

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

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(54) ***IPOMOEA* PLANT NAMED ‘BALSOLALIME’**

(50) Latin Name: ***Ipomoea batatas***
Varietal Denomination: **Balsolalime**

(71) Applicant: **Ball Horticultural Company**, West
Chicago, IL (US)

(72) Inventor: **Benjamin K. Winslow**, Arroyo Grande,
CA (US)

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

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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See application file for complete search history.

Primary Examiner — Susan McCormick Ewoldt

Assistant Examiner — Karen Redden

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

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of an ornamental *Ipomoea* plant
named ‘Balsolalime’, characterized by lime-green colored
foliage, and moderately vigorous, moderately-compact,
mounded to trailing growth habit, is disclosed.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Latin name of genus and species of plant claimed: *Ipomoea batatas*.

Variety denomination: ‘Balsolalime’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of *Ipomoea* plant botanically known as *Ipomoea batatas* and
hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name ‘Balsolalime’.

The new cultivar originated in a controlled breeding pro-
gram in Arroyo Grande, Calif. during November 2012. The
objective of the breeding program was the development of
ornamental *Ipomoea* cultivars with a well-branched,
mounded growth habit with good garden performance under
high night temperatures.

The new ornamental *Ipomoea* cultivar is the result of cross-
pollination. The female (seed) parent of the new cultivar is
ILLUSION Garnet Lace ‘NCORNSP-013GNLC’, U.S. Plant
Pat. No. 23,612, characterized by its burgundy-red colored
foliage and compact, semi-upright, mounding growth habit.
The male (pollen) parent of the new cultivar is ‘Sweet Caro-
line Bronze’, U.S. Plant Pat. No. 15,437, characterized by its
bronze to purple-bronze colored foliage and compact-
mounding growth habit. The new cultivar was discovered and
selected as a single plant within the progeny of the above
stated cross-pollination during July 2013 in a controlled envi-
ronment in Arroyo Grande, Calif.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal stem
cuttings since July 2013 in Arroyo Grande, Calif., and West
Chicago, Ill. has demonstrated that the new cultivar repro-
duces true to type with all of the characteristics, as herein
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 ‘Balsola-
lime’ as a new and distinct cultivar of *Ipomoea* plant:

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1. Lime-green colored foliage; and

2. Moderately vigorous, moderately-compact, mounded to
trailing growth habit.

Plants of the new cultivar differ from plants of the female
and male parents primarily in having a different foliage color.

Of the many commercially available ornamental *Ipomoea*
cultivars, the most similar in comparison to the new cultivar is
Sidekick Lime ‘Seki Lim’, U.S. Plant Pat. No. 20,616. How-
ever, in comparison, plants of the new cultivar differ from
plants of ‘Seki Lim’ in at least the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new cultivar have a lighter stem color than
plants of ‘Seki Lim’;

2. Plants of the new cultivar have a lighter foliage venation
color than plants of ‘Seki Lim’; and

3. Plants of the new cultivar have foliage with more deeply
incised lateral lobes than plants of ‘Seki Lim’.

In addition, the new cultivar is similar in comparison to
‘Balsolared’, co-pending U.S. Plant patent application Ser.
No. 14/544,483. However, in comparison, plants of the new
cultivar differ from plants of ‘Balsolared’ in at least the fol-
lowing characteristics:

1. Plants of the new cultivar have a leaf color different from
plants of ‘Balsolared’;

2. Plants of the new cultivar have a longer central leaf lobe
than plants of ‘Balsolared’; and

3. Plants of the new cultivar have a branch color different
from plants of ‘Balsolared’.

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, typical foliage characteristics of the new cultivar.
Colors in the photographs differ slightly from the color values
cited in the detailed description, which accurately describes
the colors of ‘Balsolalime’. The plants were grown in 4-inch
pots for 7 weeks in a greenhouse in West Chicago, Ill.

FIG. 1 illustrates a side view of the overall growth and habit
of ‘Balsolalime’.

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

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 November 2014 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 7 weeks in a greenhouse utilizing a soilless growth medium. Greenhouse temperatures were maintained at approximately 66° F. to 70° F. (19° C. to 21° C.) during the day and approximately 58° F. to 62° F. (14° C. to 17° 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: *Ipomoea batatas* cultivar Balsolalime.

Parentage:

Female parent.—ILLUSION Garnet Lace 'NCORNSP-013GNLC', U.S. Plant Pat. No. 23,612.

Male parent.—'Sweet Caroline Bronze', U.S. Plant Pat. No. 15,437.

Propagation:

Type cutting.—Terminal stem.

Time to initiate roots.—Approximately 3 to 4 days.

Time to produce a rooted cutting.—Approximately 21 to 28 days.

Root description.—Fibrous, medium thickness, white to light brown in color.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching.

Plant description:

Commercial crop time.—Approximately 4 to 5 weeks from a rooted cutting to finish in a 10 cm pot.

Growth habit and general appearance.—Moderately-compact, mounded to trailing growth habit.

Size.—Height: Approximately 12.5 cm. Width: Approximately 29.5 cm.

Branching habit.—Freely branching, pinching enhances basal branching. Quantity of main lateral branches per plant: Approximately 5, each axil has latent shoots.

Branch.—Shape: Round. Strength: Strong, slightly flexible. Length: Approximately 5.5 cm. Diameter: Approximately 6.0 mm. Length of central internode: Approximately 4.0 mm. Texture: Densely pubescent. Color of young and mature stems: 145B with a faint overlay of 187B when developing.

Foliage description:

General description.—Quantity of leaves per main branch: Approximately 12. Fragrance: None detected. Form: Simple. Arrangement: Alternate, spiral.

Leaves.—Shape: Roughly deltoid in overall form, palmately divided with 5 lobes. Margin: Entire. Apex of central lobe: Acuminate. Apex of lateral lobes: Acute. Base: Cordate. Venation pattern: Palmate with arcuate venation in the center lamina. Length of mature leaf: Approximately 12.0 cm. Width of mature leaf: Approximately 11.5 cm. Length of central lobe: Approximately 10.0 cm. Width of central lobe: Approximately 4.3 cm. Texture of upper and lower surfaces: Glabrous. Color of upper surface of young foliage: 145A with slightly darker venation and thin margin of 187B. Color of lower surface of young foliage: Closest to 145B with venation of 145C. Color of upper surface of mature foliage: Closest to N144D with venation or 145A. Color of lower surface of mature foliage: Closest to but more green than 147D with venation of 145C.

Petiole.—Length: Approximately 10.0 cm. Diameter: Approximately 3.0 mm. Texture: Glabrous. Color: Between 145B and 145C.

Flowering description: The new ornamental *Ipomoea* cultivar is grown as a foliage plant and is not grown under conditions that are conducive to flower production.

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

What is claimed is:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of an ornamental *Ipomoea* plant named 'Balsolalime', substantially as herein illustrated and described.

* * * * *



FIG. 1

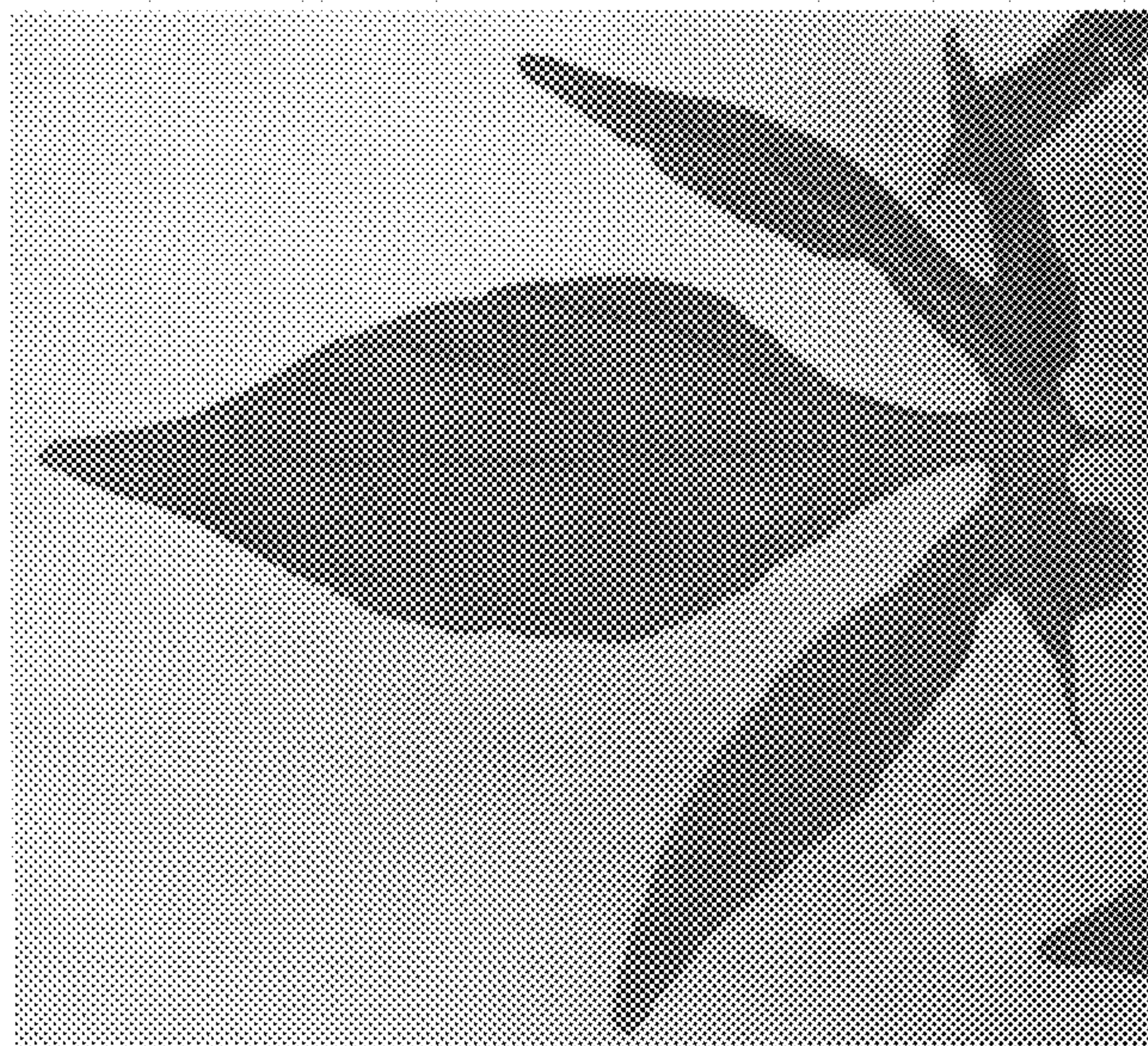


FIG. 2