



APPLICATIONS UNDER EXAMINATION

INKBERRY

INKBERRY
(Ilex glabra)

Proposed denomination: 'Ilexfarrowtracey'
Trade name: Strongbox
Application number: 18-9538
Application date: 2018/06/25
Applicant: Spring Meadow Nursery, Inc., Grand Haven, Michigan, United States of America
Agent in Canada: BioFlora Inc., St. Thomas, Ontario
Breeder: Michael W. Farrow, Warwick, Maryland, United States of America

Variety used for comparison: 'SMNIGAB17' (Gembox)

Summary: *The plants of 'Ilexfarrowtracey' are wider than those of 'SMNIGAB17'. The plants of 'Ilexfarrowtracey' flower earlier than those of 'SMNIGAB17'. The leaves of 'Ilexfarrowtracey' are larger than those of 'SMNIGAB17'.*

Description:

PLANT: deciduous shrub, upright to bushy rounded growth habit, oblate and globose shape, moderate degree of branching, erect to semi-erect branch attitude, medium to dense foliage, female

STEM: medium thickness, absent or very weak intensity of anthocyanin colouration, smooth, light green, no twisting

LEAF: alternate arrangement, simple type, elliptic, acute apex with mucronate tip, cuneate base, entire margin except for crenate on distal third, absent or very weak undulation of margin, glossiness on upper side ranging from medium to strong, leathery texture, weak fragrance, dark brown green (RHS N137A) on upper side, dark green to dark brown green (RHS 138A-B) on lower side

PETIOLE: present

FLOWER: white

Origin and Breeding: 'Ilexfarrowtracey' originated from a cross conducted by the breeder, Michael W. Farrow, in Earleville, Maryland, USA. The cross was made between the female parent variety 'Shamrock' and pollen from an unknown male parent in 2007. The new variety was selected as a single plant from the resulting progeny in 2008, based on plant growth habit, foliage colour, branching characteristics and disease tolerance. Asexual reproduction of 'Ilexfarrowtracey' was first conducted by softwood stem cuttings in June of 2009, in Earleville, Maryland, USA.

Tests and Trials: The comparative trial for 'Ilexfarrowtracey' was conducted in irrigated containers outdoors during the summer of 2020 at Bioflora Inc., in St. Thomas, Ontario. The trial included a total of 12 shrubs each of the candidate variety and reference variety. All shrubs were grown from 11.4 cm liners planted into 7.6 litre pots on August 6, 2019. Plants were overwintered in a polyhouse. Observations and measurements were taken from 10 plants of each variety on June 18, 2020. All colour determinations were made using the 2007 Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) Colour Chart.

Comparison table for 'Ilexfarrowtracey'

	'Ilexfarrowtracey'	'SMNIGAB17'*
<i>Plant width (cm)</i>		
mean	35.35	24.58
std. deviation	3.28	1.51
<i>Leaf length (cm)</i>		
mean	4.05	3.45
std. deviation	0.22	0.28
<i>Leaf width (cm)</i>		
mean	1.43	0.83
std. deviation	0.15	0.18

*reference variety



Inkberry: 'llexfarrowtracey' (left) with reference variety 'SMNIGAB17' (right)



Inkberry: 'llexfarrowtracey' (left) with reference variety 'SMNIGAB17' (right)