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(54) ***VACCINIUM* PLANT NAMED 'RYOKU NH-13'**

(50) Latin Name: ***Vaccinium corymbosum* L.**
Varietal Denomination: **RYOKU NH-13**

(71) Applicant: **NIPPON RYOKUSAN CO., LTD.**, Matsumoto-shi (JP)

(72) Inventor: **Shigetaka Sakurai**, Matsumoto (JP)

(73) Assignee: **NIPPON RYOKUSAN CO., LTD.**, Matsumoto-shi (JP)

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Primary Examiner — June Hwu

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Oblon, McClelland, Maier & Neustadt, L.L.P.

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct variety of *Vaccinium corymbosum* L. plant named 'RYOKU NH-13', characterized by having a more upright plant growth habit, stronger plant vigor, comparatively early fruit ripening time, comparatively large fruit size, sweeter fruits, better taste balance of sweetness and acidity, and smaller stem scar.

8 Drawing Sheets

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The latin name of the genus and species of the novel variety disclosed herein is: *Vaccinium corymbosum* L.

The novel variety of the *Vaccinium corymbosum* L. disclosed herein has been given the variety denomination: 'RYOKU NH-13'.

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims the benefit of Japanese Plant Breeders' Rights Application No. 31725, filed Jan. 4, 2017, which is incorporated by reference herein as if set forth in its entirety.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct hybrid variety of northern highbush blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum* L.) named 'RYOKU NH-13'. This novel variety was found by open pollination of 'Chandler', a seed parent variety, in the tests conducted for the period from 2003 to 2007 in Matsumoto-City, Nagano-prefecture, Japan. As stated below, 'RYOKU NH-13' has apparently different characteristics from those of the varieties 'Chandler' and 'Blueray', both being widely planted and being important varieties in the Chubu district of Japan.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Blueberry variety 'RYOKU NH-13' exhibits outstanding and distinguishing characteristics when grown under normal horticultural conditions in the area from Nagano-prefecture to the north of the Kanto in Japan, including:

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(1) more upright plant growth habit and stronger plant vigor;
(2) comparatively early fruit ripening time (on average, around July 10 of each year in Matsumoto, Nagano, Japan);
(3) comparatively large fruit size;
(4) sweeter fruits;
(5) better taste balance of sweetness and acidity;
(6) smaller stem scar.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The accompanying colored photographs (FIGS. **1-8**) show typical bush, flower, fruit and leaf characteristics for the new *Vaccinium corymbosum* L. plant, 'RYOKU NH-13'. Colors shown are as accurate as can be reasonably reproduced by photographic means. In some cases, the color might differ slightly from the colors of 'RYOKU NH-13' recited in the description.

FIG. **1** shows a tree body of 'RYOKU NH-13' (photographed date: Jul. 10, 2015; photographed location: Matsumoto-City, Nagano-prefecture, Japan; and the age of photographed 'RYOKU NH-13': 5 years).

FIG. **2** shows a panoramic view of the cultivation area of 'RYOKU NH-13' (photographed date: Sep. 7, 2012; photographed location: same as FIG. **1**; and the age of photographed 'RYOKU NH-13': 5 years).

FIG. **3** shows whole flowers of 'RYOKU NH-13' (photographed date: May 8, 2015; photographed location: same as FIG. **1**; and the age of photographed 'RYOKU NH-13': 5 years).

FIG. **4** shows broken-down parts of the flower of 'RYOKU NH-13' (photographed date: May 8, 2015; photographed location: same as FIG. **1**; and the age of photographed 'RYOKU NH-13': 5 years).

FIG. **5** shows fruits of 'RYOKU NH-13' (photographed date: Jul. 14, 2014; photographed location: same as FIG. **1**; and the age of photographed 'RYOKU NH-13': 5 years).

FIG. **6** shows a cross-section of the fruits of 'RYOKU NH-13' (photographed date: Jul. 14, 2014; photographed location: same as FIG. **1**; and the age of photographed 'RYOKU NH-13': 5 years).

FIG. **7** shows an upper side of the leaves (10 sheets) of 'RYOKU NH-13' (photographed date: Jul. 22, 2014; photographed location: same as FIG. **1**; and the age of photographed 'RYOKU NH-13': 5 years).

FIG. **8** shows a lower side of the leaves (10 sheets) of 'RYOKU NH-13' (photographed date: Jul. 22, 2014; photographed location: same as FIG. **1**; and the age of photographed 'RYOKU NH-13': 5 years).

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

A. Distinctive Characteristics of 'RYOKU NY-11'

As described above, 'RYOKU NH-13' was obtained by the open pollination of 'Chandler', a seed parent (Note: the possible pollen parent might be 'Blueray'). On Apr. 15, 2003, about 10,000 seeds of 'Chandler', which were cultivated in a field in Matsumoto-City, Nagano-prefecture, Japan, were seeded in plant seeding trays, and then transplanted to pots. The resulting seedlings (about 3,000) were planted in cultivation pots on May 1, 2004. Fructification of the planted seedlings were started from Jun. 20, 2007 (on Year 3), and about 200 plant individuals were selected based on the characteristics, including larger fruit size, better taste balance of sweetness and acidity, higher yield per plant, earlier ripening time, large and uniform fruits, etc.. For the about 200 selected plant individuals, test plots (each including about 20 cuttings per plant individual) were formed, where these plants were asexually propagated by cutting means. During the period from Jul. 20, 2009 to Dec. 25, 2016 and for 3 generations, the plants were propagated and examined for their characteristics based on the growth, yield and fruits quality in each test plot. For 10 test plots, the characteristics of the plants were observed for the period between the flowering time and the ripening time yearly for 5 years, and since neither variant nor off-type plant was observed for the period, the characterization of 'RYOKU NH-13' was finished on Dec. 25, 2016 and the breeding was completed.

'RYOKU NH-13' is a blueberry clone which can be distinguished from the important blueberry varieties 'Chandler' and 'Blueray', both of which are widely planted in the Chubu district of Japan, due to its characteristics including a more upright plant growth habit, stronger plant vigor, comparatively early fruit ripening time, comparatively large fruit size, sweeter fruits, better taste balance of sweetness and acidity, and smaller stem scar. From the above-described about 200 selected plant individuals, one plant individual, 'RYOKU NH-13', was selected out as described, and then 31 plants were propagated from 'RYOKU NH-13' by cutting means in Matsumoto, Nagano, Japan, and all the resulting plants were phenotypically indistinguishable from the original plant variety 'RYOKU NH-13'. In addition, comparing to 'Chandler' and 'Blueray', the claimed plant 'RYOKU NH-13' has a more upright plant growth habit, about 1 week to 10 days earlier fruit ripening time (on average, around July 10 of each year in Matsumoto, Nagano, Japan), sweeter fruits, and smaller stem scar when compared to its related variety 'Chandler', and has stronger plant vigor, larger fruit size, better taste balance of sweetness and acidity, and smaller stem scar when compared to 'Blueray' (see Table 1 below). It should be noted that the plant age of all the plants of 'RYOKU NH-13', which were observed for botanical description, was 5 years.

The following data defining the characteristics of 'RYOKU NH-13' were collected from the asexual propagation by cutting means carried out in Matsumoto, Nagano, Japan. The plant history was taken on a plot of 10 five-year-old plants growing in Matsumoto, Nagano, Japan. 'RYOKU NH-13' has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions, and the measurements provide might therefore vary when grown in different environments. Where averages are given, the sample size was 10.

B. Phenotypic Description of *Vaccinium corymbosum* L. ('RYOKU NH-13')

Characteristics of 'RYOKU NH-13' are further specifically described as follows:

1. Plant:
   - *Plant vigor.*—Strong, where the plant vigor is stronger than 'Blueray'.
   - *Plant size.*—Large.
   - *Growth habit.*—Upright.
   - *Plant height.*—1.8 m on average for 5-year old plant.
   - *Plant spread.*—1.1 m on average for 5-year old plant.
   - *Color of bark of plant.*—Dark Red, 187-A (The R.H.S. Colour Chart).
   - *Tendency toward evergreen.*—Absent.
   - *Cold hardiness.*—Survived in winter frost (below −10° C.) with minimum damage.
   - *Ease of propagation.*—Propagated by each of dormant wood cutting and softwood stem cutting, where the rooting percentage was greater than 70% and comparable to the other varieties.
2. Trunk and branches:
   - *Suckering tendency.*—Less sucker as in 'Chandler'.
   - *Surface texture (of 6-month-old shoots).*—Lustrous.
   - *Surface texture (of 3-year-old and older wood).*—Lustrous.
   - *Color of new twigs observed in the field.*—Orangish yellow green.
   - *Internode length.*—20.4 mm on average.
3. Leaves:
   - *Leaf length including petiole.*—70.4 mm on average.
   - *Leaf width of leaf at widest point.*—39.2 mm on average.
   - *Leaf shape.*—Elliptic.
   - *Leaf margin.*—Entire.
   - *Color.*—Upper surface of leaves: Dark Green, 136-A. Lower surface of leaves: Deep Yellowish Green, 141-B (The R.H.S. Colour Chart).
   - *Pubescence.*—Upper Surface of leaves: Absent. Lower Surface of leaves: Absent. Margins: Absent.
   - *Timing of vegetative bud burst.*—Medium.
4. Flowers:
   - *Shape.*—Campanulate.
   - *Color of opened flower.*—Pale Yellow Green, 157-C (The R.H.S. Colour Chart).
   - *Color of sepal.*—Light Yellowish Green, 135-D (The R.H.S. Colour Chart).

Flowering period.—Mean date of 50% opening of flowers in Matsumoto-City, Nagano-prefecture, Japan is May 3, equivalent to 'Chandler'.

Corolla.—Diameter: 9.4 mm on average. Length (from pedicel attachment point to corolla tip excluding the pedicel): 12.0 mm on average. Color: White. Anthocyanin coloration in corolla tube — Medium.

5. Reproductive organs:

Pollen.—Color: Yellow.

6. Fruit:

Mean date of 50% harvest in Matsumoto-City, Nagano-prefecture.—July 10.

Diameter of calyx aperture on mature berry.—7.6 mm on average.

Size and shape of calyx lobe on mature berry.—Medium size, outcurving, and having deep calyx basin.

Detachment force for ripe berries (*easy, medium, hard*) .—Easy.

Fruit cluster density (*sparse, medium, dense*).—Medium to slightly dense.

Fruiting type.—On one-year old shoots only.

7. Berry:

Cluster (*tight, medium, loose*).—Medium.

Weight (*on well-pruned plants*).—3.81 g on average.

Height.—13.3 mm on average.

Width.—21.3 mm on average.

Shape.—Oblate.

Surface color of mature berries ripe on the plant.—Light Purplish Blue, 98-D (The R.H.S. Colour Chart).

Intensity of fruit bloom.—Medium.

Surface color of ripe berry after polishing.—Greyish Purplish Blue, 103-A (The R.H.S. Colour Chart).

Immature berry color, with bloom.—Light Yellowish Green, 140-D (The R.H.S. Colour Chart).

Immature berry color, without bloom.—Brilliant Yellow Green, 149-A (The R.H.S. Colour Chart).

Flesh color.—Pale Yellow Green, 149-D (The R.H.S. Colour Chart).

Peel color.—Medium blue.

Color of seeds.—Moderate Yellow, 162-A (The R.H.S. Colour Chart).

Pedicel scar.—Medium, 2.54 mm on average.

Firmness.—Medium.

Intensity of fruit sweetness.—High, Bx 12.3.

Intensity of fruit acidity.—High, pH 2.55.

Texture.—Crispy, juicy, medium seeds.

8. Use: 'RYOKU NH-13' produce northern highbush blueberries suitable for fruit-picking farms, fresh fruit markets and processed fruit markets, etc.

9. Resistance to disease, insects, and mites: 'RYOKU NH-13' grew vigorously and showed excellent bush survival in the field. It appears to be tolerant to stem blight (*Botryosphaeria* spp.) and root rot (*Phytophthora cinnamoni*), with very few young plants dying soon after planting. The response of 'RYOKU NH-13' to the various fungal species that cause summer leaf spots is typical of other northern highbush varieties, and fungicide applications may be needed after harvest in order to reduce foliar diseases and to retain leaves until autumn and make maximum flower bud set. Similarly, susceptibility to typical blueberry insect and mite pathogens, such as spotted wing drosophila (*Drosophila suzukii*), blueberry gall midge (*Dasineura oxycoccana*) and blueberry bud mite (*Acalitus vaccini*) is similar to other northern highbush cultivars.

TABLE 1

(Comparison of characteristics among varieties)

Charact. No	UPOV No.	Code	Characteristics	Definition
1	1 (*)	QN (+)	Plant: vigor	Strength of growth level of plant
2		QN	Plant: size	Size of plant crown
3	2 (*)	QN G	Plant: growth habit	Whole shape of plant without pruning during dormant period
4	3	PQ	One-year-old shoot: color	Color of middle part of shoot extended before dormant period
5		QN	One-year-old shoot: length	Length of middle part of shoot extended before dormant period
6	4	QN	One-year-old shoot: length of internode (upper half)	Length of internode of shoot extended before dormant period (upper half)
7	5 (*)	QN	Leaf: length	Length of leaf sufficiently expanded
8	6	QN	Leaf: width	Maximum width of mature leaf
9	7	QN	Leaf: ratio length/width	Ratio of leaf length to maximum width (leaf length/leaf width)
10	8 (*)	PQ	Leaf: shape	Shape of mature leaf
11		QN (+)	Leaf: shape of tip	Shape of lip of mature leaf
12	9	QL	Leaf: color of upper side	Color of surface of mature leaf
13	10 (*)	QN	Only varieties with green leaf color: Leaf, intensity of green color on upper side	Intensity of green color on surface of mature leaf
14	11 (*)	QL	Leaf: margin	Type of margin of mature leaf
15	12	QN	Flower bud: anthocyanin coloration	Intensity of anthocyanin coloration of flower bud occurring to one year old shoot
16	13	QN	Inflorescence: length (excluding peduncle)	Length of inflorescence at flowering time (excluding peduncle)
17	14	PQ	Flower: shape of corolla	Shape of corolla at full bloom
18		PQ	Flower: color of corolla	Color of corolla at full bloom
19	15 (*)	QN	Flower: size of corolla tube	Size of corolla tube at full bloom
20	16 (*)	QN	Flower: anthocyanin coloration of corolla tube	Intensity of anthocyanin coloration on surface of corolla tube
21	17	QL	Flower: ridges on corolla tube	Presence or absence of ridges on corolla tube
22	18	QN	Fruit cluster: density	Density of fruit per fruit cluster

TABLE 1-continued

(Comparison of characteristics among varieties)

23	19 (*)	QN	Unripe fruit: intensity of green color	Intensity of green color of fruit before ripening
24	20 (*)	QN	Fruit: size	Size of fruit at ripening
25	21 (*)	PQ (+)	Fruit: shape in longitudinal section	Shape in longitudinal section of fruit at ripening
26		QN (+)	Fruit: size of scar	Size of stem scar of mature fruit
27		PQ (+)	Fruit: shape of calyx cavity	Shape of calyx cavity of mature fruit
28	22	QN	Fruit: attitude of sepals	Attitude of sepals relative to mature fruit
29	23	QN	Fruit: type of sepals	Direction of curving of sepals
30	24	QN	Fruit: diameter of calyx basin	Diameter of calyx basin of mature fruit
31	25	QN	Fruit: depth of calyx basin	Depth of calyx basin of mature fruit
32	26 (*)	QN	Fruit: intensity of bloom	Intensity of bloom on surface of mature fruit
33	27 (*)	PQ G	Fruit: color of skin (after removal of bloom)	Color of skin of mature fruit after removal of bloom
34	28	QN (+)	Fruit: firmness	Firmness of mature fruit
35		PQ	Fruit: color of flesh	Color of flesh of mature fruit
36	29 (*)	QN (+)	Fruit: sweetness	Sweetness of mature fruit
37	30 (*)	QN (+)	Fruit: acidity	Acidity of mature fruit
38	31 (*)	QL G	Plant: fruiting type	Shoots to which fruits adnate
39		QN	Fruit: tendency of cracking	Tendency of cracking during harvest season
40	32 (*)	QN (+)	Time of vegetative bud burst	Time of beginning to burst first vegetative bud of each individual plant
41	33 (*)	QN (+) G	Time of beginning of flowering on one-year-old shoot	Time of 10% flowering occurring to one year old shoot
42	34 (*)	QN (+) G	Varieties which fruit on one-year-old shoot and current season's shoot: Time of beginning of flowering on current year's shoot	Time of 10% flowering occurring to current year's shoot
43	35	QN (+) G	Time of beginning of fruit ripening on one-year-old shoot	Time of 10% fruit ripening on one year old shoot
44		QN	Period of harvest	Length of harvest period of fruit
45	36 (*)	QN (+) G	Varieties which fruit on one-year-old shoot and current season's shoot: Time of beginning of ripening on current year's shoot	Tme of 10% fruit ripening on current year's shoot

TABLE 1-continued

(Comparison of characteristics among varieties)

Charact. No	Method	Class	State	Standard Variety (E.x. Var.)
1	Observation (a) VG	3	weak	Bluetta, Meader
		5	medium	Collins, Weymouth
		7	strong	Berkeley, Homebell, Woodard
2	Observation (a) VG	3	small	Avonblue, Bluetta, Flordablue
		5	medium	Bluecrop, Earliblue
		7	large	Dixi, Homebell, Tifblue
3	Observation (a) VG	1	upright	Becyblue, Bluechip, June, Spartan
		2	semi-upright	Bluecrop, Lateblue
		3	spreading	Northland, Weymouth
4	Observation (a) VG	1	green	
		2	greenish red	
		3	greyish red	Briteblue, Homebell
		4	reddish yellow	Berkeley, Dixi
		5	reddish brown	Blueray, Darrow, Weymouth
		6	dark red	
5	Measurement mm (a) VG	3	short	
		5	medium	
		7	long	
6	Observation (a) VG	3	short	Avonblue, Weymouth
		5	medium	
		7	long	Jersey
7	Measurement mm (b) MS/ VG	3	short	
		5	medium	
		7	long	
8	Measurement mm (b) MS/ VG	3	narrow	
		5	medium	
		7	broad	
9	Measurement (b) MS/ VG	3	small	
		5	medium	
		7	large	
10	Observation (b) VG	1	lanceolate	
		2	ovate	Northland
		3	elliptic	Berkeley, Collins, Coville
		4	oblong	
11	Observation (b) VG	3	acute	Weymouth, Woodard
		5	slightly acute	Earliblue, Tifblue
		7	obtuse	Berkeley, Climax, Southland
12	Observation (b) VG	1	yellow	
		2	green	Bluechip, Bluecrop, Blueray
13	Observation (b) VG	3	light	
		5	medium	
		7	dark	
14	Observation (b) VG	1	entire	
		2	serrate	

TABLE 1-continued

(Comparison of characteristics among varieties)

15	Observation (a) VG	3	weak	
		5	medium	
		7	strong	
16	Measurement mm (c) MS/VG	3	short	
		5	medium	
		7	long	
17	Observation (c) VG	1	urceolate	Bluecrop, Jersey
		2	campanulate	Northblue, Northsky
		3	cylindrical	
18	Observation (c) VG	1	white	Aliceblue, Bluetta, Briteblue
		2	creamy white	Avonblue, Berkeley, Bluecrop
		3	greenish white	Blueray, Collins, Coville
		4	light pink	Bluebell, Delite, Dixi, Tifblue
19	Observation (c) VG	3	small	
		5	medium	
		7	large	
20	Observation (c) VG	1	absent or very weak	
		3	weak	
		5	medium	
		7	strong	
21	Observaton (c) VG	1	absent	Herbert
		9	present	Aliceblue Berkeley, Dixi
22	Observation (d) VG	3	sparse	Homebell, Jersey, Woodard
		5	medium	Bluechip, Bluecrop, Bluetta
		7	dense	Darrow, Herbert, Patriot
23	Observation VG	3	light	
		5	medium	
		7	dark	
24	Observation (d) VG	3	small	Homebell, June, Northblue
		5	medium	Collins, Earliblue
		7	large	Berkeley, Bluecrop, Spartan
25	Observation (d) VG	1	elliptic	
		2	round	Berkeley, Jersey, Sharpblue
		3	oblate	Earliblue, Harison, Woodard
26	Observation (d) VG	3	small	
		5	medium	
		7	large	
27	Observation (d) VG	1	star	
		2	circular	
28	Observation (d) VG	1	erect	
		2	erect to semi-erect	
		3	semi-erect	
		4	level	
29	Observation (d) VG	1	incurving	
		2	straight	
		3	reflexed	
30	Observation (d) VG	3	small	Avonblue, Bluechip, Sharpblue
		5	medium	Blueray, Woodard
		7	large	Coville, Darrow, Homebell
31	Observation (d) VG	3	shallow	Bluecrop, Rancocas, Tifblue
		5	medium	Earliblue, Jersey
		7	deep	Blueray, Collins, Dixi
32	Observation (d) VG	1	very weak	
		3	weak	Dixi, Herbert, Sharpblue
		5	medium	Collins, Coville
		7	strong	Avonblue, Bluecrop, Tifblue
33	Observation (d) VG	1	light blue	Berkeley, Bluechip, Tifblue
		2	medium blue	Blueray, Jerse, June
		3	dark blue	Dixi, Homebell
		4	blue red	
34	Observation (d) VG/ VS	3	soft	Herbert, Homebell, Spartan
		5	medium	Collins, Dixi
		7	firm	Coville, Southland
		9	very firm	
35	Observation (d) VG	1	white	Berkeley, Bluecrop, Blueray
		2	cream	Earliblue
		3	light green	Bluechip, Lateblue, Sharpblue
		4	light purple	Aliceblue, Delite, Homebell
36	Observation (d) VG	3	low	Avonblue, Bluechip
		5	medium	Berkeley, Bluetta, Spartan
		7	high	Aliceblue, Bluecrop, Blueray
37	Observation (d) VG	3	low	Earliblue, Homebell
		5	medium	Blueray, Herbert
		7	high	Collins, Elliott, Lateblue
38	Observation (c) VG	1	on one-year-old shoots only	
		2	on one-year-old and current season's shoots	
39	Observation (d) VG	3	less	Earliblue, Herbert, Spartan
		5	medium	Avonblue, Berkeley, Bluechip
		7	much	Briteblue, Climax, Darrow
40	Measurement MG	3	early	Avonblue, Beckyblue, Sharpblue
		5	medium	Darrow, Weymouth
		7	late	Elliott, Lateblue
41	Measurement MG	1	very early	
		3	early	
		5	medium	Bluecrop, Collins, Woodard

TABLE 1-continued

(Comparison of characteristics among varieties)

		7	late	Dixi, Herbert, Lateblue
		9	very late	
42	Measurement MG	3	early	
		5	medium	
		7	late	
43	Measurement MG	1	very early	
		3	early	Avonblue, Earliblue, Weymouth
		5	medium	Herbert, Jersey
		7	late	Briteblue, Elliott, Tifblue
		9	very late	
44	Measurement MG	3	short	Darrow, Northblue
		5	medium	Berkeley, Bluecrop
		7	long	Briteblue, Tifblue, Woodard
45	Measurement MG	3	early	
		5	medium	
		7	late	

Charact. No	The present variety RYOKU NH-13	Control Varieties Blueray	Chandler
1	7	6	7
2	7	5	7
3	1	1	2
4	5	5	4
5	6 (212 mm)	5 (173 mm)	7 (288 mm)
6	7 (20.4 mm)	3 (14.0 mm)	6 (16.7 mm)
7	5 (70.4 mm)	5 (68.0 mm)	6 (67.0 mm)
8	5 (39.2 mm)	5 (31.0 mm)	6 (36.3 mm)
9	5 (1.80)	5 (2.20)	5 (1.85)
10	3	3	3
11	5	5	5
12	2	2	2
13	5	5	5
14	1	1	1
15	5	7	6
16	7 (42.0 mm)	6 (28.7 mm)	6 (35.1 mm)
17	2	1-2	2-3
18	1	3	1
19	7	5	7
20	1	3	1
21	1	9	9
22	6 (slightly dense)	7	7
23	4	7	3
24	7 (3.81 g)	5 (2.89 g)	7 (5.72 g)
25	3	3	3
26	6 (2.54 mm)	7 (3.80 mm)	7 (3.98 mm)
27	2	2	2
28	2	3	3
29	3	1	3
30	7 (7.60 mm)	6 (4.40 mm)	7 (6.46 mm)
31	7 (3.22 mm)	7 (2.60 mm)	7 (2.32 mm)
32	5	5	5
33	2	2	2
34	5	6	5
35	3	3	3
36	7 (Bx 12.3)	7 (Bx 12.6)	6 (Bx 13.0)
37	7 (pH 2.55)	5 (pH 3.12)	6 (pH 2.96)
38	1	1	1
39	3	3	3
40	5 Apr. 7 (2016)	5 Apr. 6 (2016)	5 Apr. 8 (2016)
41	6 Apr. 26 (2016)	5 Apr. 23 (2016)	6 Apr. 27 (2016)
42	—	—	—
43	6 Middle July to late July	5 Middle July to late July	7 Late July to early August
44	6	5	5
45	—	—	—

What is claimed is:

1. A new and distinct variety of *Vaccinium corymbosum* L. plant named 'RYOKU NH-13', as described and illustrated herein.

* * * * *

Fig. 1

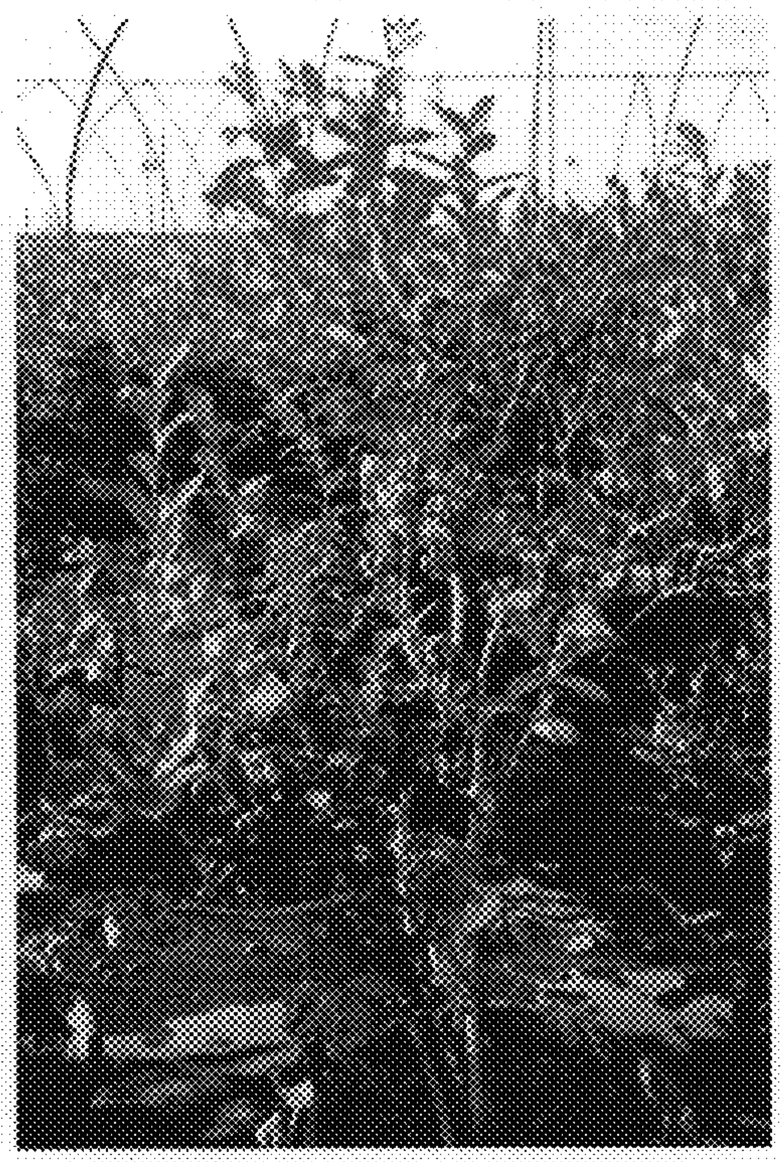

Fig. 2

Fig. 3

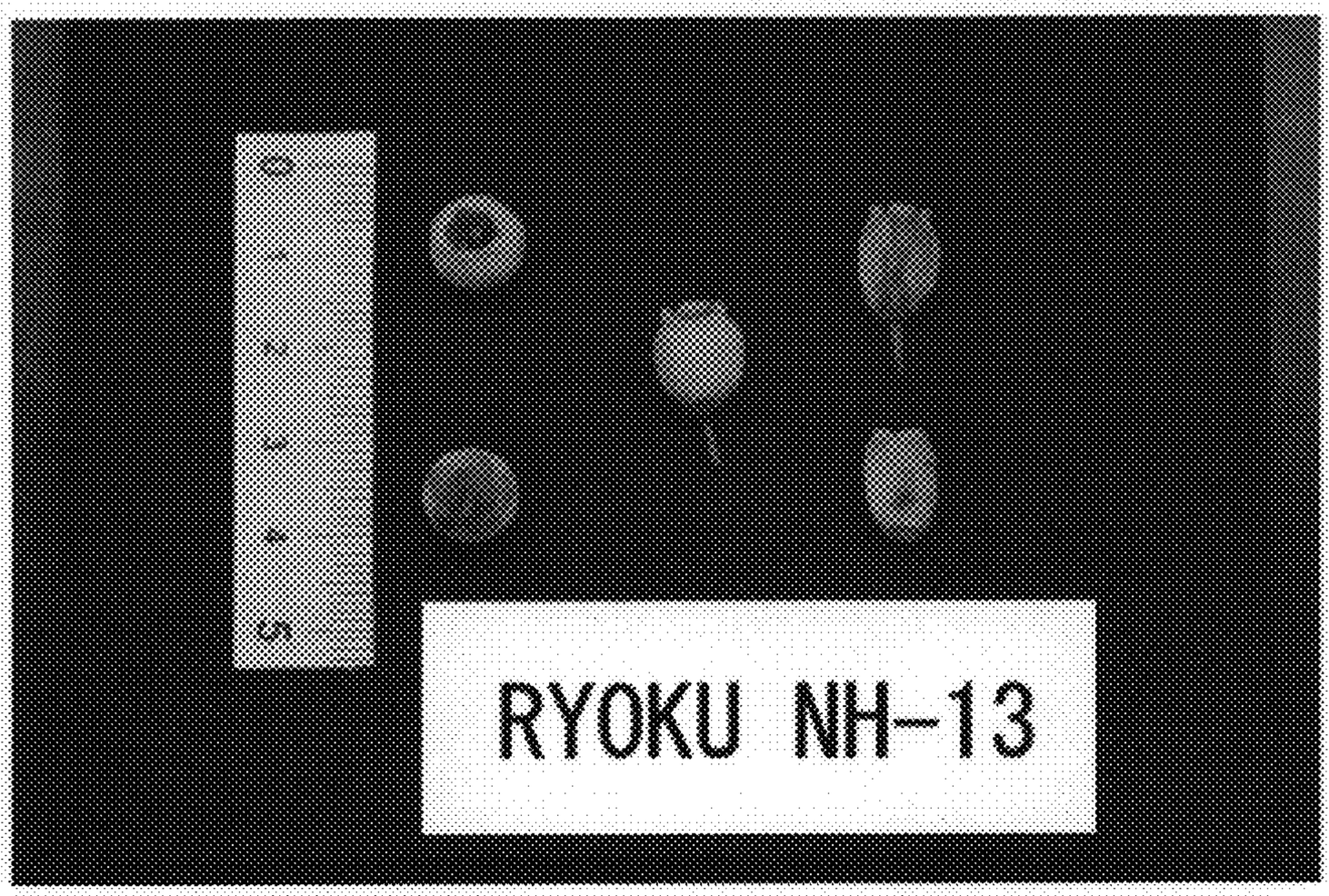

Fig. 4

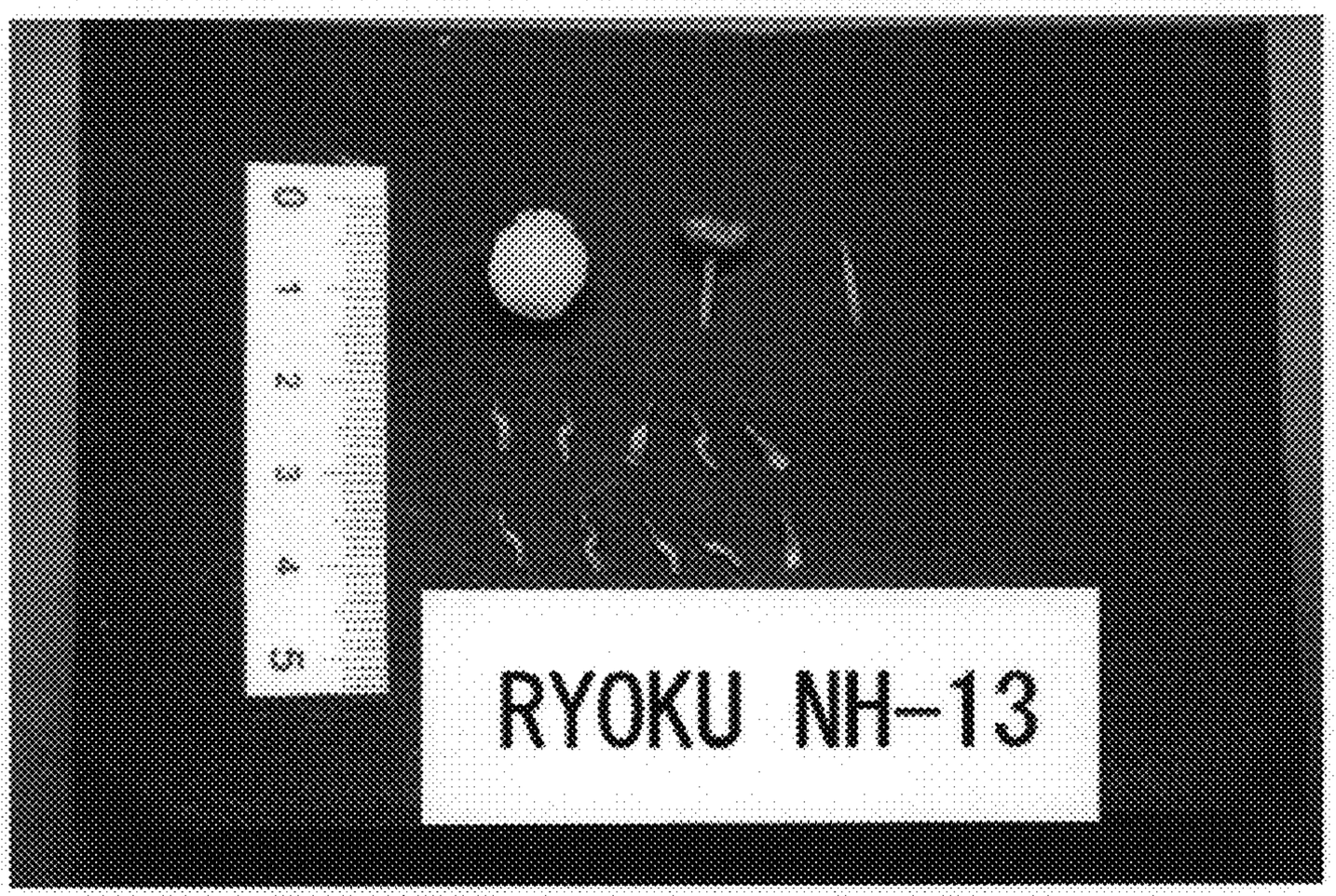

Fig. 5

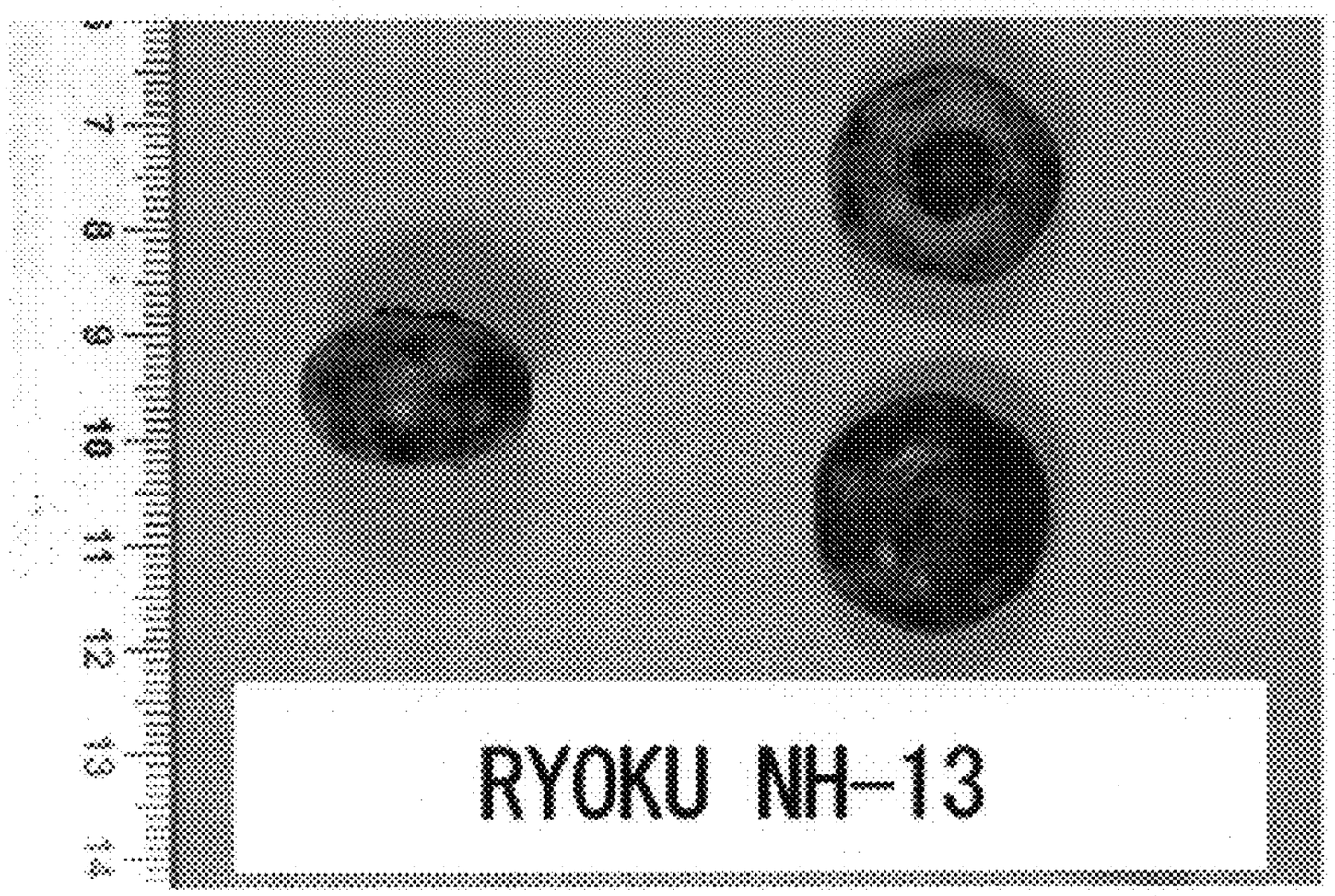

Fig. 6

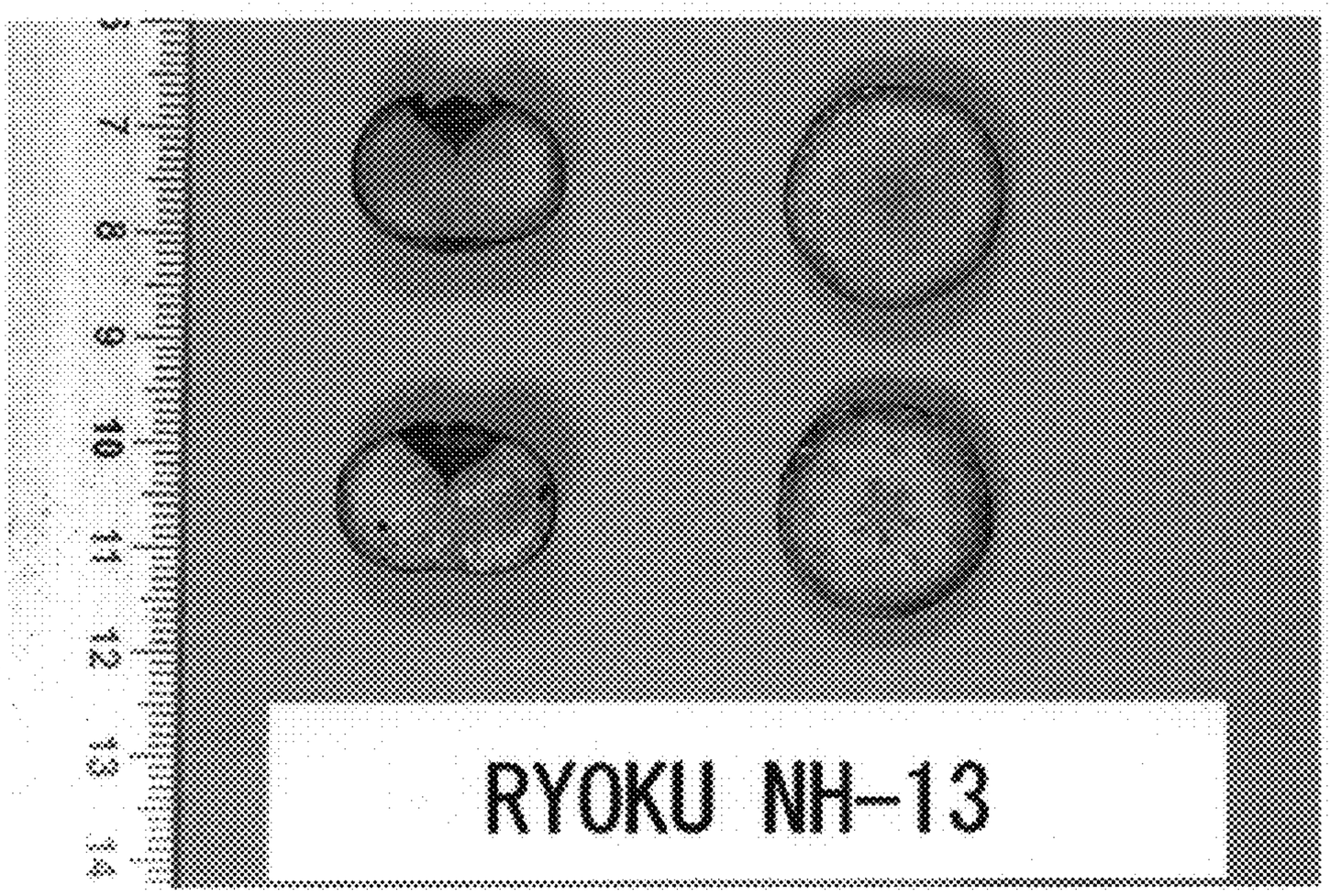

Fig. 7

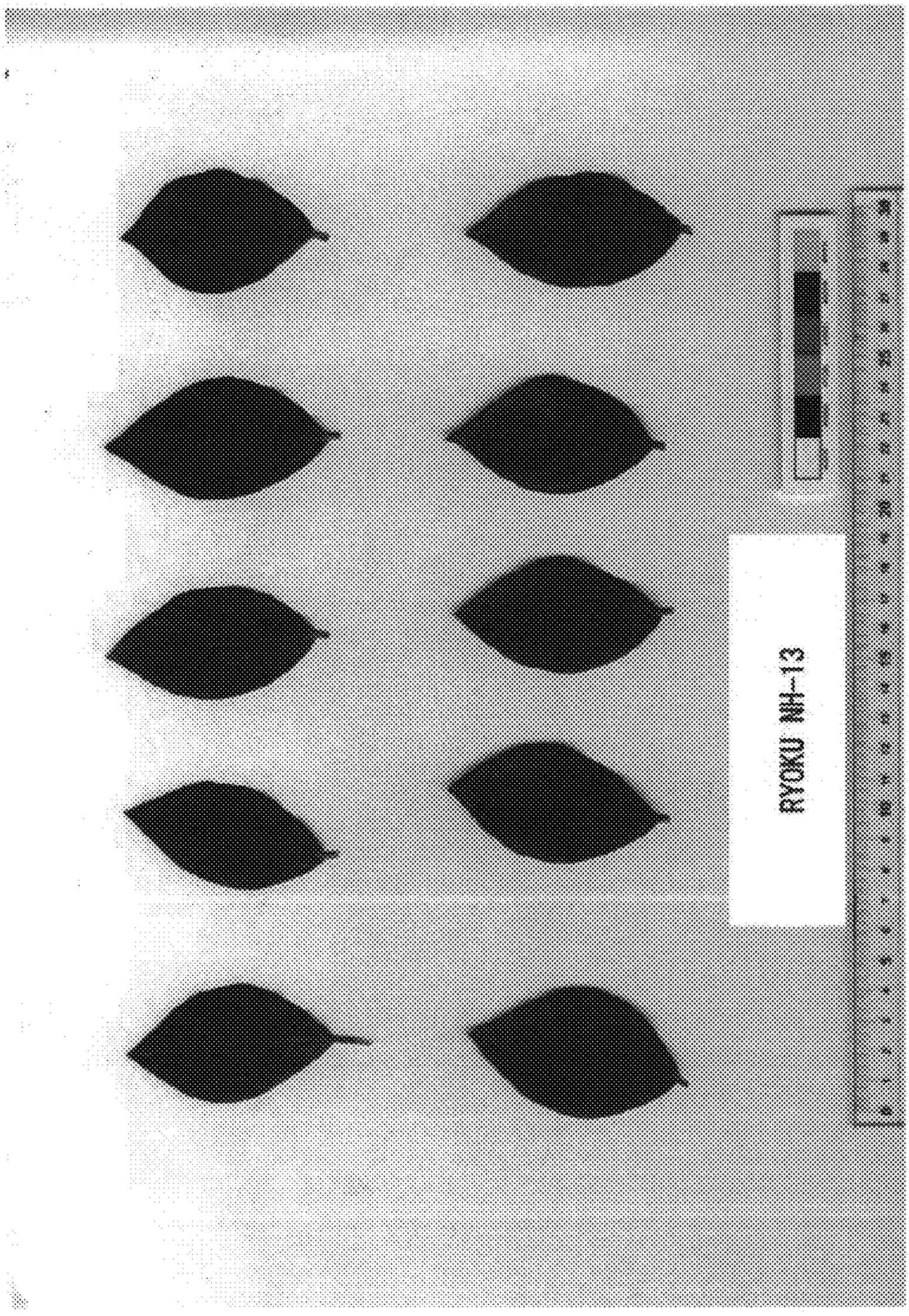

Fig. 8