



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

(10) **Patent No.:** **US PP30,038 P2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Dec. 25, 2018**

(54) **PENSTEMON PLANT NAMED ‘RASPBERRY TAFFY’**

(50) Latin Name: *Penstemon* hybrid
Varietal Denomination: **Raspberry Taffy**

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
patent is extended or adjusted under 35
U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **15/731,858**

(22) Filed: **Aug. 15, 2017**

(51) **Int. Cl.**
A01H 5/02 (2018.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
USPC **Plt./465**

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
USPC Plt./263.1, 465
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Penstemon* plant characterized
by medium large size raspberry red flowers in good size
inflorescences, long bloom time, upright, medium plant size,
and excellent vigor.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical denomination: *Penstemon* hybrid.

Variety designation: ‘Raspberry Taffy’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of *Penstemon*, given the name, ‘Raspberry Taffy’. *Penste-*
mon is in the family Plantaginaceae (formerly Scrophulari-
aceae). This plant originated as an open pollinated seedling
out of *Penstemon* ‘Boysenberry Taffy’ in the display garden
at the nursery in Canby, Oreg. This new cultivar was
selected for its upright growing habit and medium large red
flowers. It is a good fit for the nursery’s “Taffy” series of
Penstemon.

Compared to plants of *Penstemon* ‘Cha Cha Cherry’, U.S.
Plant Pat. No. 28,163, the new cultivar is taller with larger,
more raspberry red than red flowers, and has greener caly-
ces, seed heads, and stems.

Compared to *Penstemon* ‘Boysenberry Taffy’, U.S. Plant
Pat. No. 25,361, the new cultivar has redder toned flowers
instead of purple toned flowers.

Penstemon ‘Raspberry Taffy’ is uniquely distinguished by
its:

1. medium large size raspberry red flowers in good size
inflorescences,
2. long bloom time,
3. upright, medium plant size, and
4. excellent vigor.

The new variety has been reproduced only by asexual
propagation (cuttings and micropropagation). Each of the
progeny exhibits identical characteristics to the original
plant. Asexual propagation by cuttings and micropropaga-
tion using terminal and lateral shoots as done in Canby,
Oreg., shows that the foregoing characteristics and distinc-
tions come true to form and are established and transmitted
through succeeding propagations. The present invention has
not been evaluated under all possible environmental condi-

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tions. The phenotype may vary with variations in environ-
ment without a change in the genotype of the plant.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 shows the habit of a group of eighteen-month-old
plants in late June in Canby, Oreg.

FIG. 2 shows a close up of the inflorescence.

DETAILED PLANT DESCRIPTION

The following is a detailed description of the new *Pen-*
stemon cultivar based on observations of eighteen-month-
old specimens grown outside in the comparison garden in
full sun in Canby, Oreg. in late June. The color descriptions
are all based on The *Royal Horticultural Society Colour*
Chart, 5th edition, 2007.

Plant:

Type.—Herbaceous perennial.

Form.—Upright, branching.

Cold hardiness.—USDA Zone 7-10.

Size.—Grows to 43 cm wide and 74 cm high to top of
inflorescence.

Vigor.—Excellent.

Stem number.—About 9 main stems from the crown.

Stem.—Upright, to about 44 cm long and 5 mm wide,
glabrous at base to glandular pubescent toward
rachis, internodes grow to 4.5 cm long, Yellow Green
145B tinted Greyed Purple 187C in sun.

Rooting.—Roots easily from stem cuttings.

Leaf:

Type.—Simple.

Arrangement.—Opposite.

Shape.—Lanceolate.

Venation.—Pinnate, main vein on top Yellow Green
145B, bottom side Yellow Green 145C.

Margins.—Entire.

Apex.—Acuminate.

Base.—Rounded.

Blade size.—Grows to 8 cm long and 2 cm wide.

Surface texture.—Glabrous on both sides.

Petiole.—None, sessile.

Leaf color.—Topside Green 137B, bottom side closest to Yellow Green 147B.

Inflorescence:

Type.—Terminal, many flowered, dense thyse.

Number of flowers per inflorescence.—24 to 56.

Size of inflorescence.—Grows to 33 cm long and 12 cm wide.

Peduncle.—Grows to 5 cm long and 3 mm wide, pubescent, Yellow Green 145B tinted Greyed Purple 187C in sun.

Rachis.—13 cm to 31 cm long and 4 mm wide, pubescent, Yellow Green 145B tinted Greyed Purple 187C in sun.

Pedice.—Grows to 15 mm long and 1 mm wide, somewhat weak in strength, pubescent, Greyed Purple 187B.

Bloom period.—Mid-June to frost in October in Canby, Oreg. if spent flowers are removed.

Flower bud:

Size.—2.4 cm long and to 8 mm wide.

Description.—Closed tubular, bulging, flattened ventrically.

Color.—Red Purple 59B.

Flower:

Type.—Zygomorphic, perfect.

Shape.—Tubular, bilabiate.

Size.—Grows to 4 cm to 4.5 cm long and 3.5 cm to 4 cm wide.

Corolla description.—Grows to about 4.5 cm long and 3.5 cm wide; tube is bulbous in the calyx for 5 mm long and 4 mm wide, narrowing then widening for 25 mm and flaring to 17 mm wide, 5 lobes, the two smaller top lobes flare back (each 12 mm wide and to 14 mm deep) and two larger lateral lobes curl back slightly (11 mm wide and 13 mm deep), and the lower lobe flares curls back (10 mm wide and 11 mm deep), lobes overlap slightly, lobe margins entire,

tips obtuse; outside glandular pubescent, inside glabrous; outside color Red Purple 59B, inside color lobes Red Purple 58B, tube White N155A with bee tracks and band below lobes Greyed Purple 187B.

Calyx description.—9 mm deep and 9 mm wide, 5 overlapping lobes cut to the base, each lobe broadly obovate in shape, 8 mm long and 8 mm wide, margins entire, tip acute, base cuneate, outside Yellow Green 147B tinted Greyed Purple 187A where in sun, inside Yellow Green 147B, glabrous inside and glandular pubescent outside.

Pistil description.—1, 28 mm long, ovary 6 mm long and 3.5 mm wide, Yellow Green 148C; style 22 mm long and less than 1 mm wide, style Greyed Purple 187C on lower $\frac{3}{4}$ blending to White N155B, stigma White NN155C.

Stamen description.—5, White NN155B, one sterile without an anther, held within the corolla, grows to 27 mm long and less than 1 mm wide, filaments 25 mm long and less than 1 mm wide, anthers 3 mm long and 3 mm wide, Purple N77B, pollen White NN155C.

Fragrance.—None.

Lastingness.—A flower lasts 5 to 6 days.

Fruit:

Type.—Capsule.

Fertility.—Fair.

Size.—11 mm deep and 11 mm wide.

Shape.—Conical.

Color.—Brown 200A.

Seed:

Shape.—Irregular.

Size.—2 mm long.

Color.—Brown 200A.

Pests and diseases: The new cultivar is typical to the genus. No problems have been found in Canby, Oreg.

I claim:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Penstemon* plant substantially as illustrated and described.

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FIG. 1 on left top
FIG. 2 on left bottom

