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(54) **CHERRY LAUREL PLANT NAMED ‘JONG3’**

(50) Latin Name: *Prunus laurocerasus*  
Varietal Denomination: **Jong3**

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(58) **Field of Classification Search**  
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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**

**1**

Genus and species: *Prunus laurocerasus*.  
Variety denomination: ‘Jong3’.

**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  
‘Jong3’. ‘Jong3’ 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 ‘Jong3’ was selected from the group of plants in  
Biezenmortel, The Netherlands in May 2007. In October  
2007, ‘Jong3’ was first vegetatively propagated by softwood  
cuttings. ‘Jong3’ 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  
three-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.

**2**

FIG. 1 shows the overall plant habit of ‘Jong3’.  
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 ‘Jong3’. 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.), 5<sup>th</sup> edition  
(2007).

**Classification:**

- Family.*—Rosaceae.
- Botanical.*—*Prunus laurocerasus*.
- Common.*—Cherry laurel; English laurel.
- Designation.*—‘Jong3’.

**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.*—72.0 cm.
- Average plant diameter.*—74.5 cm.
- Growth rate.*—About 20.0 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*.—11 main 5  
branches and 3 lateral branches per main branch; the  
botanical characteristics are the same as for both the  
main and lateral branches.

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

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

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

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

*Aspect*.—Lateral stems have an average angle of 60  
degrees to the main stem; when pinched, the young  
lateral branches just below the pinching point grow 20  
an average angle of 30 degrees to the main branch.

*Strength*.—Very strong.

*Color*.—Younger branches are RHS 144B (Yellow-  
green); older branches are RHS 199B (Grey-brown).

*Pubescence*.—Absent.

## Leaves:

*General*.—At the base of each leaf, there are an aver- 25  
age of 2 (occasionally 1 or 3) glands that are visible  
on 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 146C to RHS 146D 30  
(Yellow-green); the presence of these glands is typi-  
cal for this species and the gland shape is obovate.

*Arrangement*.—Alternate, single.

*Number of leaves per branch*.—Average is 10.

*Shape*.—Elliptic and narrow elliptic to obovate. 35

*Apex*.—Acute.

*Base*.—Acute.

*Margin*.—Slightly to moderately revolute; entire.

*Length*.—Average is 8.5 cm.

*Width*.—Average is 3.8 cm.

*Texture*.—Smooth; upper surface is very 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  
144B (Yellow-green). Lower surface: Between RHS  
144C (Yellow-green) and RHS 145A (Yellow-  
green). Mature: Upper surface: Between RHS  
N137A (Dark-green) to RHS 147A (Yellow-green),  
but closest to RHS N137A and darker. Lower sur-  
face: Between RHS 146B (Yellow-green).

*Petiole*.—Length: Average is 1.4 cm. Diameter: Aver-  
age is 0.2 cm. Color: RHS 144A (Yellow-green).  
Texture: Smooth.

*Durability of foliage to stresses*.—High.

*Fragrance*.—Typical of species.

Flowers/seed/fruit: Not observed to date.

## COMPARISON WITH COMMERCIAL VARIETY

‘Jong3’ 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                     | ‘Jong3’   | ‘Antonius’                   |
| Internode length                   | 2.0 cm  | 8.0 cm                       |
| Color of young shoots              | Light orange/<br>green shoots                         | Red shoots                   |
| Habit                              | Less compact and<br>more spreading<br>than ‘Antonius’ | More compact<br>than ‘Jong3’ |

I claim:

1. A new and distinct variety of *Prunus laurocerasus* plant  
designated ‘Jong3’ as illustrated and described herein.

\* \* \* \* \*





FIG. 1





FIG. 2