



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

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(54) **GRAPEVINE ‘IFG SIXTEEN’**

(50) Latin Name: *Vitis vinifera*
Varietal Denomination: **IFG Sixteen**

(71) Applicant: **David Cain**, Bakersfield, CA (US)

(72) Inventor: **David Cain**, Bakersfield, CA (US)

(73) Assignee: **International Fruit Genetics, LLC**,
Bakersfield, CA (US)

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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USPC **Plt./205**

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

Primary Examiner — Annette Para

(57) **ABSTRACT**

This invention is a new and distinct grapevine variety denomi-
nated ‘IFG Sixteen’. The new grapevine is characterized by
producing naturally large, ovate to slightly elongated ovate,
black seedless berries which are medium firm in texture and
ripen late in the growing season. Fruits normally ripen mid to
late September near Delano, Calif.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Latin name of the genus and species claimed: *Vitis vinifera*.
Variety denomination: ‘IFG Sixteen’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The new and distinct grapevine described and claimed
herein originated from a hand pollination of the Autumn
Royal variety (USDA non-patented) and bulked pollen
derived from several un-named red seedless selections from
the Volcani Institute hybridized in May 2001. It is unknown
which selection was the actual paternal parent. The abortive
seed traces were subsequently embryo cultured and the
resulting plant was planted in the field in April 2002. The
present variety of grapevine was selected as a single plant in
September 2004 and was first asexually propagated by hard-
wood cuttings in December 2005 near Delano, Kern County,
Calif. The resulting propagules were planted during April
2006 at the International Fruit Genetics LLC research facility
near Delano, Kern County, Calif. and were found to repro-
duce true-to-type through at least one generation of asexual
reproduction.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The new grapevine ‘IFG Sixteen’ is characterized by pro-
ducing naturally large, ovate to slightly elongated ovate,
black seedless berries which are medium firm in texture and
ripen late in the growing season. Fruits normally ripen mid to
late September near Delano, Calif.

To the inventor’s knowledge, the known variety which the
new grapevine variety is most similar to is its parent the
Autumn Royal variety. ‘IFG Sixteen’ can be distinguished
from the Autumn Royal variety by having a broader, more
desirable cluster shape and thicker and tougher peduncle and
pedicle, by having a much smaller residual seed trace, by
having slightly softer flesh, by having no tendency to develop
an astringent flavor and by having higher, more consistent
yields. ‘IFG Sixteen’ tolerates rain during the ripening season
much better than the Autumn Royal variety. The canes of the
‘IFG Sixteen’ are more flexible and less brittle than the
Autumn Royal variety, reducing damage during pruning and
other cultural operations.

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURE

The accompanying photographic illustration in FIG. 1
illustrates in full color ‘IFG Sixteen’. The photograph was
taken outdoors with indirect lighting. The colors are as nearly
true as is reasonably possible in a color representation of this
type.

**DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE
INVENTION**

Throughout this specification, color names beginning with
a small letter signify that the name of that color, as used in
common speech, is aptly descriptive. Color names beginning
with a capital letter designate values based upon R.H.S.
Colour Chart, published by The Royal Horticultural Society,
London, England.

Throughout this specification subjective description values
conform to those set forth by the International Plant Genetic
Resources Institute publication ‘Descriptors for Grape’ (*Vitis*
spp.) (1983) which was developed in collaboration with the
Office International de la Vigne et du Vin (OIV) and the
International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of
Plants (UPOV).

The descriptive matter which follows pertains to ‘IFG Six-
teen’ plants grown in the vicinity of Delano, Kern County,
Calif. during 2009 and 2010, and is believed to apply to plants
of the variety grown under similar conditions of soil and
climate elsewhere:

Vine:

General.—Size — Large. Vigor — Vigorous. Density of
foliage — Medium. Productivity — Very productive.
Root stock — Own root. Training method — Typi-
cally spur pruned leaving 2 bud spurs.

Trunk.—Trunk diameter of 4-year-old vines at 30 cm
above the soil line — 6.2 cm. Shape — Stocky.
Straps — Short — Split. Surface texture — Shaggy.
Inner bark color — Can be any of the following col-
ors; Grey brown; N199B, and 200A, and N200A.

Shoots:

Young shoot.—Form of tip — Wide open. Distribution of anthocyanin coloration of tip — Absent. Intensity of anthocyanin coloration of tip — Absent. Density of prostrate hairs of tip — Medium. Density of erect hairs of tip — Absent. Color — Can be any of the following colors; Yellow green; 144A and 146A.

Woody shoot (mature canes).—Shape — Stocky. Internode length — Long; About 13.9 cm. Width at node — About 1.2 cm. Cross section — Circular. Surface — Edged. Main color — Can be any of the following colors; Grey orange; 164A, and 177A and B, and 166C and D. Density of erect hairs of nodes — None. Density of erect hairs on internodes — None. Growth of axillary shoots — Medium strong; Approximately 36.9 cm.

Flowering shoot.—Vigor during flowering — Strong. Attitude during flowering on shoots not tied — Semi-drooping to Drooping. Color — dorsal side of internodes — Green with Red stripes. Color — ventral side of internodes — Green. Color — dorsal side of nodes — Green with Red stripes. Color — ventral side of nodes — Green. Density of prostrate hairs of nodes — Sparse. Density of erect hairs of nodes — Very sparse. Density of prostrate hairs on internode — None. Density of erect hairs on internode — None. Anthocyanin coloration of buds — Absent.

Tendrils.—Distribution on the shoot (at full flowering) — Discontinuous. Length of Tendril — Long; About 32.8 cm. Thickness — Medium. Color — Green; N144A. Form — Bifurcated and trifurcated. Number of consecutive tendrils — 2 to 3.

Leaves:

Young leaves.—Color of upper surface of first four distal unfolded leaves — Can be any of the following colors; Yellow green; 144A and B. Average intensity of anthocyanin coloration of six distal leaves prior to flowering — Weak. Density of prostrate hairs between veins (lower surface) — Very sparse. Density of prostrate hairs on veins (lower surface) — Very sparse. Density of erect hairs between veins (lower surface) — Absent. Density of erect hairs on veins (lower surface) — Very sparse.

Mature leaves.—Average length — About 23.2 cm. Average width — About 22.0 cm. Mature leaf size — Large. Shape of blade — Wedge-shaped. Number of lobes — 5. Anthocyanin coloration of main veins on upper side of blade — Weak to medium. Mature leaf profile — Undulate. Blistering surface of blade upper surface — Weak to medium. Leaf blade tip — In the plane of the leaf. Undulation of margin — Slight to medium. Thickness — Medium. Undulation of blade between main and lateral veins — Overall. Shape of teeth — Mixture of both sides straight and both sides convex. Length of teeth — Medium. Ratio length/width of teeth — Equal to slightly longer than wide. Shape of upper lateral sinuses — Slightly open to lobes slightly overlapping. Depth of upper lateral sinuses — Shallow. General shape petiole sinus — Wide open to half open. Shape of base of upper leaf sinuses — U-shaped. Tooth at petiole sinus — Absent. Density of prostrate hairs between veins on lower surface of blade — Very sparse. Density of erect hairs between veins on lower surface of blade — Absent. Density of prostrate hairs on main veins on lower surface of blade — very sparse. Density of erect hairs on main veins on lower surface of blade — Sparse. Density of prostrate hairs on main veins on upper

surface of blade — Sparse. Density of erect hairs on main veins on upper surface of blade — Sparse. Autumn coloration of leaves — Leaves can be a single color or combination of colors, in a mottled pattern or on the edges of the leaves; Yellow; 11A and B and C, and Purple; N77A, and Red Purple; 59A, and Greyed purple; 187A.

Upper surface.—Color — Can be any of the following colors; Green; 137A and B and C. Anthocyanin coloration of main veins — Weak to medium. Surface appearance — Dull. Blistering surface of blade — Weak to medium.

Lower surface.—Color — Can be any of the following colors; Green; 137A and 146A. Anthocyanin coloration of main veins (lower surface) — Weak. Glossiness — Weak. Surface texture — Rugose. Surface appearance — Dull.

Petiole.—Length — About 15.8 cm. Length of petiole compared to middle vein — Much shorter. Density of prostrate hairs on petiole — None. Density of erect hairs on petiole — Sparse.

Buds.—Bud fruitfulness — Basal: Mostly fruitful. Position of first fruitful shoot on previous season cane — 1st to 2nd node. Time of bud burst — Medium; Mar. 14, 2012.

Flowers:

General.—Flower sex — Hermaphrodite. Length of first inflorescence — Medium; About 17.8 cm long by 12.8 cm wide. Position of first flowering and fruiting node — 3rd to 4th (current season growth). Number of inflorescence per flowering shoot — 1.1 to 2. Time of bloom — Midseason as compared with similar varieties in the growing area of Delano, Calif. Date of full bloom — May 18, 2012.

Fruit:

General.—Ripening period — Late season. Keeping quality — Excellent. Resistance to — Insects: Average typical of *Vitis vinifera* species. Diseases: Average typical of *Vitis vinifera* species. Refractometer test — Soluble solids: About 17.0 Brix. Brix/acid — About 56.7. Titratable acidity — About 0.3 g/100 ml. Juice pH — About 3.94.

Cluster.—Mature cluster length (peduncle excluded) — About 30.2 cm. Mature cluster width — About 23.4 cm. Mature cluster weight — About 2270 g. Bunch density — Medium. Number of berries — About 330. Form — Broad Conical.

Peduncle.—Lignification of peduncle — Strong. Length of peduncle — Medium long; Approximately 6.3 cm.

Berry.—Uniformity of size — Uniform. Single berry weight — About 9.5 g. Shape — Ovate to slightly elongate ovate. Seeds — Contains very small rudimentary seed traces not noticeable. Cross section — Circular. Berry dimensions — Longitudinal axis: About 3.2 cm. horizontal axis: About 2.2 cm. Berry firmness — Medium. Particular flavor — Neutral. Bloom (cuticular wax) — Weak. Berry separation from pedicel — Medium. Skin color (without bloom) — Can be any of the following colors; Greyed Purple; N186A and B.

Skin.—Thickness — Medium. Texture — Medium firm. Reticulation — Present. Tenacity — Tenacious to flesh.

What is claimed:

1. A new and distinct variety of grapevine as herein illustrated and described.

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