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Farrow

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(54) **LAGERSTROEMIA PLANT NAMED**
‘CONGRABEL’

(50) Latin Name: *Lagerstroemia indica*
Varietal Denomination: **Congrabel**

(71) Applicant: **The Conard-Pyle Company**, West
Grove, PA (US)

(72) Inventor: **Michael W. Farrow**, Warwick, MD
(US)

(73) Assignee: **The Conard-Pyle Company**, West
Grove, PA (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 M Redden

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

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Lagerstroemia* plant named
‘Congrabel’, characterized by its dark lavender-colored
flowers, medium green colored foliage, and moderately
vigorous, compact, low-mounded growth habit, is disclosed.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Latin name of genus and species of plant claimed: *Lager-*
stroemia indica.

Variety denomination: ‘Congrabel’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

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

The new cultivar originated in a controlled breeding
program in Earleville, Md. during spring 2012. The objec-
tive of the breeding program was the development of
Lagerstroemia cultivars having abundant inflorescences
with attractive flower coloration and compact growth habit.

The new *Lagerstroemia* cultivar is the result of open-
pollination. The female (seed) parent of the new cultivar is
‘Twilight’, not patented, characterized by its purple-colored
flowers, deep green-colored foliage, and vigorous, upright
growth habit. The male (pollen) parent of the new cultivar is
unknown. The new cultivar was discovered and selected as
a single flowering plant within the progeny of the above
stated open-pollination during July 2012 in a controlled
environment in Earleville, Md.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal stem
cuttings since August 2012 in West Grove, Pa. has demon-
strated that the new cultivar reproduces true-to-type with all
of the characteristics, as herein described, firmly fixed and
retained through successive generations 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
‘Congrabel’ as a new and distinct cultivar of *Lagerstroemia*
plant:

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1. Dark lavender-colored flowers;
2. Medium green-colored foliage; and
3. Moderately vigorous, compact, low-mounded growth
habit.

Plants of the new cultivar differ from plants of the female
parent primarily in in having a more compact-mounded
growth habit.

Of the many commercially available *Lagerstroemia* cul-
tivars, the most similar in comparison to the new cultivar is
INFINITINI Orchid ‘G2X133251’, U.S. Plant Pat. No.
27,633. However, in side-by-side comparisons, plants of the
new cultivar differ from plants of ‘G2X133251’ in at least
the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new cultivar have darker colored flowers
than plants of ‘G2X133251’; and
2. Plants of the new cultivar are earlier to flower than
plants of ‘G2X133251’.

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 flower and 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 ‘Congrabel’. The plants
are approximately five-months old and were grown outside
in one-gallon nursery-trade containers for four months in
West Grove, Pa.

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

FIG. 2 illustrates a close-up view of an individual inflo-
rescence of ‘Congrabel’.

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, 2015 edition, except where 5
general color terms of ordinary significance are used. The color values were determined in July 2016 under natural light conditions in West Grove, Pa.

The following descriptions and measurements describe 10
approximately five-month old plants produced from cuttings from stock plants and grown under conditions comparable to those used in commercial practice. Plants were grown outside in one-gallon nursery-trade containers for four months in West Grove, Pa. Measurements and numerical values 15
represent averages of typical plants.

Botanical classification: *Lagerstroemia indica* cultivar Congrabel.

Parentage:

Female parent.—*Lagerstroemia indica* ‘Twilight’, not 20
patented.

Male parent.—Unknown.

Propagation:

Type cutting.—Terminal cuttings

Time to initiate roots.—Approximately 16 days. 25

Time to produce a rooted cutting.—Approximately 39 days.

Root description.—Fibrous and fine; white to brown in color.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching; dense. 30

Plant description:

Commercial crop time.—Approximately 15 weeks from a rooted cutting to finish in a 19.0 cm pot.

Growth habit and general appearance.—Multi-stemmed deciduous shrub, moderately vigorous, 35
low, mounding growth habit.

Hardiness.—USDA Zone 6b (−5° F.).

Heat tolerance.—Regularly tolerates temperatures as high as 38.3° C. (101° F.) in the summer.

Size.—Height from soil level to top of plant plane: 40
Approximately 23.0 cm to 26.0 cm. Width: Approximately 30.0 cm to 30.4 cm.

Branching habit.—Freely branching. Pinching enhances branching. Quantity of lateral branches per plant: Approximately 5 main stems per plant with 45
approximately 5 lateral branches per stem.

Trunk.—Diameter at soil level: Approximately 6.0 mm. Diameter at midpoint: Approximately 3.0 mm. Texture: Woody, slight exfoliation with age. Color: 200A. 50

Branch.—Shape: Quadrangulate with rounded wings. Strength: Strong. Arrangement: Subopposite to alternate. Aspect: Erect to 45° angle from main stem. Length to base of inflorescence: Approximately 17.0 cm to 22.0 cm. Diameter: Approximately 3.0 mm. 55
Length of central internode: Approximately 2.5 cm. Texture of young stem: Glabrous. Texture of mature stem: Woody, rough. Color of young stem: 59B. Color of mature stem: 200A.

Foliage description:

General description.—Form: Simple. Arrangement: Subopposite to alternate. Fragrance: None detected. 60

Leaves.—Shape: Ovate to elliptic. Margin: Entire. Apex: cuspidate. Base: Attenuate. Venation pattern: Pinnate. Length of mature leaf: Approximately 4.0 65
cm. Width of mature leaf: Approximately 2.5 cm.

Texture of upper and lower surfaces: glabrous. Color of upper surface of young foliage: 137C with venation color of 137D. Color of lower surface of young foliage: 138B with venation color of 138C. Color of upper surface of mature foliage: 137A with venation color of 137B. Color of lower surface of mature foliage: 138B with venation color of 138D.

Petiole.—Length: Approximately 1.0 mm. Diameter: Approximately 1.5 mm. Texture: Glabrous. Color: 176D.

Flowering description:

Flowering season.—Flowers in mid-summer through early fall.

Lastingness of individual inflorescence on the plant.—Approximately 1 to 2 weeks.

General description.—Type: Panicle, flowers self-cleaning. Quantity per plant: Approximately 20. Fragrance: Faint sweet. Aspect: Upward to outward. Height: Approximately 7.0 cm. Width: Approximately 8.0 cm. Quantity of flowers per inflorescence: Approximately 20.

Peduncle.—Strength: Strong. Shape: Rounded. Aspect: Erect to about 45° from branch axis. Length: Approximately 1.0 cm. Diameter: Approximately 2.0 mm. Texture: Glabrous. Color: 59C.

Flower description:

Bud just before opening.—Shape: Globose. Length: Approximately 6.0 mm. Diameter: Approximately 6.0 mm. Color: 59D.

Corolla.—Shape: Rotate. Depth: Approximately 1.0 cm. Diameter: Approximately 2.5 cm.

Petals.—Shape: Ovate. Margin: Crisped, undulating. Apex: Acute. Base: Truncate. Length: Approximately 1.5 cm. Width: Approximately 1.1 cm. Texture of upper and lower surfaces: Glabrous. Color of upper and lower surfaces: N80A.

Calyx.—Shape: Round. Depth: Approximately 6.0 mm. Diameter: Approximately 6.0 mm.

Sepals.—Shape: Triangular. Margin: Smooth, entire. Apex: Acute. Base: Truncate. Length: Approximately 3.0 mm. Width: Approximately 3.0 mm. Texture of upper surface: Glabrous. Texture of lower surface: Glabrous. Color of upper surface: 59C. Color of lower surface: 149D

Pedicel.—Strength: Strong. Aspect: Erect, to about 45° from peduncle. Length: Approximately 6.0 mm. Diameter: Approximately 1.5 mm. Texture: Glabrous. Color: 59C.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Stamen quantity per flower: Approximately 30 to 36. Stamen length: Approximately 9.5 mm. Filament color: 62A. Anther shape: Narrow oblong, dorsifixed. Anther length: Approximately 8.0 mm. Anther color: 14B. Pollen amount: Abundant. Pollen color: 14B. Gynoecium: Pistil quantity per flower: 1. Pistil length: Approximately 1.6 cm. Stigma shape: Rounded. Stigma color: 133A. Style length: Approximately 1.3 cm. Style color: 59C. Ovary length: Approximately 3.0 mm. Ovary color: 3A.

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

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

What is claimed is:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Lagerstroemia* plant named 'Congrabel', substantially as herein illustrated and described.

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FIG. 1

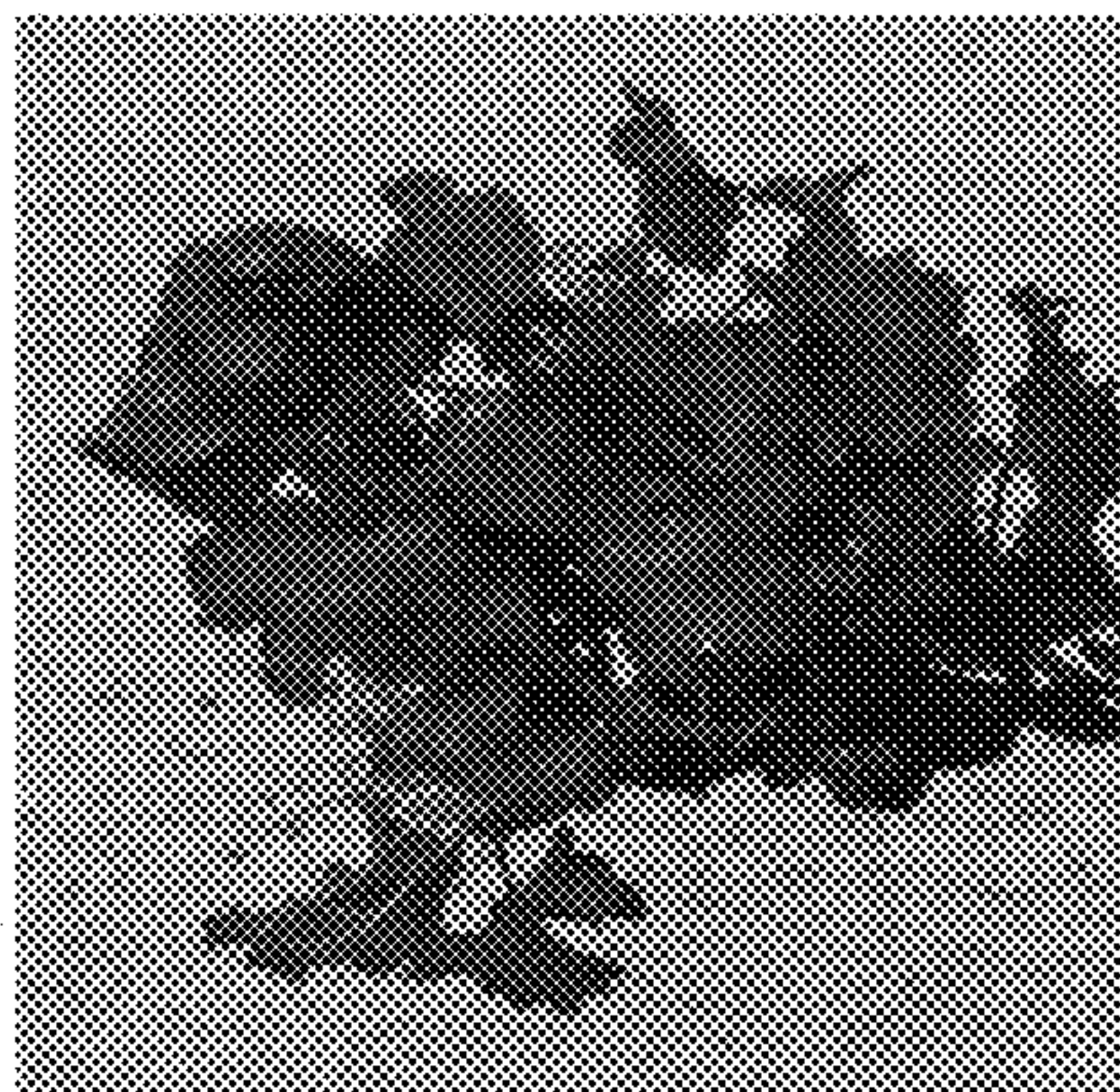


FIG. 2