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**Winslow**

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(54) **LOBELIA PLANT NAMED ‘WNLOLASKBL’**

(50) Latin Name: *Lobelia erinus*  
Varietal Denomination: **WNLOLASKBL**

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35  
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**A01H 6/26** (2018.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

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(58) **Field of Classification Search**

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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Lobelia* plant named ‘WNLO-  
LASKBL’, characterized by its upright to outwardly spread-  
ing and mounding to trailing plant habit; vigorous growth  
habit; freely branching habit; dense and bushy plant form;  
freely flowering habit; long flowering period; purplish blue-  
colored flowers; and relative high temperature tolerance and  
good garden performance.

**2 Drawing Sheets**

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Botanical designation: *Lobelia erinus*.  
Cultivar denomination: ‘WNLOLASKBL’.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar  
of *Lobelia* plant, botanically known as *Lobelia erinus* and  
hereinafter referred to by the name ‘WNLOLASKBL’.

The new *Lobelia* plant is a product of a planned breeding  
program conducted by the Inventor in Alajuela, Costa Rica  
and Carleton, Mich. The objective of the breeding program  
is to create new outwardly spreading, freely-branching and  
bushy *Lobelia* plants with a long flowering period, high  
temperature tolerance and good garden performance.

The new *Lobelia* plant originated from a cross-pollination  
made by the Inventor in Alajuela, Costa Rica in November,  
2016 of *Lobelia erinus* ‘Lobtrawi’, disclosed in U.S. Plant  
Pat. No. 18,216, as the female, or seed, parent with *Lobelia*  
*erinus* ‘Weslosnowhi’, not patented, as the male, or pollen,  
parent. The new *Lobelia* plant was discovered and selected  
by the Inventor as a single flowering plant within the  
progeny of the stated cross-pollination in a controlled green-  
house environment in Carleton, Mich. on Nov. 1, 2017.

Asexual reproduction of the *Lobelia* plant by vegetative  
terminal cuttings in Carleton, Mich. since Nov. 15, 2017 has  
shown that the unique features of this new *Lobelia* plant are  
stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

Plants of the new *Lobelia* have not been observed under  
all possible combinations of environmental conditions and  
cultural practices. The phenotype may vary somewhat with  
variations in environmental conditions such as temperature  
and light intensity without, however, any variance in geno-  
type.

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The following traits have been repeatedly observed and  
are determined to be the unique characteristics of ‘WNLO-  
LASKBL’. These characteristics in combination distinguish  
‘WNLOLASKBL’ as a new and distinct *Lobelia* plant:

1. Upright to outwardly spreading and mounding to  
trailing plant habit.
2. Vigorous growth habit.
3. Freely branching habit; dense and bushy plant form.
4. Freely flowering habit.
5. Long flowering period.
6. Purplish blue-colored flowers.
7. Relative high temperature tolerance and good garden  
performance.

Plants of the new *Lobelia* differ primarily from plants of  
the female, parent, ‘Lobtrawi’, in the following character-  
istics:

1. Plants of the new *Lobelia* are more high temperature  
tolerant than plants of ‘Lobtrawi’.
2. Plants of the new *Lobelia* and ‘Lobtrawi’ differ in  
flower color as plants of the new *Lobelia* have purplish  
blue-colored flowers whereas plants of ‘Lobtrawi’ have  
white-colored flowers.

Plants of the new *Lobelia* differ primarily from plants of  
the male, parent, ‘Weslosnowhi’, in the following charac-  
teristics:

1. Plants of the new *Lobelia* are more vigorous than and  
not as compact as plants of ‘Weslosnowhi’.
2. Plants of the new *Lobelia* and ‘Weslosnowhi’ differ in  
flower color as plants of the new *Lobelia* have purplish  
blue-colored flowers whereas plants of ‘Weslosnowhi’  
have white-colored flowers.

Plants of the new *Lobelia* can be compared to plants of  
*Lobelia erinus* ‘Loboudtis’, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No.  
15,526. In side-by-side comparisons, plants of the new  
*Lobelia* differ primarily from plants of ‘Loboudtis’ in the  
following characteristics:



1. Plants of the new *Lobelia* are more freely flowering than plants of 'Loboudtis'.
2. Plants of the new *Lobelia* have larger flowers than plants of 'Loboudtis'.
3. Plants of the new *Lobelia* flower more freely and for a longer period of time under high temperature conditions than plants of 'Loboudtis'.

Plants of the new *Lobelia* can also be compared to plants of *Lobelia erinus* 'Tech Helitbule', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 19,067. In side-by-side comparisons, plants of the new *Lobelia* differ primarily from plants of 'Tech Helitbule' in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Lobelia* are more trailing than plants of 'Tech Helitbule'.
2. Plants of the new *Lobelia* have larger flowers than plants of 'Tech Helitbule'.
3. Plants of the new *Lobelia* flower more freely under high temperature conditions than plants of 'Tech Helitbule'.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying colored photographs illustrate the overall appearance of the new *Lobelia* plant showing the colors as true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored reproductions of this type. Colors in the photographs may differ slightly from the color values cited in the detailed botanical description which accurately describe the actual colors of the new *Lobelia* plant.

The photograph on the first sheet (FIG. 1 of 2) comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'WNLOLASKBL' grown in a container.

The photograph on the second sheet (FIG. 2 of 2) is a close-up view of a typical flowering plant of 'WNLOLASKBL'.

#### DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photographs and following observations and measurements describe plants grown during the autumn and winter in 10.8-cm containers in a glass-covered greenhouse in Loudon N.H. and under cultural practices typical of commercial *Lobelia* production. During the production of the plants, day and night temperatures averaged 19° C. Plants were pinched three weeks after planting and were nine weeks from planting rooted cuttings when the photographs and description were taken. In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 2015 Edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used. Botanical classification: *Lobelia erinus* 'WNLOLASKBL'. Parentage:

*Female, or seed, parent.*—*Lobelia erinus* 'Lobtrawi', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 18,216.

*Male, or pollen, parent.*—*Lobelia erinus* 'Weslosnowhi', not patented.

#### Propagation:

*Type cutting.*—Vegetative terminal cuttings.

*Time to initiate roots, summer.*—About seven days at soil temperatures about 21° C. to 24° C.

*Time to initiate roots, winter.*—About ten days at soil temperatures about 18° C. to 21° C.

*Time to produce a rooted young plant, summer.*—About four weeks at soil temperatures about 21° C. to 24° C.

*Time to produce a rooted young plant, winter.*—About five weeks at soil temperatures about 16° C. to 18° C.

*Root description.*—Fine, fibrous; typically white in color, actual color of the roots is dependent on substrate composition, water quality, fertilizer type and formulation, substrate temperature and physiological age of roots.

*Rooting habit.*—Moderately freely branching; medium density.

#### Plant description:

*Plant and growth habit.*—Upright to outwardly spreading and mounding to trailing plant habit; freely branching habit with lateral branches developing at potentially every node; dense and bushy plant habit; vigorous growth habit and rapid growth rate.

*Plant height.*—About 17 cm.

*Plant width.*—About 35 cm.

*Lateral branch description.*—Length: About 20 cm. Diameter: About 3 mm. Internode length: About 1 cm. Strength: Strong, flexible. Aspect: Upright to outwardly spreading. Texture: Fine pubescence, dense. Color: Close to between 144A and 146A.

#### Leaf description:

*Arrangement.*—Alternate, simple.

*Length.*—About 3.1 cm.

*Width.*—About 2.9 cm.

*Shape.*—Broadly ovate.

*Apex.*—Obtuse.

*Base.*—Cuneate with truncate tendencies.

*Margin.*—Crenate; moderately undulate.

*Texture and luster, upper and lower surfaces.*—Fine pubescence; slightly glossy.

*Venation pattern.*—Pinnate.

*Color.*—Developing leaves, upper surface: More green than 146A. Developing leaves, lower surface: Close to 146A to 146B. Fully expanded leaves, upper surface: Close to 147A; venation, close to between 146A and 147A. Fully expanded leaves, lower surface: Close to 146A heavily overlain with close to 187A; venation, similar to lamina.

*Petioles.*—Length: About 1.1 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Texture and luster: Fine pubescence; slightly glossy. Color, upper surface: Close to 146A; proximally, close to 144A. Color, lower surface: Close to 144A to 144B.

#### Flower description:

*Flower arrangement, habit and shape.*—Flowers typically arranged in terminal and lateral racemes; flowers face mostly outwardly; freely flowering habit with about seven to ten flowers per inflorescence and multiple inflorescences developing during the flowering season; flowers bilabiate with two upper petals and three larger lower petals.

*Fragrance.*—None detected.

*Natural flowering season.*—In New Hampshire, plants of the new *Lobelia* flower continuously from planting in the spring until frost in the autumn; early flowering habit, plants begin flowering about three to four weeks after planting.

*Flower longevity on the plant.*—Longevity of individual flowers is highly dependent on temperature, flowers typically last about 10 to 14 days on the plant; flowers persistent.

*Inflorescence length.*—About 9 cm to 12 cm.



*Inflorescence diameter*.—About 3 cm to 5 cm.

*Flower diameter*.—About 2 cm by 1.75 cm.

*Flower depth*.—About 2 cm.

*Flower throat diameter*.—About 4 mm.

*Flower tube length*.—About 1 cm.

*Flower tube diameter, distally*.—About 5 mm.

*Flower tube diameter, proximally*.—About 2.5 mm.

*Flower buds*.—Length: About 7.5 mm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Shape: Columnar. Color: Close to 145A.

*Petals*.—Arrangement: Single whorl of five petals fused towards the base; two upper petals and three larger lower petals. Upper petals: Length, beyond throat: About 9 mm. Width: About 2 mm. Shape: Oblanceolate. Apex: Acute to cuspidate. Margin: Entire; not undulate. Texture and luster, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; matte. Lower petals: Length, beyond throat: About 1 cm. Width: About 7.5 mm. Shape: Obovate. Apex: Cuspidate. Margin: Entire; not undulate. Texture and luster, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; matte. Color, upper and lower petals: When opening and fully opened, upper surface: Close to 96B to 96C; venation, close to 96A to 96B; with development, color becoming closer to 96D. When opening and fully opened, lower surface: Close to 97B; venation, close to 97B; with development, color becoming closer to 97C. Color, throat, upper petals: Close to 97C. Color, throat, lower petals: Close to 97C; chevrons, close to 96A; nectar guides, close to 2D. Color, tube, upper and lower petals: Close to 97B to 97C.

*Sepals*.—Arrangement: Single whorl of five sepals, fused at the base; star-shaped calyx. Length: About 9 mm. Width: About 1 mm. Shape: Acicular. Apex: Acute. Margin: Entire; not undulate. Texture and luster, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; slightly glossy. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 146A.

*Pedicels*.—Length: About 2.5 cm. Diameter: Less than 1 mm. Strength: Strong, flexible. Texture and luster: Smooth, glabrous; slightly glossy. Color: Close to 144A.

*Reproductive organs*.—Stamens: Quantity per flower: Five. Filament length: About 4.5 mm. Filament color: Close to 97A. Anther size: About 0.5 mm by 2 mm. Anther shape: Oblong. Anther color: Close to N187B. Pollen amount: None observed. Pistils: Quantity per flower: One. Pistil length: About 8 mm. Stigma shape: Globose. Stigma color: Close to N187A. Style color: Close to 144A to 144B. Ovary color: Close to 144A.

*Fruits and seeds*.—To date, fruit and seed development have not been observed on plants of the new *Lobelia*.

Pathogen & pest resistance: To date, plants of the new *Lobelia* have not been noted to be resistant to pathogens and pests common to *Lobelia* plants.

Garden performance: Plants of the new *Lobelia* have been observed to have good garden performance and to tolerate wind, rain and to be relatively tolerant to high temperature conditions.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Lobelia* plant named 'WNLOLAS-KBL' as illustrated and described.

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FIG. 1

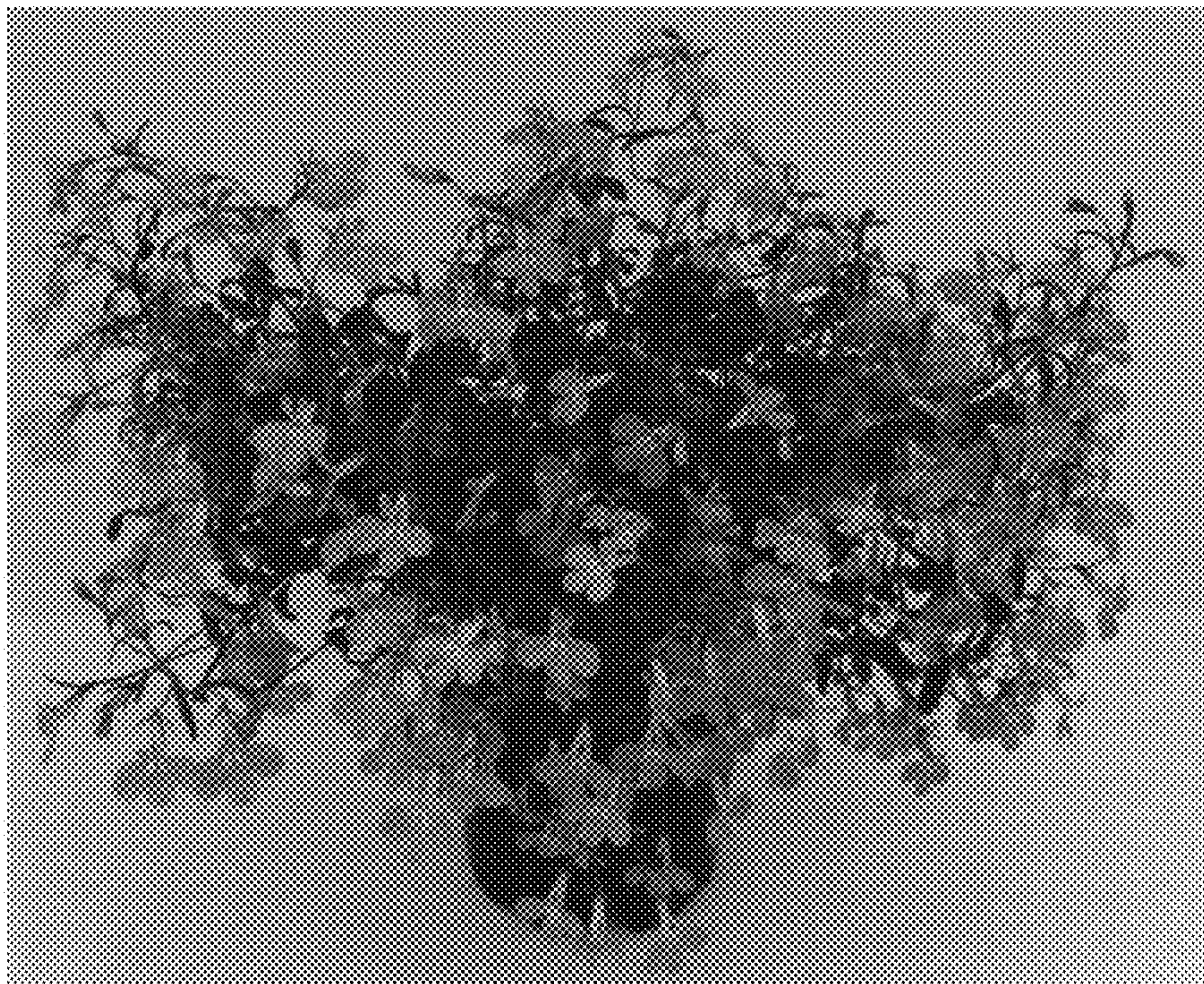




FIG. 2

