade is perpendicular to stem and transitions to an obtuse angle with age. Appearance: Velvety. Shape: Ovate. Margin: Crenate. Apex: Acute. Base: Attenuate. Venation pattern: Pinnate. Length of mature leaf: Approximately 11.3 cm. Width of mature leaf: Approximately 7.9 cm. Texture of upper surface: Sparsely pubescent. Texture of lower surface: Sparsely pubescent with dense pubescence on venation. Color of upper surface of young foliage: Darker than 187A with margins of 137A and venation of 187A to indistinguishable. Color of lower surface of young foliage: Closest to 187A with venation of 144B to indistinguishable. Color of upper surface of mature foliage: Closest to N186A with margins and occasional mottling of 137A and venation of 187A to indistinguishable. Color of lower surface of mature foliage: Closest to but darker than 187A with venation of 144B to indistinguishable.

Petiole.—Length: Approximately 3.9 cm. Width: Approximately 3.0 mm. Texture: Densely pubescent with short hairs. Pubescence color: 187A. Color: 144A.

Flowering description: Flowers are ornamentally insignificant for this variety. No flowers were observed in this trial.

Seed and fruit production: Neither seed nor fruit production has been observed.

Disease and pest resistance: Resistance to pathogens and pests common to *Solenostemon* has not been observed.

What is claimed is:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Solenostemon* plant named 'Balcovino', substantially as herein shown and described.

* * * * *



FIG. 1

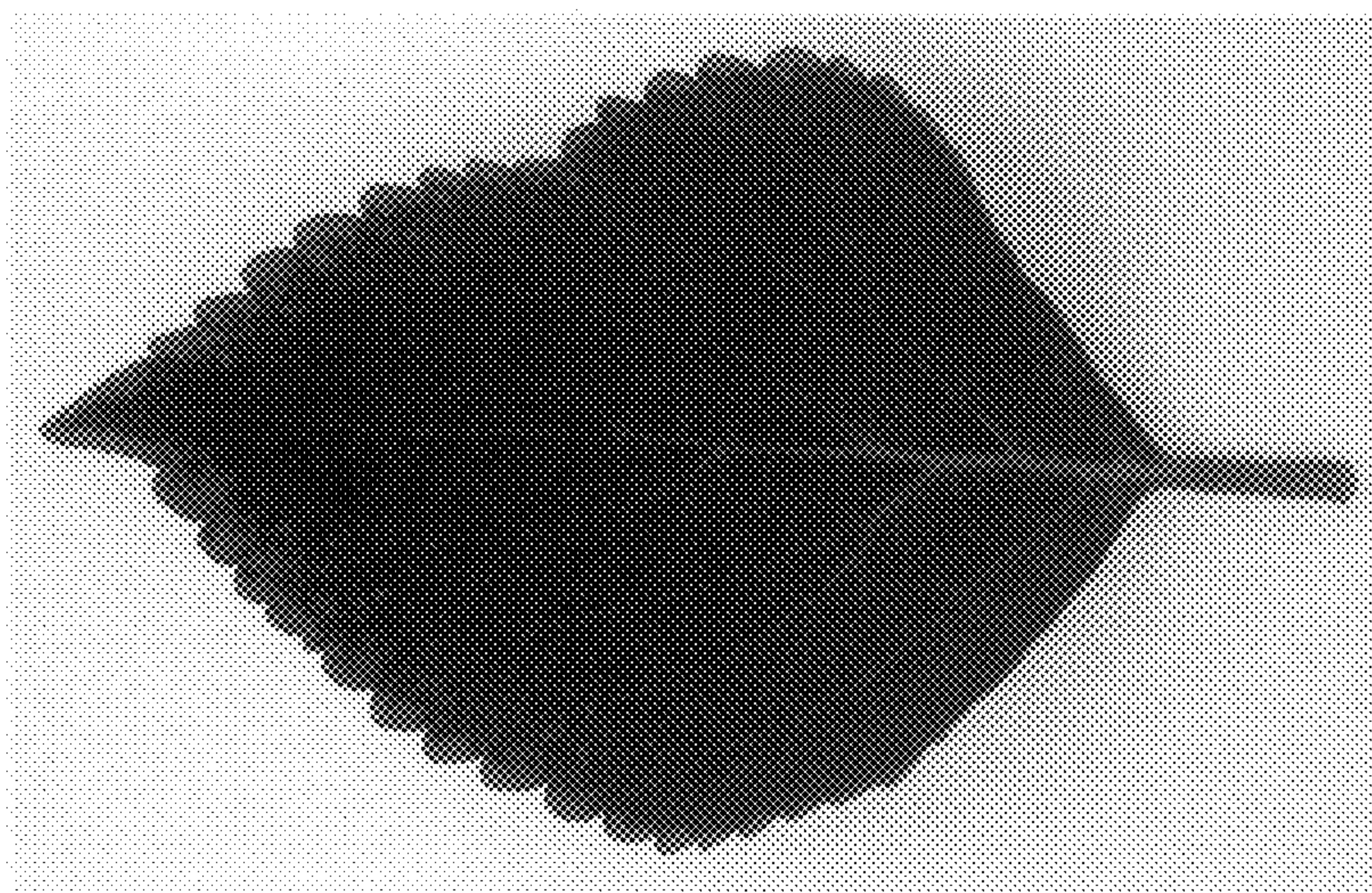


FIG. 2