



**WATERMELON**  
(*Citrullus lanatus*)

**Proposed denomination:** 'Ayami'  
**Application number:** 22-11063  
**Application date:** 2022/08/23  
**Applicant:** Nunhems B.V., Nunhem, Netherlands  
**Agent in Canada:** Aventum IP Law LLP, Ottawa, Ontario  
**Breeder:** Alberto Sirizzoti, Nunhems B.V., Bolognese, Italy

**Variety used for comparison:** 'Gisella'

**Summary:** *The fruit weight of 'Ayami' is very low to low while it is low for 'Gisella'. The fruit skin of 'Ayami' has a dark green ground colour while the fruit skin of 'Gisella' has medium green to dark green ground colour. The pistil scar on the fruit of 'Ayami' is a medium size while that for 'Gisella' is small to medium sized.*

**Description:**

COTYLEDON: very small to small, medium elliptic, medium intensity of green

PLANT: diploid

LEAF BLADE: medium size, medium length to width ratio, greyish green on upper side, strong degree of lobing, medium degree of blistering, green veins

FLOWERING: Mid-season flowering for female flowers

FRUIT: very low to low weight, circular in longitudinal section, small to medium sized insertion of peduncle, absent or very shallow depression at basal part, rounded apex with absent or very shallow depression, medium sized pistil scar, absent or very weak degree of grooving, medium degree of waxy layer, thin pericarp

FRUIT SKIN: dark green ground colour, inconspicuous or very weakly conspicuous veining

FRUIT SKIN STRIPE: very narrow to narrow vein, very dark green, weak conspicuousness, sharp margin

FRUIT FLESH: dark red

SEED: medium number, very short to short, high length to width ratio, brown ground colour of testa, large area of overcolour in relation to ground colour, medium degree of patches at hilum

DISEASE REACTIONS: resistance to *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *niveum* race 0 present; resistance to *Colletotrichum orbiculare* race 1 absent

**Origin and Breeding:** 'Ayami' (experimental designation NUN 11602 WMW) originated from a single hybrid cross between proprietary parental lines conducted in the summer of 2015 in Italy. The new variety was initially selected for its fruit characteristics, yield potential and diseases resistance.

**Tests and Trials:** The detailed description of 'Ayami' is based on the UPOV Report of Technical Examination, reference number WTR371, purchased from the Naktuinbouw in Roelofarendsveen, Netherlands. The trials were conducted by the Naktuinbouw from 2020-2021.



Watermelon: 'Ayami' (left) with reference variety 'Gisella' (right)



Watermelon: 'Ayami' (left) with reference variety 'Gisella' (right)



Watermelon: 'Ayami' (left) with reference variety 'Gisella' (right)

**Proposed denomination:** 'Carolina Strongback'  
**Application number:** 22-11054  
**Application date:** 2022/07/26  
**Applicant:** Clemson University, Clemson, South Carolina, United States of America  
 United States Department of Agriculture, Beltsville, Maryland, United States of America  
**Agent in Canada:** MBM Intellectual Property Law LLP, Ottawa, Ontario  
**Breeder:** William Wechter, Charleston, South Carolina, United States of America  
 Amnon Levi, Charleston, South Carolina, United States of America  
 Richard Hassell, Charleston, South Carolina, United States of America

**Description:**  
 COTYLEDON: large to very large, medium elliptic, dark intensity of green

PLANT: diploid

LEAF BLADE: medium size, medium length to width ratio, very dark greyish green on upper side, medium degree of lobing, medium degree of blistering, green veins

FLOWERING: mid-season flowering for female flowers

**FRUIT:** medium weight, medium to large sized insertion of peduncle, deep depression at basal part, truncate apex with deep depression, small to medium sized pistil scar, absent or very weak degree of grooving, weak degree of waxy layer, thick to very thick pericarp

**FRUIT SKIN:** very light green ground colour, very weak conspicuousness of veining

**FRUIT SKIN STRIPE:** strong conspicuousness, medium width, medium green colour, marbled, medium margin

**FRUIT FLESH:** very weak orange

**SEED:** medium number, long to very long, very high length to width ratio, red brown ground colour of testa, absent or very small area of overcolour in relation to ground colour, patches at hilum absent

**DISEASE REACTIONS:** resistance to *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *niveum* race 1 and *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *niveum* race 2 present

**Origin and Breeding:** ‘Carolina Strongback’ originated from a single cross between ‘USVL252-FR2’, a female parent line and ‘USVL246-FR2’, a male parent line conducted in early 2013 in Charleston, South Carolina. The cross was advanced with continuous selection and selfing between 2013 to 2016. Selection criteria was based on disease resistance. ‘Carolina Strongback’ was identified at the F7 generation in Charleston, South Carolina in 2016.

**Tests and Trials:** The detailed description of ‘Carolina Strongback’ is based on the UPOV Report of Technical Examination, reference number WTR428, purchased from the Naktuinbouw in Roelofarendsveen, Netherlands. The trials were conducted by the Naktuinbouw in 2022.



Watermelon: ‘Carolina Strongback’