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Bacon

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(54) **GRAPEVINE PLANT NAMED**
‘SUGRAFIFTYFIVE’

(50) Latin Name: *Vitis vinifera*
Varietal Denomination: **Sugrafiftyfive**

(71) Applicant: **Sun World International, LLC,**
Bakersfield, CA (US)

(72) Inventor: **Terry A. Bacon,** Bakersfield, CA (US)

(73) Assignee: **Sun World International, LLC,**
Bakersfield, CA (US)

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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Primary Examiner — Annette H Para

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Knobbe, Martens, Olson
& Bear, LLP

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct grapevine variety ‘Sugrafiftyfive’ is
characterized by having dark red-purple, narrow-elliptic
berries with a low-acid tropical flavor. The berries ripen in
early July. The berries of ‘Sugrafiftyfive’ have 1 to 2
rudimentary soft seed traces per berry.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Latin name of the genus and species claimed: *Vitis*
vinifera.

Varietal denomination: ‘SUGRAFIFTYFIVE’.

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF THE
INVENTION

This application relates to the discovery and asexual
propagation of a new and distinct variety of grapevine,
‘Sugrafiftyfive’, as herein described and illustrated. The new
variety was first selected as breeder number ‘GR509R’ by
Terry A. Bacon in Wasco, Kern County, Calif. in June 2015.
The variety was originated by controlled hybridization.

The new variety ‘Sugrafiftyfive’ is characterized by hav-
ing dark red-purple, narrow-elliptic berries with a low-acid
tropical flavor. The berries ripen in early July in the area of
Wasco, Kern County, Calif. The berries of ‘Sugrafiftyfive’
have 1 to 2 rudimentary soft seed traces per berry.

The seed parent is the varietal selection ‘Sugrafiftyfive’
(U.S. Plant Pat. No. 27,424) and the pollen parent is the
varietal selection ‘05167-176-052’ (unpatented breeding
selection). The parent varieties were first crossed in May
2012. The date of first sowing was March 2013, and the date
of first flowering was May 2014.

The new variety ‘Sugrafiftyfive’ was first asexually propa-
gated in December 2015 in Wasco, Kern County, Calif., by
Terry A. Bacon using hardwood cuttings.

The new variety ‘Sugrafiftyfive’ differs from the seed
parent ‘Sugrafiftyfive’ in that the berries of the new variety
have a low-acid tropical flavor, while the berries of ‘Sug-
rafiftyfive’ have a low-acid neutral flavor. The new variety
also has a dark red-purple berry compared to a black berry
for ‘Sugrafiftyfive’.

The new variety ‘Sugrafiftyfive’ differs from its pollen
parent ‘05167-176-052’ in that the fruit of the new variety
begins ripening about July 5th compared to July 15th for
‘05167-176-052’. The new variety ‘Sugrafiftyfive’ also dif-

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fers from its pollen parent in that the berries of the new
variety are darker red-purple in color with a narrow-elliptic
shape compared to cylindrical shape berries with a red color
for ‘05167-176-052’. In addition the berries of the new
variety have a low-acid tropical flavor, while the berries of
the pollen parent have a mid-acid neutral flavor.

The berries of the new variety ‘Sugrafiftyfive’ have a
darker red-purple color than ‘Flame Seedless’ (unpatented)
and ‘Sheegene-12’ (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 20,252). The berries
of the new variety ‘Sugrafiftyfive’ also differ in that they
have a narrow-elliptic shape compared to a round shape for
the berries of ‘Flame Seedless’ and an ovate shape for the
berries of ‘Sheegene-12’. Additionally, the berries of the
new variety ‘Sugrafiftyfive’ and ‘Flame Seedless’ begin
ripening about the same time, about July 5th, compared to
August 1st for ‘Sheegene-12’. The berries of the new variety
‘Sugrafiftyfive’ have a low-acid tropical flavor compared to
a mid-acid neutral flavor for the berries of both ‘Flame
Seedless’ and ‘Sheegene-12’.

The new ‘Sugrafiftyfive’ variety has been shown to main-
tain its distinguishing characteristics through successive
asexual propagations by, for example, cuttings and grafting.

Variations of the usual magnitude from the characteristics
described herein may occur with changes in any of a variety
of factors such as growing conditions, irrigation, fertiliza-
tion, pruning, management and climatic variation.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

The accompanying color photographic illustration shows
typical specimens of the foliage and fruit of the present new
grape variety ‘Sugrafiftyfive’. The illustration shows the
upper and lower surfaces of the leaves and exterior and
sectional views of the fruit. The photographic illustration
was taken shortly after the fruit was picked and the colors
are as nearly true as is reasonably possible in a color
representation of this type.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE
PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Throughout this specification, color names beginning with a small letter signify that the name of that color, as used in common speech, is aptly descriptive. Color names beginning with a capital letter designate values based upon The R.H.S. Colour Chart, published by The Royal Horticultural Society, London, England, 1986.

Many of the descriptive values in this specification are based on and conform to those set forth by the International Board for Plant Genetic Resources Institute Grape Descriptors (*Vitis* spp.) of 1983 and/or 1997, which was developed in collaboration with the Office International de la Vigne et du Vin (OIV) and the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV).

The descriptive matter which follows pertains to three-year-old 'Sugrafiftyfive' plants grown in the vicinity of Wasco, Kern County, Calif. during 2018, and is believed to apply to plants of the variety grown under similar conditions of soil and climate elsewhere.

VINE

General: (Measurements taken on a three year old plant).

Vine size.—Large. Height: Approximately 2.0 m.

Width: Approximately 2.5 m.

Vigor.—Vigorous.

Density of foliage.—Dense.

Productivity.—Very productive.

Crop load.—Approximately 34 kg per vine after thinning.

Own root.—Yes.

Training method.—Typically cane pruned leaving six canes.

Resistance.—Average resistance and susceptibility to diseases or pests of *Vitis vinifera* species.

Trunk:

Shape.—Stocky.

Diameter.—Approximately 7.5 cm (at 30 cm above the soil line).

Straps.—Short.

Surface texture.—Medium shaggy.

Inner and outer bark color.—Outer bark about Medium Greyed-Orange 166C and Medium Greyed-Orange 173C weathering to about Medium Greyed-Green 197B in outer bark.

SHOOTS

Young shoot:

Form of tip.—Wide open.

Intensity of anthocyanin coloration of tip.—Absent or very weak.

Density of prostrate hairs on tip.—Sparse.

Density of erect hairs on tip.—Absent or very sparse.

Color.—About Medium Yellow-Green 144C.

Woody shoot (observations made in the middle third of shoot):

Attitude before tying.—Semi-drooping.

Growth of axillary shoots.—Medium, mainly 17 cm to 21 cm.

Internode length.—Short, approximately 70 mm to 90 mm.

Width at node.—Approximately 13 mm to 15 mm.

Cross section.—Circular.

Surface texture.—Striated.

Main color.—About Medium Greyed-Orange 166C.

Color of dorsal side of internode.—About Medium Greyed-Orange 166C.

Color of ventral side of internode.—About Medium Greyed-Orange 166D.

Color of dorsal side of node.—About Medium Yellow-Green 146C with Medium Greyed-Orange 166D.

Color of ventral side of node.—About Medium Yellow-Green 146C with Medium Greyed-Orange 166D.

Density of erect hairs on nodes.—Absent or Very Sparse.

Density of erect hairs on internodes.—Absent or Very Sparse.

Density of prostrate hairs on internodes.—Absent or Very Sparse.

Density of prostrate hairs on nodes.—Absent or Very Sparse.

Tendrils:

Distribution on the shoot at full flowering.—Discontinuous.

Thickness.—Approximately 4 mm.

Color.—About Light Yellow-Green 144D in mid-summer.

Form.—Bifurcated.

Number of consecutive tendrils.—Up to two.

Length of tendril.—Medium, approximately 15 cm to 19 cm.

LEAVES

Young leaves:

Color of upper surface of first 4 distal unfolded leaves.—About Medium Green 138B.

Average intensity of anthocyanin coloration of six distal leaves prior to flowering.—Absent.

Density of prostrate hairs between veins at lower surface of 4th distal unfolded leaf.—Absent or very sparse.

Density of erect hairs between veins at lower surface of 4th distal unfolded leaf.—Absent or very sparse.

Density of prostrate hairs on veins at lower surface of 4th distal unfolded leaf.—Absent or very sparse.

Density of erect hairs on veins at lower surface of 4th distal unfolded leaf.—Absent or very sparse.

Mature leaves (observations made on leaves in the middle third of shoot):

Average length.—Large, approximately 130 mm.

Average width.—Large, approximately 200 mm.

Shape of blade.—Pentagonal.

Number of lobes.—Approximately five.

Mature leaf profile.—Undulate.

Blistering surface of blade upper surface.—Absent or very weak.

Leaf blade tip.—In the plane of the leaf.

Undulation of margin.—Slight.

Thickness.—Average — typical of *Vitis vinifera* species.

Overall shape of teeth.—Mixture of both sides straight and both sides convex.

Length of teeth.—Medium, ranging from about 4 mm to 10 mm.

Ratio length/width of teeth.—Very small, nearly 1:1.

General shape of petiole sinus lobes.—Half open.

Tooth at petiole sinus.—Absent.

- Petiole sinus limited by veins.*—Absent.
- Shape of upper lateral sinus lobes.*—Usually slightly open, some closed.
- Depth of upper lateral sinuses.*—Deep, approximately 50 mm to 70 mm.
- Density of prostrate hairs between veins on lower surface of blade.*—Absent to very sparse.
- Density of erect hairs between veins on lower surface of blade.*—Absent to very sparse.
- Density of prostrate hairs on main veins on lower surface of blade.*—Absent to very sparse.
- Density of erect hairs on main veins on lower surface of blade.*—Absent to very sparse.
- Density of prostrate hairs on main veins on upper surface of blade.*—Absent to very sparse.
- Autumn coloration of leaves.*—Mainly about Dark Green 139A but some leaves are mixed Dark Green 138A with Dark Greyed-Purple 187A and Dark Yellow-Green 154A.
- Upper leaf surface:
- Color.*—About Dark Green 139A.
- Surface texture.*—Smooth, dull.
- Surface appearance.*—Dull.
- Anthocyanin coloration of main veins.*—Absent or very sparse.
- Lower leaf surface:
- Color.*—About Dark Green 138A.
- Surface texture.*—Smooth, dull.
- Surface appearance.*—Dull.
- Anthocyanin coloration of main veins.*—Absent or very sparse.
- Petiole:
- Length of petiole.*—Approximately 80 mm.
- Diameter.*—Approximately 4 mm.
- Length of petiole compared to middle vein.*—Much shorter, 80 mm petiole compared to 140 mm middle vein.
- Density of prostrate hairs on petiole.*—Absent.
- Density of erect hairs on petiole.*—Absent.
- Color.*—About Medium Yellow-Green 147C.
- Buds:
- Shape.*—Conical.
- Size.*—Medium, approximately 3 mm wide×4 mm long.
- Position.*—Slightly held out.
- Bud fruitfulness.*—Good fertility, mostly fruitful in 3rd to 5th bud position with average of two clusters per shoot.
- Time of bud burst.*—Early, approximately March 8th, for the region of the Southern San Joaquin Valley, Calif.

FLOWERS

- General:
- Flower type.*—Fully developed stamen and fully developed gynoecium.
- Position of first flowering node.*—Usually 4th to 5th node of current season growth.
- Number of inflorescences per shoot.*—Average 2.
- Time of full bloom.*—Early for the area of the Southern San Joaquin Valley, Calif. Approximately April 30th.

FRUIT

- General:
- Ripening period.*—Very early, beginning about July 5th with mid-ripe about July 10th in the area of the Southern San Joaquin Valley, Calif.
- Use.*—Fresh market.
- Storage quality.*—Excellent.
- Cluster:
- Form.*—Conical, shouldered.
- Cluster size (peduncle excluded).*—Large.
- Cluster length (peduncle excluded).*—Approximately 240 mm.
- Cluster width.*—Approximately 160 mm.
- Cluster weight.*—Approximately 750 g.
- Cluster density.*—Medium, loose and full.
- Number of berries.*—Approximately 85.
- Peduncle:
- Length.*—Medium, approximately 23 mm.
- Diameter.*—Approximately 6 mm.
- Lignification of peduncle.*—Weak.
- Color.*—About Medium Yellow-Green 146C.
- Berry:
- Size.*—Very large, approximately 8 g.
- Dimensions.*—Longitudinal axis: Approximately 26 mm. Horizontal axis: Approximately 22 mm.
- Uniformity of size.*—Uniform.
- Shape.*—Broad elliptic.
- Cross section.*—Circular.
- Skin color (without bloom).*—About Dark Greyed-Purple 187A.
- Flesh color.*—Usually about Medium Green 138B near the center and about Dark Greyed-White 156D around the perimeter beneath the skin. Occasionally some Medium Red 41B developing around the perimeter as the berry matures.
- Anthocyanin color of flesh.*—Weak.
- Bloom (cuticular wax).*—Medium.
- Pedicel length.*—Approximately 9 mm.
- Pedicel thickness.*—Medium, approximately 1.8 mm.
- Berry separation from pedicel.*—Difficult.
- Seed traces.*—Berries contain 1 to 3 about Dark Greyed-White 156B rudimentary soft seed traces per berry.
- Berry firmness.*—Very firm.
- Flesh juiciness.*—Juicy.
- Flesh texture.*—Crisp.
- Particular flavor.*—Low-acid with tropical aroma.
- Refractometer test.*—Approximately 18 Brix.
- Juice pH.*—Approximately 3.6.
- Titrate acidity.*—Approximately 0.49%.
- Brix:acid ratio.*—Approximately 38.8.
- Skin:
- Skin thickness.*—Medium, about 175 μm.
- Skin texture.*—Smooth.
- Skin reticulation.*—Absent.
- Skin tenacity.*—Tenacious to flesh.
- Skin tendency to crack.*—Low.
- Skin sensitivity to sunburn.*—None or very low.

What is claimed is:

1. A new and distinct variety of grapevine as herein illustrated and described.

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