



APPLICATIONS UNDER EXAMINATION

AMSONIA

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(*Amsonia*)

Proposed denomination: 'String Theory'
Application number: 22-10813
Application date: 2022/02/03
Applicant: Walters Gardens, Inc., Zeeland, Michigan, United States of America
Agent in Canada: Variety Rights Management, Oxford Station, Ontario
Breeder: Hans A. Hansen, Zeeland, Michigan, United States of America

Variety used for comparison: 'Midway to Montana'

Summary: *The plants of 'String Theory' are taller than those of 'Midway to Montana'. The stem of 'String Theory' is medium green while it is light green for that of 'Midway to Montana'. The leaf blade of 'String Theory' is longer than that of 'Midway to Montana'. The upper side of the leaf blade of 'String Theory' is mainly dark green while it is light to medium green for that of 'Midway to Montana'. The flowering part of the panicle of 'String Theory' is taller than that of 'Midway to Montana'.*

Description:

PLANT: vegetatively propagated, perennial type, bushy-rounded growth habit, sparse degree of branching

STEM: medium green, absent or very weak anthocyanin colouration, absent or very weak glaucosity, absent or very sparse pubescence, medium thickness, smooth shape

LEAF: alternate arrangement, simple type

LEAF BLADE: linear, acute apex, attenuate base, entire margin, no variegation, no petiole

LEAF BLADE (UPPER SIDE): absent or very sparse pubescence, absent or very weak glaucosity, mainly dark green

LEAF BLADE (LOWER SIDE): absent or very sparse pubescence, mainly light to medium green

PEDUNCLE: absent or very weak anthocyanin colouration, absent or very sparse pubescence

FLOWERING PERIOD: once during mid-season, short to medium length

FLOWER: panicle inflorescence type, terminal position, erect attitude

COROLLA: salverform shape, absent or very weak undulation of margin, absent or very sparse pubescence on inner and outer side

COROLLA LOBE: free arrangement, medium length, narrow, upper side light violet blue (RHS 97C/D)

COROLLA TUBE: medium length, small diameter below lobes, light violet blue (RHS 97D)

Origin and Breeding: 'String Theory' originated from an intentional self-pollination conducted in spring 2014 in Zeeland, Michigan, USA of an unnamed proprietary selection of *Amsonia hubrichtii* x *Amsonia ciliata* coded '11-12'. 'String Theory' was selected in the summer of 2016 based on plant growth habit, flower type, foliage colour and size, and disease resistance. Asexual reproduction of the variety was first conducted by shoot tip cuttings in 2016 in Zeeland, Michigan, USA.

Tests and Trials: The comparative trial for 'String Theory' was conducted in a galvanized steel structure covered with black mesh shade fabric in June 2023 at Variety Rights Management in Oxford Station, Ontario. The trial included 15 plants each of the candidate and reference variety. The plants were grown in 23 cm round pots, one plant per pot with 45 cm spacing between the pots. Observations and measurements were taken from 10 plants, or 10 parts of plants of each variety. Mean differences were significant at the 5% confidence probability level based on a paired Student's t-test. All colour determinations were made using the 2015 Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) Colour Chart.

Comparison table for 'String Theory'

	'String Theory'	'Midway to Montana**'
<i>Plant height (cm)</i>		
mean	50.8	40.0
std. deviation	3.11	1.71

Leaf blade length (cm)

mean	6.1	5.5
std. deviation	0.42	0.39

Flowering part of panicle height (cm)

mean	8.3	5.4
std. deviation	0.36	0.32

*reference variety



Amsonia: 'String Theory' (left) with reference variety 'Midway to Montana' (right)