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(54) **CHERRY LAUREL PLANT NAMED ‘JONG2’**

(50) Latin Name: *Prunus laurocerasus*
Varietal Denomination: **Jong2**

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(58) **Field of Classification Search**
USPC **Plt./226**
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new cherry laurel plant particularly distinguished by being
winter hardy, having healthy growth, and a compact and
bushy habit, is disclosed.

2 Drawing Sheets

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Genus and species: *Prunus laurocerasus*.
Variety denomination: ‘Jong2’.

BACKGROUND OF THE NEW PLANT

The present invention comprises a new and distinct vari-
ety of cherry laurel plant, botanically known as *Prunus*
laurocerasus, and hereinafter referred to by the variety name
‘Jong2’. ‘Jong2’ originated from an open-pollination con-
ducted in Biezenmortel, The Netherlands in 2006 between
unknown and unpatented *Prunus laurocerasus* plants.

The seeds from the cross were sown and plants were
grown outdoors for evaluation, where an individual plant
designated ‘Jong2’ was selected from the group of plants in
Biezenmortel, The Netherlands in May 2007. In October
2007, ‘Jong2’ was first vegetatively propagated by softwood
cuttings. ‘Jong2’ was found to reproduce true to type in
successive generations of asexual propagation via softwood
cuttings.

SUMMARY

The following are the most outstanding and distinguish-
ing characteristics of this new variety when grown under
normal horticultural practices in The Netherlands.

1. Winter hardy;
2. Healthy growth; and
3. Compact and bushy habit.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

This new cherry laurel plant is illustrated by the accom-
panying photographs which shows the plant’s overall plant
habit including form, and foliage. The photographs are of a
two-year-old plants grown outdoors in The Netherlands in
March 2015. The colors shown are as true as can be
reasonably obtained by conventional photographic proce-
dures.

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FIG. 1 shows the overall plant habit of ‘Jong2’.
FIG. 2 shows a close-up of an individual leaf.

DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW VARIETY

The following detailed descriptions set forth the distinc-
tive characteristics of ‘Jong2’. The data which define these
characteristics were collected from asexual reproductions
carried out in The Netherlands. Data was collected on
two-year-old plants grown outdoors in The Netherlands in
March 2015. The range of day temperatures was 10° C. to
25° C. and the range of night temperatures was 6° C. to 14°
C. Color references are to The R.H.S. Colour Chart of The
Royal Horticultural Society of London (R.H.S.), 5th edition
(2007).

Classification:

- Family.*—Rosaceae.
- Botanical.*—*Prunus laurocerasus*.
- Common.*—Cherry laurel; English laurel.
- Designation.*—‘Jong2’.

Plant:

- Type.*—Perennial, evergreen shrub.
- Time to produce a finished plant.*—About 2.5 years
from rooted cuttings.
- Appropriate container for producing a finished plant.*—
1.5 liter containers and larger or field-grown.
- Plant shape.*—Broad inverted triangle.
- Growth habit.*—Broad upright.
- Average plant height.*—54.0 cm.
- Average plant diameter.*—52.8 cm.
- Growth rate.*—About 25.0 cm per season as a pot-
grown young plant.
- Vigor.*—Moderate.
- High temperature tolerance.*—Unknown, but tolerant
to temperatures up to 35° C.
- Low temperature tolerance.*—Unknown, but at least
hardy to USDA Zone 6.
- Disease/pest resistance and susceptibility.*—Unknown.

Branches:

Habit.—Moderate.

Basal branching.—Present.

Pinching.—Not required but will improve branching.

Number of lateral branches per plant.—3 main 5
branches and 15 lateral branches; botanical characteristics are the same for both the main and lateral branches.

Branch length (both main and lateral).—Average is 13.1 cm. 10

Branch diameter (both main and lateral).—Average is 4.0 mm.

Internode length (both main and lateral).—Average is 2.9 cm.

Appearance and shape.—Rounded; young branches 15
are slightly angled towards the top; slightly glossy.

Aspect.—Lateral stems have an average angle of 50 degrees to the main stem.

Strength.—Very strong.

Color.—Younger branches are RHS 143A (Green) to 20
RHS 146A (Yellow-green); older branches are RHS N199A (Grey-brown).

Pubescence.—Absent.

Leaves:

General.—At the base of each leaf, there are an average of 2 (occasionally 4) glands that are visible on 25
the lower surface, with 1 gland on each side of the main leaf vein; the diameter of each gland is 1.0 mm; the color of each gland is RHS 152B (Yellow-green); the presence of these glands is typical for this species 30
and the gland shape is obovate.

Arrangement.—Alternate, single.

Fragrance.—Typical of the species.

Number of leaves per branch.—Average is 7.

Shape.—Narrow obovate to near narrow elliptic. 35

Apex.—Short apiculate, occasionally emarginate.

Base.—Obtuse to very short attenuate.

Margin.—Moderately revolute; entire occasionally
with 1 or 2 shallow teeth near the apex.

Length.—Average is 10.8 cm. 40

Width.—Average is 4.6 cm.

Texture.—Smooth; upper surface is glossy; lower surface is slightly glossy.

Venation pattern.—Pinnate.

Venation color (both upper and lower surfaces).—RHS 144A (Yellow-green).

Color.—Immature: Upper surface: Between RHS N137B (Green). Lower surface: Between RHS 143C (Green) and RHS 144A (Yellow-green). Mature: Upper surface: Between RHS N137A (Dark-green) to RHS 147A (Yellow-green), but closest to RHS N147A and darker. Lower surface: Between RHS 143C (Yellow-green) and RHS 144A (Yellow-green).

Petiole.—Length: Average is 1.1 cm. Diameter: Average is 0.25 cm. Color: RHS 144A (Yellow-green). Texture: Smooth.

Durability of foliage to stresses.—High.

Flowers/seed/fruit: Not observed to date.

COMPARISON WITH COMMERCIAL VARIETY

‘Jong2’ can be distinguished between the commercial variety ‘Antonius’ (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 26,314) in Table 1.

TABLE 1

Comparison with Commercial Variety		
Characteristic	‘Jong2’	‘Antonius’
Internode length	2.9 cm	8.0 cm
Young shoot color	Light-green	Red
Growth habit	Compact and bushy	Upright

I claim:

1. A new and distinct variety of *Prunus laurocerasus* plant designated ‘Jong2’ as illustrated and described herein. 40

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FIG. 1

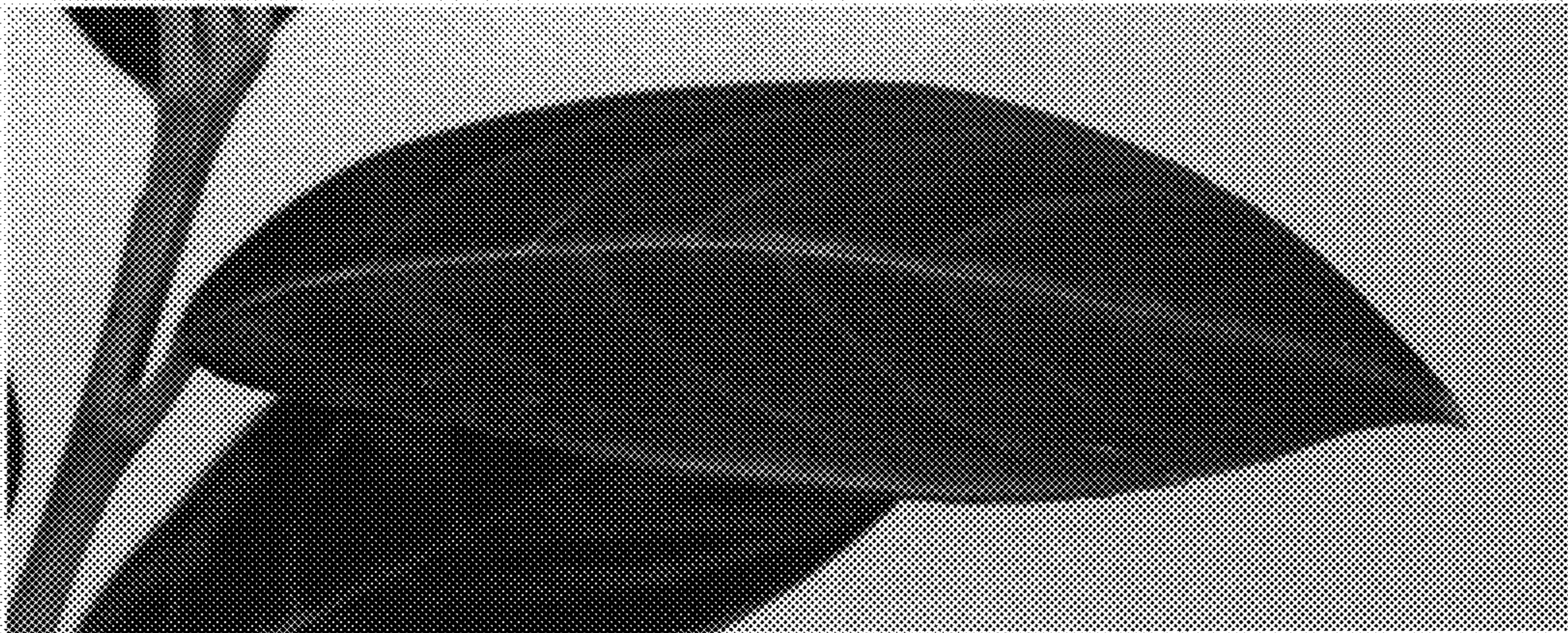


FIG. 2