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Ballington

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(54) **STRAWBERRY PLANT NAMED 'BISH'**

(50) Latin Name: *Fragaria×ananassa*
Varietal Denomination: **Bish**

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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(51) **Int. Cl.**⁷ **A01H 5/00**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./208**

(58) **Field of Search** **Plt./208**

(56) **References Cited**
PUBLICATIONS

Declaration of James R. Ballington, Ph.D. under 37 C.F.R.
Section 1.132; Jun. 14, 2004.

Release Announcement for Strawberry 'Bish,' Southeast
Strawberry Expo; Nov. 7-8, 2002; Greenville, North Caro-
lina.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct annual hill culture adapted variety of
Fragaria×ananassa Duch. plant, designated 'Bish', is char-
acterized by being significantly more resistant to anthra-
cnose fruit rot than the current standard annual hill varieties
'Chandler' and 'Camarosa', while being equal to one or both
these varieties for most other economically important fruit
and plant characters. 'Bish' appears best adapted from the
Southern Appalachians up through the Middle Atlantic
regions of the United States.

2 Drawing Sheets

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Latin name of the genus and species: The Latin name of
the novel variety disclosed herein is *Fragaria×ananassa*
Duch.

Variety Denomination: The inventive variety of straw-
berry disclosed herein has been given the variety denomi-
nation 'Bish'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct variety
of Junebearing or short-day strawberry (*Fragaria×ananassa*
Duch.), which has been named 'Bish'. This variety is the
result of a cross between 'FL 87-210' (unpatented) and
'Delmarvel' (unpatented) made in 1993 in Raleigh, N.C. as
part of a strawberry breeding program. Plants were first
germinated in a greenhouse in Raleigh, N.C. in 1993. In the
spring of 1994, germinated seedlings were transferred into
seedling trays and allowed to grow over the summer. Sub-
sequently, the seedlings were transplanted into the field
in Reidsville, N.C. in the fall of 1994. 'Bish' was discovered
in May 1995 in a cultivated field in Reidsville, N.C. and
originally designated 'NCR 95-08' during the testing period.

'Bish' was first asexually reproduced by runners (i.e.,
stolons) and planted in Fletcher, N.C. in fall 1995. Sub-
sequently, 'Bish' has also been asexually propagated by
tissue culture micropropagation from runner meristems. The
combination of traits disclosed herein that characterize
'Bish' have been retained true to type through successive
cycles of asexual propagation.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

'Bish' is a new and distinct variety of strawberry plant of
the short-day type that is adapted to annual hill culture. It is
significantly more resistant to anthracnose fruit rot than the
current standard annual hill varieties 'Chandler' (U.S. Plant
Pat. No. 5,262) and 'Camarosa' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 8,708),

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while being equivalent to both of these varieties for most
other economically important fruit and plant characteristics.
Fruit skin color of 'Bish' is dark red and flesh color light red.
The calyx is medium in size and reflexed. Petiole pubes-
cence on 'Bish' is more dense than on 'Chandler', and
basipetal in direction, compared with perpendicular to acro-
petal in the latter variety. 'Bish' is also characterized by the
presence of two prominent leafy petiole bracts on mid-tier
leaves.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 shows fruit shape and color of 'Bish' strawberry.

FIG. 2 shows internal flesh color of 'Bish' strawberry.

FIG. 3 shows a typical leaf of 'Bish' strawberry.

**DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION OF
THE VARIETY**

The following is a detailed botanical description of a new
and distinct variety of *Fragaria×ananassa* Duch. known as
'Bish'. The observations described below are from mature
plants grown in test plots established in an annual hill
strawberry production system on raised beds covered with
black plastic mulch and subsurface drip irrigation.

Asexual propagules derived from the original source were
established in an observation plot at Fletcher, N.C., in fall
1995, and in replicated trials at Reidsville and Fletcher,
N.C., from 1996-2001; at Castle Hayne, N.C., in 1997 and
1999; and at Beltsville, Md., from 1998-2000. Plants were
established in double offset rows spaced 12 inches apart on
the beds with plants also spaced 12" apart within rows. The
North Carolina test plots were established in a split plot
design and the Beltsville plots in a randomized complete
block design. All plots were established in late summer/early
fall and data collected the following spring. Data from North