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Kahn et al.

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(54) ***CANNABIS* PLANT NAMED 'V3'**

(50) Latin Name: ***Cannabis sativa***
Varietal Denomination: **V3**

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A01H 6/28	(2018.01)
A61K 36/185	(2006.01)

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USPC **Plt./258**
CPC ***A01H 6/28*** (2018.05); *A61K 36/185* (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
USPC Plt./258, 263.1
CPC ... A01H 5/02; A01H 5/12; A01H 5/00; A01H 6/28; A61K 36/185
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

PUBLICATIONS

Hazelkamp et al. *Cannabis*: From Cultivar to Chemovar II—A Metabolomics Approach to *Cannabis* Classification, *Cannabis* and Cannabinoid Research, vol. 1.1, 2016 retrieved on Mar. 23, 2020, retrieved from the Internet at https://www.liebertpub.com/doi/pdfplus/10.1089/can.2016.0017, pp. 202-217. (Year: 2016).*

* cited by examiner

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

The new *Cannabis* plant variety *C. sativa* 'V3' is provided. 'V3' is intended for use as medicinal herb for sale in *Cannabis* dispensaries and for use in the manufacture of medicinal and recreational products. The variety can be distinguished by its outstanding feature of increased production of tetrahydrocannabivarin (THCV).

6 Drawing Sheets

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Latin name of the genus and species: Genus—*Cannabis*. Species—*sativa*.

Variety denomination: The new *Cannabis* plant claimed is of the variety denominated 'V3'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct annual variety of *C. sativa*, which has been given the variety denomination of 'V3'. Its market class is that of a medicinal herb. 'V3 is intended for use as medicinal herb containing tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), tetrahydrocannabivarin (THCV). 'V3' is intended for use as a medicinal herb for sale in *Cannabis* dispensaries and for use in the manufacture of medicinal and recreational products.

The new *C. sativa* variety is a selection resulting from initial genetic selection of *C. sativa* varieties from Durban, South Africa and Malawi, Morocco to cultivate that had the potential for higher production of THCV. Plants were initially bred within greenhouses in Laytonville, Calif. before being acclimatized to outdoor conditions. After acclimatization, vegetative *C. sativa* plants were tested for THCV levels using chromatography. The highest THCV producing male and female plants were selected for breeding. The

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female parent F12 (not patented) of THC content 0.55% and THCV content 1.27% was cross bred to *C. sativa* male parent M31 (not patented) of THC content 6.14% and THCV content 1.24% to generate the F1 progeny. Cannabinoid production of the F1 progeny was measured beginning in 2016 and used to determine single plants to propagate. F1 females having breeding record numbers Ma2, Ma3, Ma4, Ma5, Ma6, and Ma8 were open-pollinated with F1 males having breeding record numbers Ma1, Ma7, Ma9, and Ma10. F2 seeds were planted and F2 plants were selected for THCV production and vigor. The new variety was discovered and selected as a single plant from this cross of F1 parents, and was subsequently propagated clonally in Laytonville, Calif., U.S.A.

The selection was subsequently evaluated for 3 years in Laytonville, Calif., U.S.A. Individual plants are initially propagated within a greenhouse without supplemental lighting. Plants are transferred to outdoor growth once established.

Asexual reproduction of the new variety by stem cutting propagation since 2018 at Mendo Love Farms in Laytonville, Calif., U.S.A has demonstrated that the new variety reproduces true to type with all the characteristics, as herein

described, firmly fixed and retained through successive generations of such asexual propagation.

HISTORICAL NOTE

Human cultivation history of *Cannabis* dates back 8000 years (Schultes, R. E. 1970. Random thoughts and queries on the botany of *Cannabis*. Pages 11-38 in: C R B Joyce, and S H Curry eds., THE BOTANY AND CHEMISTRY OF *CANNABIS*. J. & A. Churchill. London, England (1970)). Hemp cloth recovered in Europe dates back 6000 years (Small, F., Beckstead, H D., and Chan, A. 29(3) ECONOMIC BOTANY 219-232. (1975)). The written record of the pharmacologic properties of *Cannabis* goes back more than 4000 years (Ti, H. 2737BCE. Nei Jing Su Wen Huang Ti (Yellow Emperor's Classic on Internal Medicine; referred to without citation in Small, et al. (1975) Supra).

The taxonomy and nomenclature of the highly variable genus *Cannabis* (Emboden, W A., 29(3) ECONOMIC BOTANY 304-310. (1974)); (Small, E. and Cronquist, A. 25(4) TAXON 405-435 (1976)); (Small, E. and Cronquist, A. 26(1) TAXON 110 (1977)); (Hillig, K W and Mahlberg, P G, 91(6) American Journal of Botany 966-975 (2004)); remains in question. This is in spite of the fact that its formal scientific name, '*Cannabis sativa* L.', assigned by Carolus Linneaus (Linneaus, C, 2 SPECIES PLANTARIUM 1027 (1753), Salvius, Stockholm. Fascimile edition, 1957-1959. Ray Society, London, U.K.) is one of the oldest established names in botanical history and is still accepted to this day. Another species in the genus, '*Cannabis indica* Lam.' was formally named somewhat later (de Lamarck, J B, 1(2) ENCYLOPEDIE METHODIQUE DE BOTANIQUE, 694-5, (1785)), but is still very old in botanical history.

Three other species names were proposed in the 1800s to distinguish plants with presumably different characteristics (*C. macrosperma* Stokes, *C. chinensis* Delile, *C. gigantea* Vilmorin), none of which are accepted today, although the epithet "*indica*" lives on as a subspecies of *C. sativa* (*C. sativa* ssp. *indica* Lam., Small and Cronquist 1976 Supra).

In the 20th century, two new names were added to the liturgy of proposed *Cannabis* species: *C. ruderalis* Janischevsky and a hybrid x *C. interstita* Sojak. (Small, E, Jui, P Y, and Lefkovitch, L P, 1(1) SYSTEMATIC BOTANY 67-84 (1976)); Small and Cronquist 1976, Supra). Further, numerous names have been proposed for horticultural variants of '*Cannabis*' but as of 1976, "very few of these have been validly published as formal taxa under the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature." (Small and Cronquist, 1976 Supra.) Moreover, other recent work continues to focus on higher-order evolutionary relationships of the genus. *Cannabis* has been variously ascribed as belonging to the mulberry family (Moraceae) (Engler, H G A, Ulmaceae, Moraceae and Urticaceae, pages 59-118 (1889) in: A. Engler and K. Prantl eds., DIE NATURLICHEN PFLANZENFAMILIEN 3(1). W. Engelmann, Leipzeig, Germany; Judd, W S, Sanders, R W, and Donogue, M J, 5 HARVARD PAPERS IN BOTANY 5: 1-51 (1994)); nettle family (Urticaceae) (Berg, C C, Systematics and phylogeny of the Urticales, pages 193-220, in: P. R. Crane and S. Blackmore eds., EVOLUTION, SYSTEMATIC, AND FOSSIL HISTORY OF THE HAMAMELIDAE, VOL 2, HIGHER HAMAMELIDAE, Clarendon Press, Oxford, U.K. (1989); Humphries, C J and Blackmore, S. A review of the classification of the Moraceae, pages 267-277 In: Crane and Blackmore 1989 id.); and most recently in its own family with hops (Humulus), the Cannabaceae, or hemp family (Sytsma, K J et al. 89(9) AMERICAN JOURNAL OF BOTANY 1531-1546 (2002)). While the work of Small and Cronquist 1976 Supra, seemed to effectively confine the genus to a single species with 2 subspecies (*C. sativa* s., *C.* s. *indica*), each with two varieties (*C. s. s.* var. *sativa, C. s. s.* var. *spontanea; C. s. i.* var. *indica, C. s. i.* var. *kafiristanica*) largely on the basis of chemotaxonomy and interfertility of all forms. More-recent work (Systema, et al. 2002, Supra), proposes a two-species concept, resurrecting the binomial *C. indica* Lam. Since Systema, et al. 2002 provides no key for discriminating between the species, the dichotomous key of Small and Cronquist 1976 Supra, which accounts for all forms in nature, whether wild or domesticated, was used to classify the characteristics of the plants described herein.

The active ingredients in *Cannabis* are cannabinoids and include THC and THCV. Cannabinoids are of interest for their effects on the body through the endogenous cannabinoid system that is an integral part of the central nervous system.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The aim for the development of the new *C. sativa* variety, 'V3', was to produce a variety featuring increased THCV levels relative to THC levels. These phytocannabinoids in *Cannabis* are known for their ability to signal through the human endocannabinoid system. THC is found in the form of tetrahydrocannabolic acid (THCA) that is converted to THC during drying or under high heat. Similarly, THCV in live plants is in the form of tetrahydrocannivarin carboxylic acid (THCVA). THC and THCV both bind to the cannabinoid receptors 1 (CB_1) and 2 (CB_2). Binding of CB_1 by its endogenous ligands, anandamide or 2-arachidonoylglycerol, stimulates food intake (Silvestri, C., Di Marzo, V. 17 Cell Metabolism 475-490 (2013)). THC acts as an agonist of CB_1 and stimulates appetite while THCV is a mild antagonist of CB_1 lessens sensations of hunger (Pertwee, R G. 153 British Journal of Pharmacology 199-215 (2008)). The ability of THCV to act as an antagonist of CB_1 has led to investigation of using THCV to treat metabolic syndrome and obesity (Riedel, G., et al., 156 British Journal of Pharmacology 1154-1166 (2009)). Selection of a variety producing increased amounts of THCV allows optimized isolation of THCV which may be used in treatment of metabolic syndrome.

Plants of the new variety differ from typical *C. sativa* plants in increased production of THCV compared to THC as determined by cannabinoid testing performed by an independent testing company. 'V3' is a new variety with increased production of THCV compared to standard varieties of *C. sativa*. The enhanced production of THCV makes 'V3' a variety of interest for production of medicinal THCV.

TABLE 1

Exemplary Profiles of Key Cannabinoids.

Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
d9-THC	0.02	0.03	0.05	0.08	0.10
THCA	1.88	2.81	4.65	6.70	8.04
Total THC*	1.67	2.50	4.13	5.96	7.15
THCV	0.00	0.01	0.03	0.18	0.22
THCVA	1.37	1.94	2.88	4.23	5.08
THCV + THCVA	1.37	1.95	2.91	4.41	5.30

TABLE 1-continued

Exemplary Profiles of Key Cannabinoids.

Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
CBG + CBGA	0.16	0.28	0.58	1.03	1.24
CBCA	0.05	0.07	0.12	0.37	0.45
Total Cannabinoid	3.25	4.80	7.77	12.04	14.45
THCV/THC (%)	82	78	70	74	74
THCV/Total Cannabinoid (%)	42	40	37	37	37

*Total THC = (THCA * 0.877) + THC (i.e. delta 9 THC) + delta 8 THC

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PICTURES

The accompanying photographs show the typical appearance of the new variety 'V3'. The colors are as nearly true as is reasonably possible in a color representation of this type. Colors in the photographs may differ slightly from the actual appearance.

FIG. **1** is a photograph of the new variety 'V3' at about age 18 weeks in Laytonville, Calif., U.S.A. in a 200-gallon container. The photograph was taken in July 2018.

FIG. **2** is a photograph of the new variety 'V3' at about age 28 weeks in its flowering stage in Laytonville, Calif., U.S.A. The photograph was taken in October 2018 and demonstrates small bud structure.

FIG. **3** is a photograph of the new variety 'V3' at about age 28-30 weeks in Laytonville, Calif., U.S.A.

FIG. **4** is a photograph of the new variety 'V3' at about age 28-30 weeks in its flowering stage in Laytonville, Calif., U.S.A. The photograph was taken in October 2018.

FIG. **5** is a photograph of the new variety 'V3' at about age 4-6 weeks in Laytonville, Calif., U.S.A. in a greenhouse. The photograph was taken in April/May 2018.

FIG. **6** is a photograph of the inflorescence of the new variety 'V3'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The following detailed description sets forth the distinctive characteristics of 'V3'. The data which define these characteristics were collected from asexual reproductions of the original selection. Dimensions, sizes, colors, and other characteristics are approximations and averages set forth as accurately as possible. The plant history was taken on plants approximately 3 breeding years of age, and the descriptions relate to plants grown in the field in Laytonville, Calif., U.S.A. Color notations are in reference to the standard digital RGB color-numbering system known to those of ordinary skill in color designation and color matching. Color measurements were taken and quantified using a commercially available color detection, quantification, and matching device. Color group hues and specific color names provided are based upon classification and naming used in the art of color matching and naming, such as can be found at www <dot> color-blindness <dot> com/color-name-hue-tool/color-name-hue.html.

Classification:

a. Family.—Cannabaceae.
b. Genus.—*Cannabis.*
c. Species.—*sativa.*
d. Common name.—Marijuana.

Market class: A medicinal herb intended for use as medical oil, and medicinal herb for sale in *Cannabis* dispensaries and for use in the manufacture of medicinal and recreational products.

PLANT

General:

a. Parentage.—i. Male parent — M31. ii. Female parent — F12.
b. Average height.—6 feet/2 meters in a 200 gallon smart pot, sun-grown.
c. Average spread.—Can be up to 10 feet in diameter.
d. Growth rate.—2 inches per day in the veg cycle.
e. Branching characteristics.—Sets of 2, matching or alternating.
f. Length of primary lateral branches.—1-2 meters.
g. Quantity of primary lateral branches.—10-25.
h. Characteristics of primary lateral branches.—i. Color — Green/tan; #8F867E hue/color group: Brown; color name: Schooner 143,134,126. ii. Texture — Sticky, undulated, gritty. iii. Strength — Soft to woody.
i. Cold hardiness.—Impeded growth under 45° F.
j. Cold tolerance.—Survives light snow.
k. Chilling requirement.—Flowers below 70° F.
l. Shipping tolerance.—High.
m. Flower storage life.—One year.
n. Productivity.—Variable on size, plant in 200 gallon container yields 2-3 pounds, plant in 5 gallon container yields 1-2 oz.
o. Disease resistance/susceptibility.—Strong disease resistance.
p. Pest resistance/susceptibility.—Resistant to spider mite and powdery mildew.
q. Proportion of hermaphrodite plants.—Low.
r. Proportion of female plants.—High/medium.
s. Proportion of male plants.—Medium.

STEM

General:

a. Average diameter.—2.5 inches plus/minus 1 inch.
b. Average length of internode.—At full maturity approximately 4 inches if grown in a 200 gallon smart pot in full sun.
c. Depth of grooves.—Shallow.
d. Pith in cross section.—Thick.
e. Trichome type.—Capitate sessile.
Color.—#726139 hue/color group: Brown; color name: Shingle Fawn 114,97,57.

LEAF

General:

a. Average length.—8 inches plus/minus 1 inch.
b. Average width.—4 inches to 6 inches.
c. Number of leaflets.—5-11 depending on plant size and maturity.
d. Central leaflet length.—5 inches plus/minus 1 inch.
e. Central leaflet width.—0.06 inches plus/minus 0.2.
f. Margin type.—Coarsely serrated, dentate.
g. Trichome type (*upper surface*).—Capitate Sessile.
h. Trichome type (*lower surface*).—Capitate Sessile.
i. Fragrance.—Herbaceous, Vernal, Grassy, Sweet.
j. Apex shape.—Elongated, pointed, thin.

k. Base shape.—Palmated.

l. Quantity.—Depending on plant size, high leaf to calyx ratio.

m. Leaf color (*top side*).—#32482A hue/color group: Green; color name: Palm Leaf 50,72,42.

n. Leaf color (*under side*).—#586B41 hue/color group: Green; color name: Chalet Green 88,107,65.

o. Leaf shape.—Coarsely serrated leaflets with symmetrically variable lengths.

PETIOLE

General:

a. Length.—8 mm-12 mm.

b. Surface texture.—Smooth to gritty depending on plant size and maturity.

c. Anthocyanin intensity.—Light in Veg state, medium in late flower.

d. Color.—#7FACBE hue/color group: Blue; color name: Glacier 127,172,190.

FEMALE FLOWER

General:

a. Natural flowering season.—November/December.

b. Bracteole.—i. Shape — Elongated, open cymes. ii. Trichome type — Capitate Sessile.

c. Stigma.—i. Size — 0.4 cm average. ii. Quantity — Two per bract. iii. Shape — Acute. iv. Trichome type — Capitate Sessile. v. Color — #6F5A3C hue/color group: Yellow; color name: Yellow Metal 111,90,60.

d. Stipule.—i. Size — 0.6 cm. ii. Quantity — 2 per pistillate flower. iii. Shape — Pointed, thin, blade like. iv. Trichome type — Capitate Sessile. v. Color — #3A5116 hue/color group: Green; color name: Verdun Green 58,81,22.

e. Bract.—i. Size — 0.1-0.6 cm. ii. Shape — Curved-vaselike, urn shaped. iii. Trichome type — Capitate sessile. iv. Color — #3B5A4E hue/color group: Green; color name: Plantation 59,90,78. v. Texture — Sticky, greasy.

SEEDS

General:

a. Marbling.—Medium.

COMPARISON BETWEEN PARENTAL AND COMMERCIAL VARIETIES

The new *C. sativa* variety 'V3' differs from the parental varieties, female F12 and male M31, by having an increased production of THCV, is larger in width and height than the F1 plants Ma1 through Ma8, grows more robustly, has much closer internodes, and stronger branches.

Compared to related varieties, 'V3' differs from 'V1' (U.S. Plant patent application Ser. No. 16/602,084) and 'V2' (U.S. Plant patent application Ser. No. 16/602,085) in that 'V3' has coarsely serrated leaflets that are longer than 'V1' and 'V2'. 'V3' is higher in THC than THCV and finishes sooner than 'V1 and 'V2', which include a later flowering cycle and also later development/showing of sex. 'V3' also differs from 'V1' and 'V2' with respect to color characteristics of various structures of the two plants, even when grown under the same conditions. Table 2 provides differences in color between 'V1', 'V2' and 'V3' varieties.

TABLE 2

Color comparison between 'V2' and related varieties

	'V1'	'V2'	'V3'
Primary lateral branches	#99866B hue/color group: Brown; color name: Pale Oyster 153,134,107	#998D71 hue/color group: Brown; color name: Pale Oyster 153,141,113	#8F867E hue/color group: Brown; color name: Schooner 143,134,126
Stem	#7B6847 hue/color group: Green; color name: Go Ben 123,104,71	#8B7353 hue/color group: Green; color name: Shadow 139,115,83	#726139 hue/color group: Brown; color name: Shingle Fawn 114,97,57
Top side leaf color	#2E4626 hue/color group: Green; color name: Palm Leaf 46,70,38	#405A39 hue/color group: Green; color name: Palm Leaf 64,90,57	#32482A hue/color group: Green; color name: Palm Leaf 50,72,42
Under side leaf color	#5F6A47 hue/color group: Green; color name: Woodland 95,106,71	#718266 hue/color group: Green; color name: Camouflage Green 113,130,102	#586B41 hue/color group: Green; color name: Chalet Green 88,107,65
Petiole	#7C613B hue/color group: Brown; color name: Shingle Fawn 124,97,59	#A8A65B hue/color group: Green; color name: Green Smoke 168,166,91	#7FACBE hue/color group: Blue; color name: Glacier 127,172,190
Bracteole	#544D20 hue/color group: Yellow; color name: Bronze Olive 84,77,32	#535B36 hue/color group: Green; color name: Clover 83,91,54	N/A
Stigma	#585635 hue/color group: Yellow; color name: Thatch Green 88,86,53	#5E512D hue/color group: Yellow; color name: West Coast 94,81,45	#6F5A3C hue/ color group: Yellow; color name: Yellow Metal 111,90,60
Stipule	#4D461C hue/color group: Green color name: Army Green 77,70,28	#7A7A27 hue/color group: Yellow; color name: Pesto 122,122,39	#3A5116 hue/color group: Green; color name: Verdun Green 58,81,22
Bract	#535736 hue/color group: Green; color name: Waiouru 83,87,54	#6E6344 hue/color group: Brown; color name: Tobacco Brown 110,99,68	#3B5A4E hue/color group: Green; color name: Plantation 59,90,78

The new *C. sativa* variety 'V3' differs from variety 'Ecuadorian *Sativa*' (U.S. Pat. No. 27,475) in several characteristics. 'V3' is narrower in leaf structure than 'Ecuadorian *Sativa*' Other differences are provided in Table 3:

TABLE 3

Differences between 'V3' and 'Ecuadorian Sativa'

	'V3'	'Ecuadorian Sativa'
Aroma	Herbaceous, vernal grassy sweet	Strongly mephitic, with hints of limonene
Leaf Margin	Finely serrated	Coarsely serrated
Central leaflets	5 inches long with a plus/minus of 1 inch	10-12 cm long
Central leaflet width	0.7 inches with a plus minus of 0.2 inches	2.8 cm
Petiole	2 inches with a plus/ minus of 0.25 inches	9-10 cm at maturity
Stigma	0.4 cm	5-7 mm

The invention claimed is:

1. A new and distinct variety of *Cannabis* plant named 'V3', as illustrated and described herein.

* * * * *

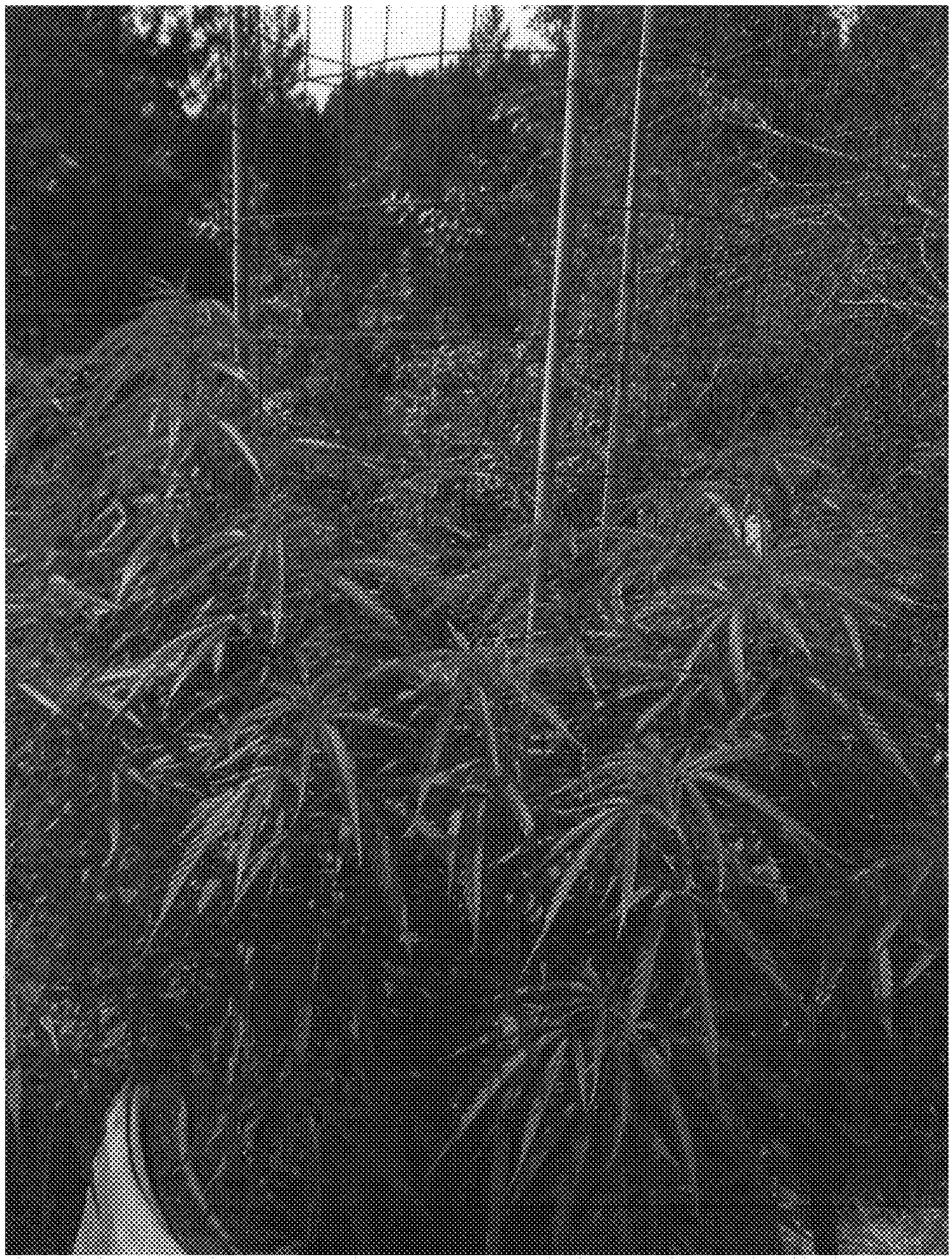

FIG. 1

FIG. 2

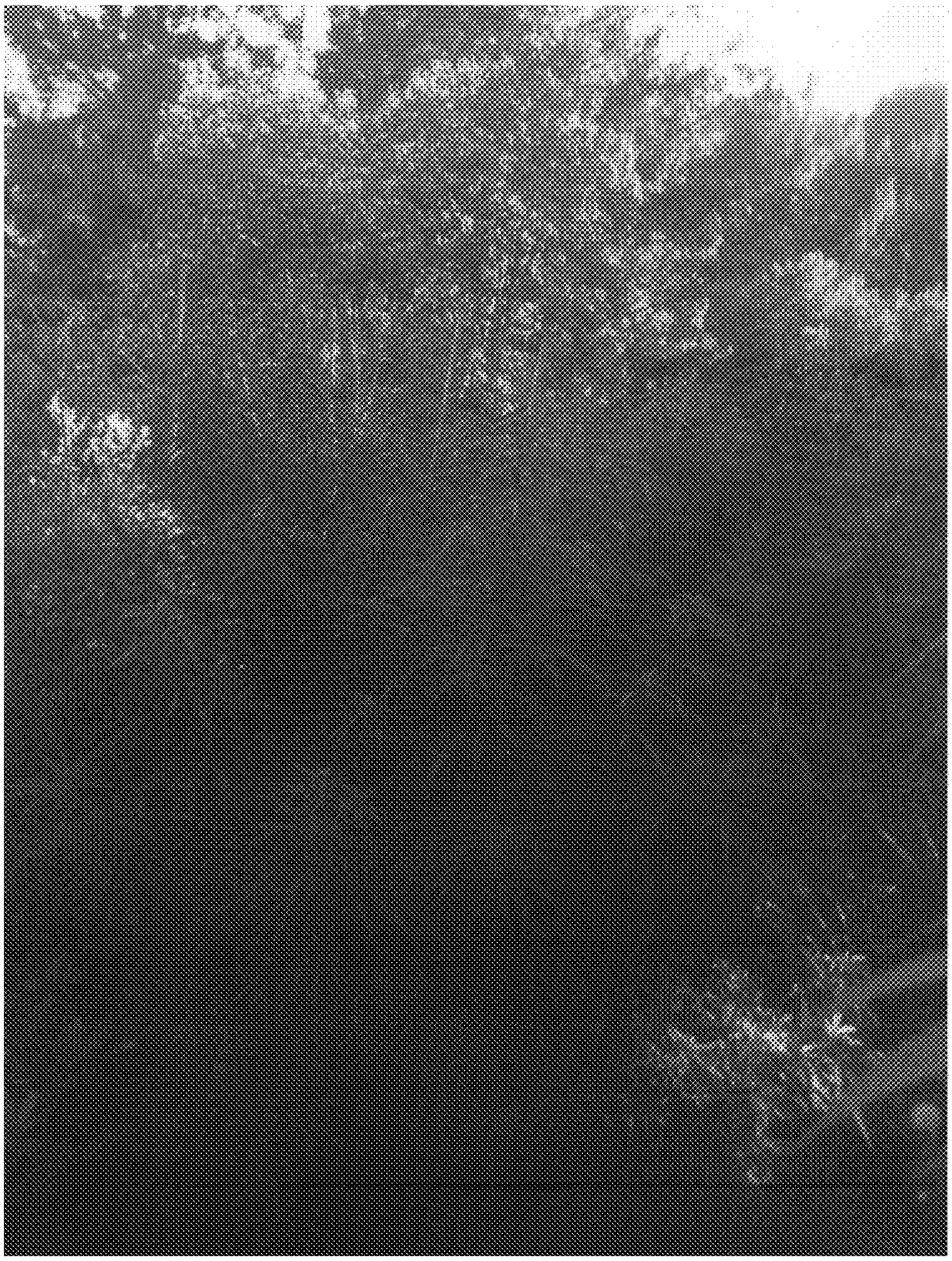

FIG. 3

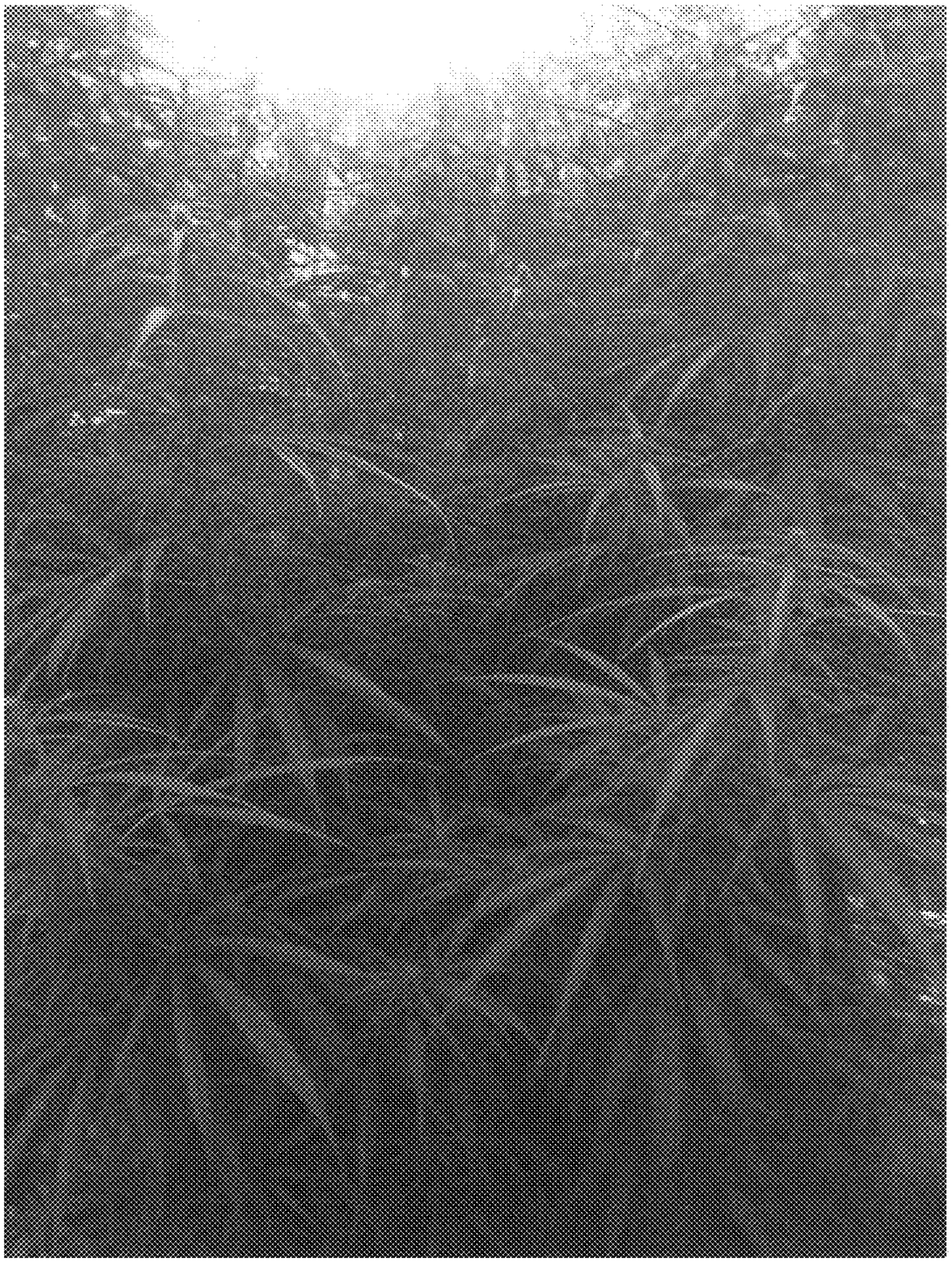

FIG. 4

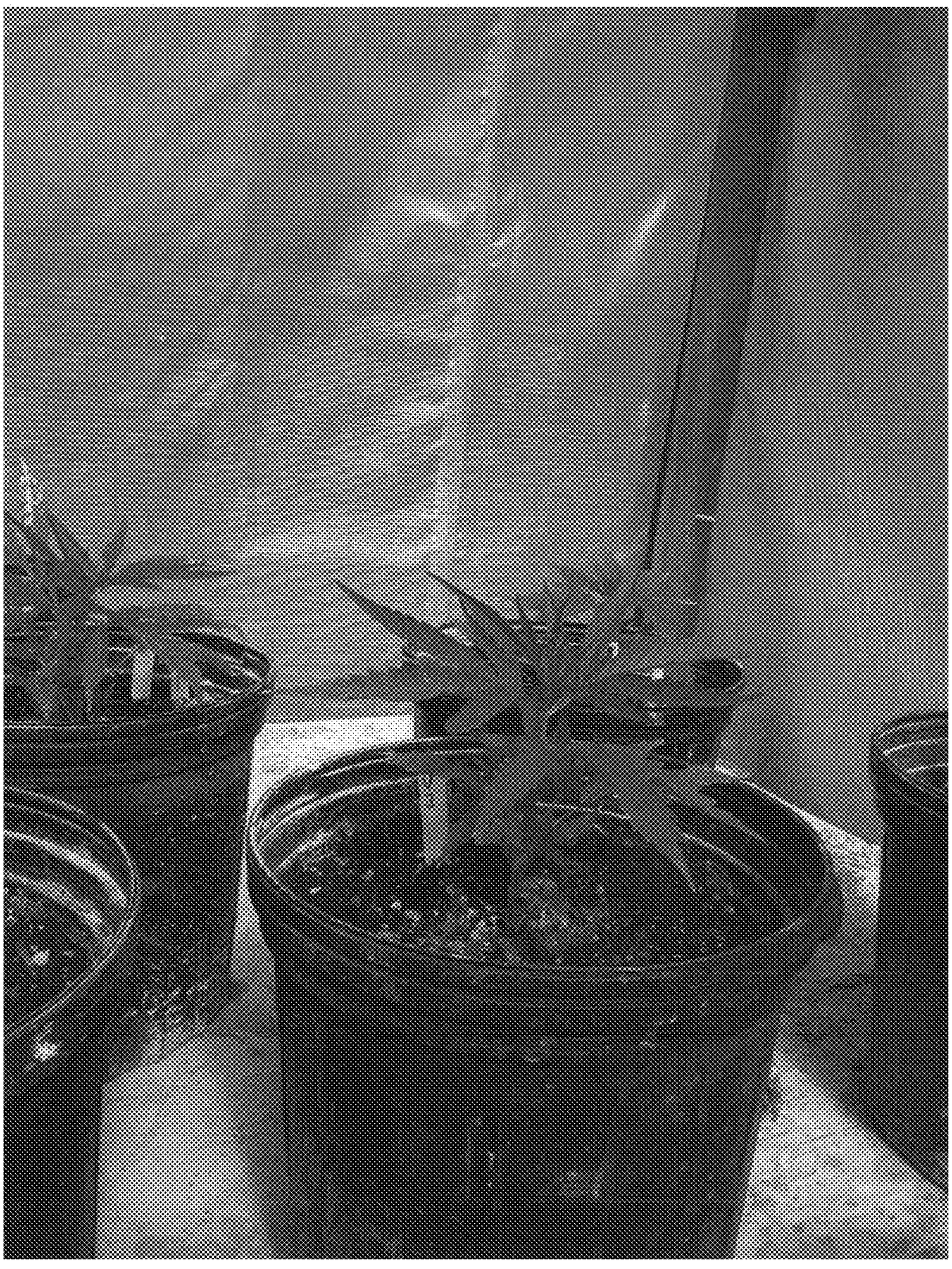

FIG. 5

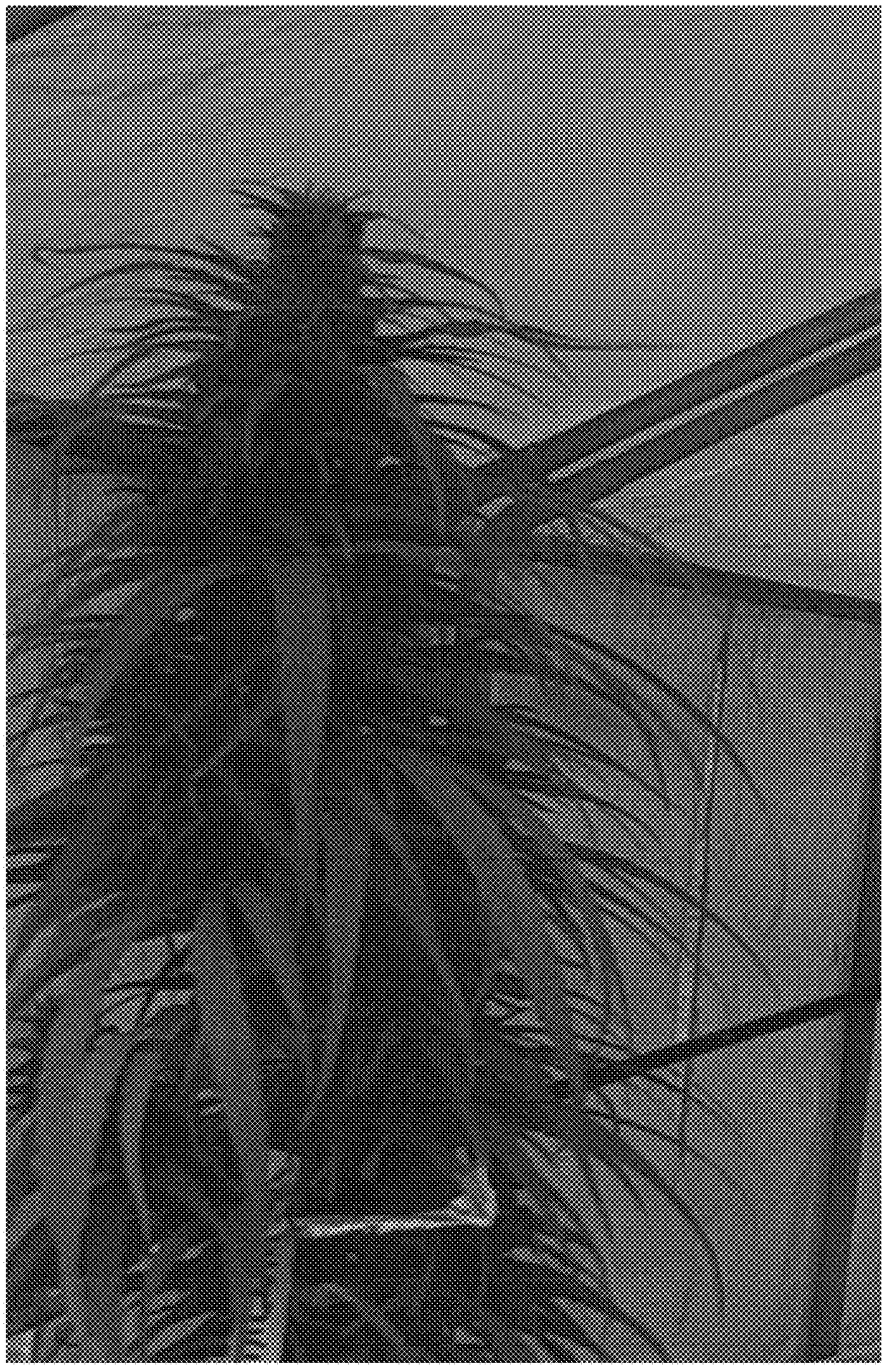

FIG. 6