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(54) **BEAUTYBERRY PLANT NAMED 'NCCX1'**

(50) Latin Name: *Callicarpa* sp.
Varietal Denomination: **NCCX1**

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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

NCCX1' is a new beautyberry plant particularly distinguished
by an upright rounded habit, pink/purple flower color (RHS
75A), purple young shoots and emerging leaves, long
peduncles and abundant purple fruit.

2 Drawing Sheets

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Latin name of the genus and species: The Latin name of the
novel plant variety disclosed herein is *Callicarpa* sp.

Variety denomination: The inventive variety of *Callicarpa*
sp. disclosed herein has been given the varietal denomination
'NCCX1'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention comprises a new and distinct variety
of *Callicarpa*, botanically known as *Callicarpa* sp. and here-
inafter referred to by the variety name 'NCCX1'. 'NCCX1'
was developed and selected in Mills River, N.C. 'NCCX1' is
an open-pollinated seedling from *Callicarpa kwangtungensis*,
NCSU 2005-249, (unpatented) planted adjacent to *Calli-*
carpa dichotoma, NCSU 2004-024, (unpatented) and appears
to be an interspecific hybrid between those two species based
on intermediate morphological characters. The first asexual
propagation of 'NCCX1' was carried out in June 2008 by
rooting stem cuttings in Mills River, N.C. and has been asexu-
ally reproduced repeatedly by vegetative cuttings in North
Carolina over a four year period.

Callicarpa sp. 'NCCX1' roots readily from softwood cut-
tings treated with a basal dip of 4,000 ppm indole butyric acid
(potassium salt) in water. 'NCCX1' has been found to retain
its distinctive characteristics through successive asexual
propagations via vegetative cuttings.

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SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following are the unique and distinguishing character-
istics of this new cultivar when grown under normal horticul-
tural practices in Mills River, N.C.

1. Pink/purple flowers with an average of 40 flowers per
inflorescence.
2. Purple young shoots and emerging leaves.
3. Abundant purple fruit with long peduncles.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

This new beautyberry variety is illustrated by the accom-
panying photographs which show the plant's form, foliage,
flowers and fruit. The colors shown are as true as can be
reasonably obtained by conventional photographic proce-
dures. Colors in the photographs may differ slightly from the
color values cited in the detailed botanical description, which
accurately describe the colors of the new *Callicarpa* sp. vari-
ety. The photographs were taken in Mills River, N.C.

FIG. 1 is a color photograph of fruit on a mature three year
old plant, taken on Oct. 26, 2010.

FIG. 2 is a color photograph of the flowers on a mature
three year old plant, taken on Sep. 29, 2009.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The following is a detailed description of the botanical
characteristics of the new and distinct variety of *Callicarpa*

sp. plant known by the denomination 'NCCX1'. The detailed description was taken on five-year-old plants growing under landscape conditions in Mills River, N.C. in June 2012. All colors cited herein refer to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart (The Royal Horticultural Society (R.H.S.), London, 2001 Edition). Where specific 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.

Technical Description of the Variety.

Classification:

Botanical name.—*Callicarpa* sp.

Common name.—Beautyberry.

Denomination.—'NCCX1'.

Parentage: Open-pollinated seedling from *Callicarpa kwangtungensis* (NCSU 2005-249).

Plant description:

Growth habit.—Upright rounded.

Plant shape.—Rounded.

Height at maturity.—2 meters to 2.5 meters.

Width at maturity.—2 meters to 2.5 meters.

Shoot:

Mature shoot texture.—Slightly pubescent.

Mature shoot color.—Closest to RHS 201A (Grey).

Immature shoot texture.—Pubescent with stellate hairs, especially near tip.

Immature shoot color.—RHS N77A (Purple).

Stem:

Shape.—Round in cross section.

Surface texture.—Glabrous.

Color.—Grey-green RHS 197C to grey-brown RHS199D.

Leaves:

Type.—Simple.

Arrangement.—Opposite.

Shape.—Elliptic to ovate-lanceolate.

Apex.—Long acuminate.

Base.—Cuneate.

Veins.—Type: Pinnate. Adaxial & abaxial vein color: Closest to RHS 59B (Red-Purple). Surface texture: Pubescent.

Margin.—Serrate above middle.

Mature leaf size.—Length: Average is 9.8 cm (range is 6.7 cm to 10.2 cm). Width at widest: Average is 2.9 cm (range is 2.6 cm to 3.1 cm).

Immature leaf color.—Adaxial (upper) surface: Closest to RHS N77A (Purple). Abaxial (lower) surface: Closest to RHS 148A (Yellow-Green).

Immature Leaf texture.—Adaxial surface texture: Pubescent. Abaxial surface texture: Pubescent.

Mature leaf color.—Adaxial (upper) surface: Closest to RHS 147A (Yellow-Green). Abaxial (lower) surface: RHS 147B (Yellow-Green). Texture: Adaxial: Sparsely pubescent with glandular hairs. Abaxial: Sparsely pubescent with glandular hairs. Fall color: Variable, with shades of RHS 186A (Greyed Purple), RHS 22A (Yellow-Orange), and RHS 168A (Greyed-Orange). Leaf attachment: Petiolate. Petiole: Shape: Semi-terete. Length: Average is 0.7 cm (range is 0.3 cm to 0.8 cm). Width: Average is 0.155 cm (range is 0.105 cm to 0.207 cm). Surface: Sparsely pubescent.

Inflorescence:

Inflorescence type.—Cyme.

Inflorescence diameter.—Average is 3.4 cm (range is 2 cm to 4.6 cm).

Inflorescence length.—Average is 3.4 cm (range is 2.2 cm to 4.2 cm).

Number of flowers per inflorescence.—Average is 40 (range is 11 to 88).

Flowering season.—Beginning in June and lasting until October in Mills River, N.C.

Lastingness of flower on the plant.—Begins June 14 till late Fall or Early-Winter; Individual flowers persist for 1 to 3 days and bloom in sequence from the base of the shoot tip to the tip over a period from mid-June to late Fall.

Fragrance.—No significant fragrance observed.

Self cleaning or persistent.—Self cleaning.

Bud.—Bud shape: Oblong-oval. Bud diameter at balloon stage: Average 0.146 cm (range is 0.142 cm to 0.154 cm). Bud length at balloon stage: Average 0.447 cm (range is 0.427 cm to 0.47 cm). Bud color: RHS 75C (Purple).

Perianth.—Diameter at antithesis: Average 0.425 cm (range is 0.306 cm to 0.552 cm).

Petal.—Number of petals per flower: 4. Color, adaxial (upper) surface at anthesis: RHS 75A (Purple). Color, abaxial (lower) surfaces at anthesis: Ranging between RHS 75A (Purple) and RHS 75B (Purple). Surface texture and appearance: Glabrous. Shape: Campanulate flower form. Apex: Acute. Base: Petals fused together at base. Margin: Entire above fused region. Length: Average is 0.461 cm (range is 0.454 cm to 0.484 cm). Width: Average is 0.155 cm (range is 0.132 cm to 0.177 cm). Petals, fused or unfused: Fused.

Peduncle.—Color: RHS N77A (Purple). Length: Average 1.6 cm (range is 1 cm to 2.6 cm). Width: Average 0.087 cm (range is 0.066 cm to 0.106 cm). Shape: Cylindrical to semi-terete. Surface texture: Pubescent with stellate hairs.

Bract.—Number: 2 to 12 (or more) per inflorescence. Length: Average 0.2 cm (range is 0.1 cm to 0.7 cm). Width: Average 0.052 cm (range is 0.033 cm to 0.111 cm) Color: RHS N77A (Purple).

Sepals.—Number: 4. Color: RHS N77A (Purple). Surface texture: Sparsely glandular. Shape: Funnel form. Apex: Abruptly acute. Base: Fused. Margin: Entire above fused region. Length: Average 0.242 cm (range is 0.210 cm to 0.264 cm). Width: Average 0.111 cm (range is 0.10 cm to 0.123 cm).

Reproductive organs:

Stamen.—Quantity per flower: 4. Shape: Oblong elliptic, exerted beyond petals. Filament color at anthesis: Translucent RHS 155A (White). Length: Average is 0.496 cm (range is 0.471 cm to 0.534 cm). Width of filament: Average 0.0069 cm (range is 0.0048 cm to 0.010 cm).

Anther.—Length: Average is 0.183 cm (range is 0.167 cm to 0.205 cm). Width at widest: Average is 0.0724 cm (range is 0.032 cm to 0.102 cm). Dehiscence: Poricidal; dehiscing through a pore-like opening at the apex. Color: RHS 9C (Yellow). Pollen color: RHS 9C (Yellow). Attachment: dorsifixed.

Pistil.—Length: Average 0.742 cm (range 0.682 cm to 0.806 cm). Style Length: Average 0.6 cm (range 0.529 cm to 0.64 cm). Style Width at midpoint: Average 0.023 cm (range is 0.015 cm to 0.029 cm). Ovary: Superior.

Fruit/seed set:

Fruit.—Color: Purple RHS N78A to purple-violet RHS N81 to N82. Shape: globose. Surface texture: glabrous, shiny, glossy. Size: Average is 0.498 cm (range is 0.439 cm to 0.521 cm). Amount of fruit set: very abundant. Amount of fruit per cluster: Average 4, but range from 0 to 80.

Seed.—Color: RHS 18B (Yellow-orange). Shape: ovoid, flattened. Length: Average is 0.115 cm (range is 0.08 cm to 0.135 cm). Width: Average is 0.059 cm (range is 0.047 to 0.08 cm). Surface texture: Glabrous.

Disease and insect resistance: No significant disease or insect pests have been observed.

Comparison with Parental Lines and Known Varieties

Callicarpa sp. ‘NCCX1’ is distinguished from the female parent *Callicarpa kwantungensis* NCSU 2005-249 (unpatented) in that ‘NCCX1’ has an upright rounded habit, pink/purple flower color (RHS 75A), more flowers per inflorescence (average of 40), longer peduncles (average length of 1.6 cm) and more abundant, larger (average diameter of 0.5 cm), purple (RHS N78A) fruit, while *C. kwantungensis* has a narrow upright habit, white flowers (RHS 155B), shorter peduncles (average length of 0.25 cm), and smaller (average diameter of 0.37 cm), less abundant, purple-violet (RHS N80A) fruit.

Table 1 shows the specific comparisons of *Callicarpa* sp. ‘NCCX1’ to *Callicarpa bodinieri* var. *giraldii* ‘Profusion’ NCSU 2001-064, *Callicarpa kwantungensis* NCSU 2005-249, and *Callicarpa dichotoma* ‘Issai’ NCSU 2006-024.

TABLE 1

Comparison of <i>Callicarpa</i> sp. ‘NCCX1’ with other <i>Callicarpa</i> taxa.		
	<i>Callicarpa</i> ‘NCCX1’	<i>Callicarpa bodinieri</i> ‘Profusion’
Habit	full, rounded and upright	upright and open
Shoot color	dark purple new shoots (RHS N77A)	dark gray (RHS 197A); no significant purple color on new shoots
Leaf color	emerging leaves purple (RHS N77A); expanded leaves green (RHS 147A)	both emerging and mature leaves are medium green (RHS 144A) to deep green (RHS 147A)
Leaf venation	purple mid-rib (RHS 59B) extends about 46% of length from lamina base to tip	purple mid-rib (RHS N77A) extends about 12% of length from lamina base to tip
Petiole	dark purple (RHS N77A); average length 0.7 cm (range 0.3 to 0.8 cm)	dark purple (RHS N77A); average length 1.48 cm (range 0.8 to 2.1 cm)
Flowering time in Mills River, NC	mid June	late May
Flowers per inflorescence	Average 40 (range is 11 to 88)	Average 17 (range is 4 to 32)
Flower color	pink/purple (RHS 75A)	medium purple-pink (RHS N78A)

TABLE 1-continued

Comparison of <i>Callicarpa</i> sp. ‘NCCX1’ with other <i>Callicarpa</i> taxa.		
Flower position	on long peduncles; not held in ranks	short peduncles; cymes well- branched with fruit encircling shoot
Peduncle length	Average 1.6 cm (range is 1 to 2.6 cm)	Average 0.548 cm (range is 0.369 to 0.962 cm)
Fruit abundance	very abundant	abundant
Fruit color	vibrant purple (RHS N78A)	red-purple (RHS 72A)
Fruit size	0.5 cm average per drupe	0.48 cm average per drupe
Maturity of fruit	beginning to ripen in late August, peak fruit color in late September to frost	beginning to ripen in August, peak fruit color in September to frost
	<i>Callicarpa kwantungensis</i>	<i>Callicarpa dichotoma</i> ‘Issai’
Habit	narrow upright; stiff straight stems	dense upright
Shoot color	gray-brown (RHS 199A); no significant purple color on new shoots	dark purple new shoots (RHS N77A)
Leaf color	emerging leaves purple (RHS N79A-N77A); mature leaves overall dull olive green (RHS 152A)	both emerging and mature leaves green (RHS 146B)
Leaf venation	purple mid-rib (RHS N77A) extends 100% from lamina base to tip	purple mid-rib (RHS N77A) extends about 8% from lamina base to tip
Petiole	dark purple (RHS N77A); average length 1.15 cm (range 0.8 to 1.5 cm)	dark purple (RHS N77A); average length 0.49 cm (range 0.3 to 0.6 cm)
Flowering time in Mills River, NC	late June	mid June
Flowers per inflorescence	Average 17 (range is 12 to 27)	Average 15 (range is 12 to 25)
Flower color	white (RHS 155B)	pale purple-pink (closest to RHS 75A)
Flower position	short peduncles clustered and hidden in leaf axil	held proud from foliage in ranks along shoot
Peduncle length	Average 0.252 cm (range is 0.201 to 0.315 cm)	Average 0.591 cm (range is 0.455 to 0.72 cm)
Fruit abundance	minimal	very abundant
Fruit color	purple-violet (RHS N80A)	vibrant purple (RHS N81A)
Fruit size	0.37 cm average per drupe	0.34 cm average per drupe
Maturity of fruit	beginning to ripen in September, peak fruit color in late September to frost	beginning to ripen in August, peak fruit color in mid September to frost

60 What is claimed is:
1. A new and distinct variety of beautyberry plant named ‘NCCX1,’ substantially as illustrated and described herein.

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FIG. 1



FIG. 2