

(12) **United States Plant Patent**
Nelson et al.

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(54) **STRAWBERRY PLANT NAMED ‘BG-6.3024’**

(50) Latin Name: *Fragaria ananassa*
Varietal Denomination: **BG-6.3024**

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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(57) **ABSTRACT**
This invention relates to a new and distinct variety of straw-
berry plant named ‘BG-6.3024’. This new strawberry plant
named ‘BG-6.3024’ is primarily adapted to the growing con-
ditions of the central coast of California, and is primarily
characterized by its uniform fruit shape, very large fruit size,
excellent fruit flavor, medium to dark green foliage, and
heavy petiole pubescence.

4 Drawing Sheets

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct straw-
berry variety named ‘BG-6.3024’. This new variety is a result
of a controlled cross made in 2006 in an ongoing breeding
program between strawberry variety designated ‘BG-1975’
(U.S. Plant Pat. No. 17,725) and strawberry variety desig-
nated ‘BG-219.068’ (a non-patented selection). Due to the
combining of the reciprocal seed lots, it is unknown as to
which parent variety is the seed parent and which parent
variety is the pollen parent. The variety is botanically known
as *Fragaria ananassa*.

The seedling resulting from the aforementioned cross was
selected from a controlled breeding plot in Ventura County,
Calif. in the winter of 2008. After its selection, the new variety
was asexually propagated by stolons in both Siskiyou County,
Calif. and San Joaquin County, Calif. The new variety was
extensively tested over the next several years in fruiting fields
in Ventura County, Calif. This propagation has demonstrated
that the combination of traits disclosed herein as characteriz-
ing the new variety are fixed and remain true to type through
successive generations of asexual reproduction.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

‘BG-6.3024’ is primarily adapted to the climate and grow-
ing conditions of the central coast of California. The nearby
Pacific Ocean provides the needed humidity and moderate
temperatures to produce a strong vigorous plant and maintain
fruit quality during the winter and spring production months.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are
determined to be unique characteristics of ‘BG-6.3024’,
which in combination distinguish this strawberry plant as a
new and distinct variety:

1. Uniform fruit shape;

2. Very large fruit size;

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3. Excellent fruit flavor;

4. Medium to dark green foliage; and

5. Heavy petiole pubescence.

The strawberry variety that is believed to be most closely
related to the new variety ‘BG-6.3024’ is ‘BG-269’ (U.S.
Plant Pat. No. 12,628). In side-by-side comparisons to the
similar strawberry variety ‘BG-269’, ‘BG-6.3024’ differs by
the following combination of characteristics as described in
Table 1.

TABLE 1

Characteristic	‘BG-6.3024’	‘BG-269’ (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 12,628)
Fruit color	Red	Dark red
Fruit length/width ratio	Slightly longer than broad	As long as broad
Fruit size (gm)	30.6 (very large)	27.7 (large)
Marketable yield (gm/plant)	1,365	1,241
Predominant fruit shape	Conical	Ranges from globose to conical
Plant size	Ranges from medium to large	Large
Foliage size	Medium	Ranges from medium to large
Foliage color	Ranges from medium to dark green	Medium yellow green
Petiole pubescence	Ranges from heavy to moderate	Ranges from moderate to sparse
Fruiting truss pubescence	Strong	Ranges from medium to weak

For identification, a series of molecular markers have been
determined for this new variety.

‘BG-6.3024’ differs from its parents, ‘BG-1975’ and ‘BG-
219.068’ by the following combination of characteristics as
described in Table 2.

TABLE 2

Characteristic	‘BG-6.3024’	‘BG-1975’ (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 17,725)	‘BG-219.068’
Marketable yield (gm/plant)	1,365	1,080	953
Fruit size (grams)	30.6 (very large)	26.6 (medium)	23.0 (small)
Plant size	Ranges from medium to large	Ranges from medium to large	Large
Fruit color	Red	Ranges from red to orange red	Orange red

BRIEF DESCRIPTIONS OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying color photographs illustrate the overall appearance of typical specimens of the new strawberry variety ‘BG-6.3024’, at various stages of development as true as it is reasonably possible with color reproductions of this type. Color in the photographs may differ slightly from the color value cited in the botanical descriptions which accurately describe the color of ‘BG-6.3024’. The depicted plant and plant parts of the new strawberry variety ‘BG-6.3024’ are approximately six months old. The photographs were taken in Ventura County, Calif.:

FIG. 1 shows typical fruiting field characteristics of ‘BG-6.3024’, taken in the month of April 2013;

FIG. 2 shows a close-up view of the typical leaf structure of ‘BG-6.3024’, taken in the month of April 2013;

FIG. 3 shows typical mature and immature field fruit of ‘BG-6.3024’, taken in the month of April 2013; and

FIG. 4 shows typical internal and external mature fruit characteristics of ‘BG-6.3024’, taken in the month of April 2013.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The new variety ‘BG-6.3024’ has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The characteristics of the new variety ‘BG-6.3024’ may vary in detail, depending upon variations in environmental factors, including weather (temperature, humidity and light intensity), day length, soil type and location. In addition, the characteristics of any parental variety or comparison variety included in Tables 1-9 of the present invention may vary in detail, depending upon variations in environmental factors, including weather (temperature, humidity and light intensity), day length, soil type and location.

The aforementioned photographs, together with the following description of the new variety ‘BG-6.3024’, unless otherwise noted, are based on observations taken during the 2013 growing season in Ventura County, Calif. These measurements and ratings were taken from plants of ‘BG-6.3024’ dug from a high-elevation nursery located in Siskiyou County, Calif. during early October 2012 and planted approximately four to five days later in Ventura County, Calif. The approximate age of the observed plants is six months. Yield observations and fruit quality characteristics are averaged from four years of data collected from the 2010 through 2013 growing seasons. Flower measurements and characteristics are from secondary flowers unless otherwise noted. Fruit characteristics and measurements are from secondary fruit unless otherwise noted.

Color terminology where noted follows The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, London (2007).

The following tables 3 through 9 describe fruit, plant, stolon, foliage, fruiting truss, flower, and pest and disease characteristics of the new strawberry ‘BG-6.3024’.

TABLE 3

FRUIT CHARACTERISTICS	
Characteristic	‘BG-6.3024’
Color of mature fruit	RHS 46B, red
Color of internal flesh	RHS 45C, medium red
Color of core	RHS 39B, medium red
Fruit length (cm)	4.8
Fruit width (cm)	4.1
Fruit size	Very large
Fruit length/width ratio	1.17, slightly longer than broad
Calyx diameter (cm)	5.7
Average fruit weight (gm)	30.6
Achene color, shaded side	RHS 153B, yellow green group
Achene color, sun-exposed side	RHS 185A, greyed purple group
Achene weight (mg)	0.63
Average achenes per berry	324
Marketable fruit yield (gm/plant)	1,365
Predominant fruit shape	Conical
Difference in shapes between primary and secondary fruit	None or very slight
Band without achenes	Narrow
Unevenness of fruit surface	Absent or very weak
Evenness of fruit color	Ranges from slightly uneven to even
Fruit glossiness	Ranges from medium to strong
Insertion of achenes	Level with surface
Insertion of calyx	Ranges from in the basin to level
Attitude of calyx	Ranges from spreading to reflexed
Size of calyx in relation to fruit diameter	Ranges from slightly larger to much larger
Adherence of calyx	Strong
Firmness of fruit flesh	Medium
Distribution of red color of the flesh	Marginal and central
Hollow center expression	Moderate
Fruit flavor	Excellent
Soluble solids (% brix)	8.9
Time of first flowering	Ranges from early to medium
Time of first harvesting	Ranges from early to medium
Harvest period	January to May
Harvest maturity	Mid season
Type of bearing	Not remontant (short day)

TABLE 4

PLANT CHARACTERISTICS	
Characteristic	‘BG-6.3024’
Plant height (cm)	23.7
Plant spread (cm)	31.3
Plant size	Ranges from medium to large
Plant habit	Upright
Plant density	Ranges from medium to dense
Plant vigor	Strong

TABLE 5

STOLON CHARACTERISTICS	
Characteristic	‘BG-6.3024’
Stolon color	RHS 146C, yellow green group
Stolon anthocyanin coloration	RHS 184B, greyed red group
Stolon anthocyanin intensity	Strong
Average stolon quantity	Medium

TABLE 5-continued

STOLON CHARACTERISTICS	
Characteristic	‘BG-6.3024’
Stolon diameter at bract (mm)	3.5, ranges between medium and thick
Stolon pubescence	Dense
Attitude of hairs	Slightly outward

TABLE 6

FOLIAGE CHARACTERISTICS	
Characteristic	‘BG-6.3024’
Foliage:	
Color of upper surface	RHS N137C, ranges from medium green to dark green
Color of underside	RHS 147C, yellow green group
Number of leaflets	3-4
Shape in cross section	Slightly concave
Interveinal blistering	Medium
Leaf glossiness	Medium
Leaf variegation	Absent
Terminal Leaflet:	
Length (cm)	7.5
Width (cm)	7.0
Leaf size	Medium
Length/width ratio	1.08, longer than broad
Shape of base	Obtuse
Shape of teeth	Rounded
Serrations per leaf	20.3
Petiole:	
Petiole color	RHS 145A, yellow green group
Petiole length (cm)	13.5
Petiole diameter (mm)	3.8
Petiolule color	RHS 145A, yellow green group
Petiolule length (mm)	7.7
Attitude of hairs	Strongly outward
Petiole pubescence	Ranges from heavy to moderate
Stipule:	
Color	RHS 146C, yellow green group
Anthocyanin coloration	RHS 58A, red purple group
Anthocyanin intensity	Ranges from medium to strong
Length (mm)	17.4
Width (mm)	11.8

TABLE 7

FRUITING TRUSS CHARACTERISTICS	
Characteristic	‘BG-6.3024’
Anthocyanin coloration	RHS 181C, greyed red group
Anthocyanin intensity	Ranges from weak to medium
Length at maturity (cm)	26.8
Position relative to foliage	Ranges from beneath to level with
Number of flowers	Medium
Pedicel attitude of hairs	Strongly outward
Pubescence	Strong
Attitude at first pick	Prostrate

TABLE 8

FLOWER CHARACTERISTICS	
Characteristic	‘BG-6.3024’
Petal color	RHS NN155C, white group
Sepal color	RHS 137A, green group
Receptacle color	RHS 147C, yellow green group
Anther color	RHS 14A, yellow orange group
Corolla diameter (mm)	29.1, large
Calyx diameter (mm)	36.3
Petal length (mm)	11.2
Petal width (mm)	11.5
Petal length/width ratio	0.97, as long as broad
Petals per flower	5.6
Sepal length (mm)	15.3
Sepal width (mm)	6.5
Sepal length/width ratio	2.36
Sepals per flower	11.2
Size of calyx relative to corolla	Larger
Relative position of petals	Ranges from touching to overlapping
Stamen	Present
Size of inner calyx relative to outer calyx	Smaller

TABLE 9

PEST AND DISEASE REACTIONS	
Characteristic	‘BG-6.3024’
Powdery mildew	Moderately susceptible
Verticillium wilt	Moderately susceptible
Angular leaf spot	Susceptible
Botrytis fruit rot	Moderately susceptible
Two-spotted spider mite	Moderately susceptible

We claim:
1. A new and distinct strawberry plant named ‘BG-6.3024’, as herein described and illustrated by the characteristics set forth above.

* * * * *

FIG. 1



FIG. 2

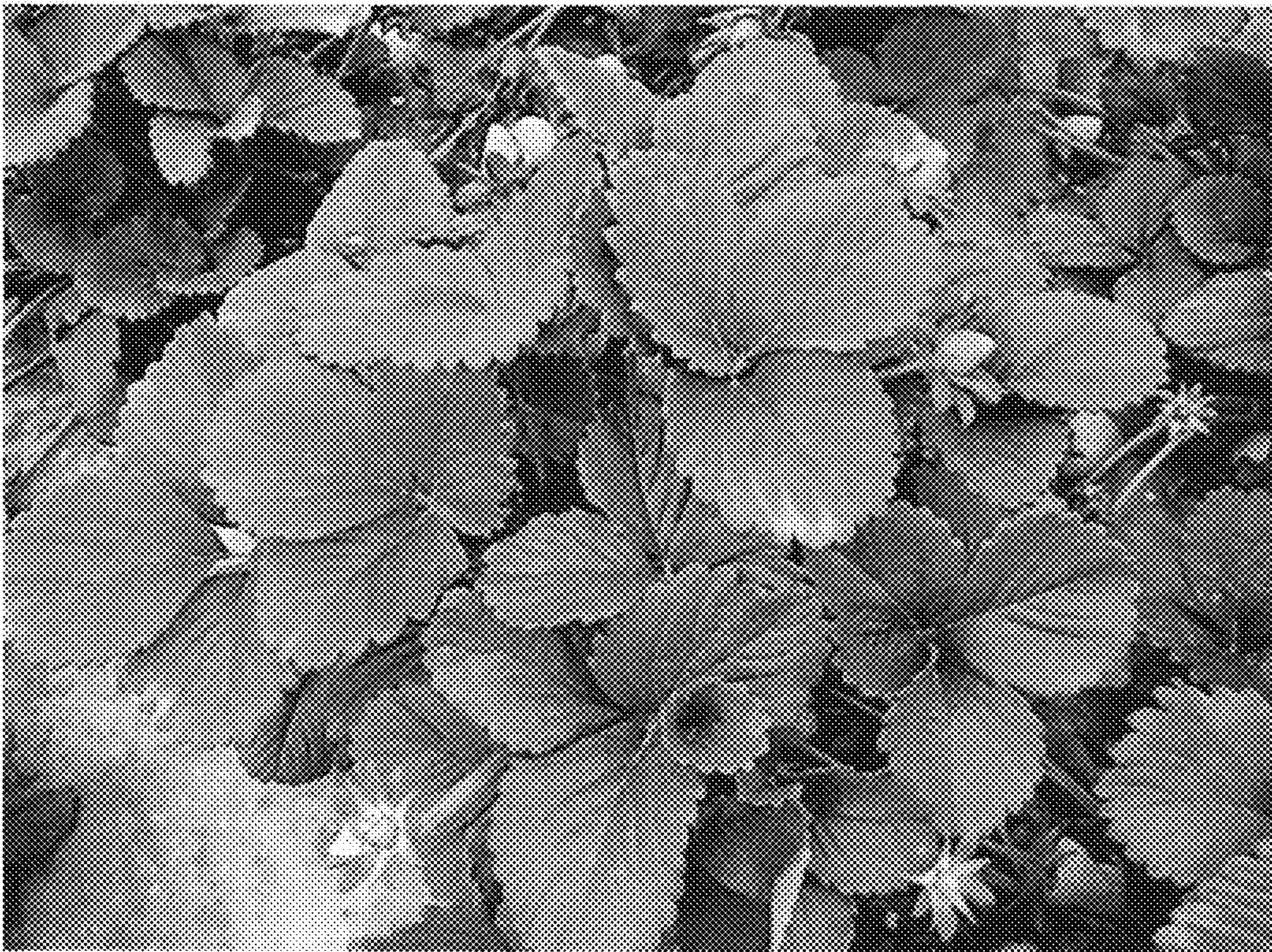


FIG. 3

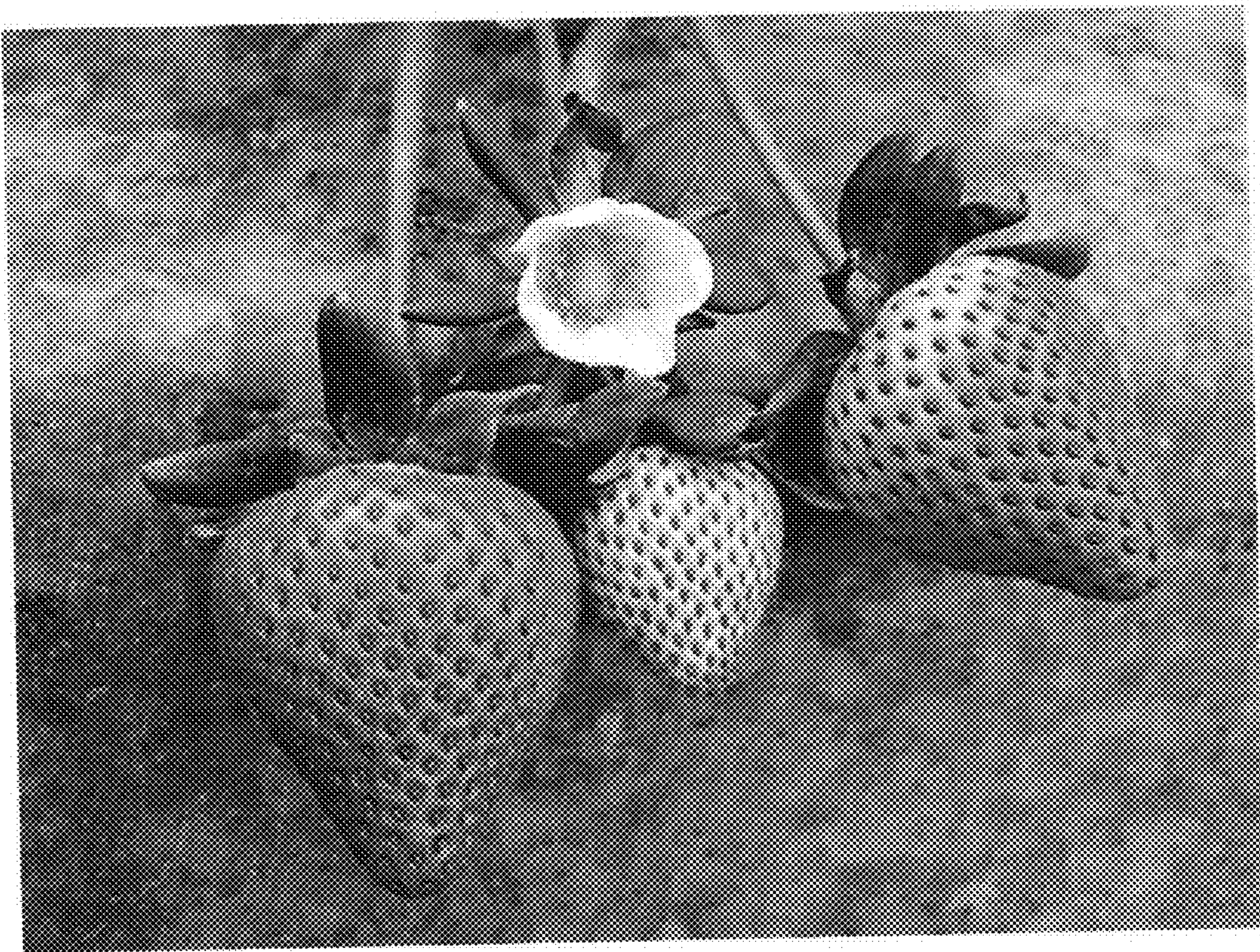


FIG. 4

