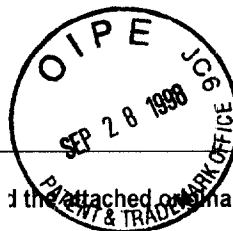


**MRD 9-28-98**



To the Honorable Commission		10-09-1998	the attached original documents or copy thereof.
1. Name of conveying party(ies): <b>Ichiro OKA Takahiro OHNO</b>		 100847865	id address of receiving party(ies) <b>JAPAN TOBACCO INC.</b>
Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		Internal Address: <b>Minato-ku</b>	
3. Nature of conveyance: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assignment <input type="checkbox"/> Merger <input type="checkbox"/> Security Agreement <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Name <input type="checkbox"/> Other:		Street Address: <b>2-1 Toranomom 2-chome</b>	
Execution Date: <b>May 25, 1998</b>		City: <b>Tokyo</b> State: ZIP: <b>105</b>	
4. Application number(s) or patent number(s): 09/077,498		Country: <b>JAPAN</b> Postal Code:	
If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is:		Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
A. Patent Application No(s).		B. Patent No.(s)	
Additional numbers attached? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed: <b>Name: BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH &amp; BIRCH, LLP</b> <b>Internal Address:</b> <b>Street Address: P.O. BOX 747</b> <b>City: FALLS CHURCH State: VA ZIP: 22040-0747</b> <b>Country: USA</b>		6. Total number of applications and patents involved: <b>one (1)</b>	
		7. Total fee (37 C.F.R. § 3.41): <b>\$40.00</b>	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enclosed	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Authorized to be charged to deposit account	
		8. Deposit account number: <u>02-2448</u>	
		(Attach triplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account)	
10/06/1998 DNGUYEN 00000128 09077498 01 FC:501 40.00 OP ) DO NOT USE THIS SPACE			
9. Statement and signature.  <i>To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document</i>			
<u>Joseph A. Kolasch, Reg. No. 22,463</u> Name of Person Signing/Reg. No.		 Signature	<u>September 28, 1998</u> Date
Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and document: <b>4</b>			

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to:  
Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Box Assignments  
Washington, DC 20231

## ASSIGNMENT

Serial No. 09/077,498

Filed May 29, 1998

WHEREAS, **Ichiro OKA** of **c/o Japan Tobacco Inc., Hydroponics R & D Center, 38, Sakai-machi, Sashima-gun, Ibaraki, 306-04 JAPAN**; and **Takahiro OHNO** of **c/o Japan Tobacco Inc., Plant Breeding and Genetics Research Laboratory, 700, Higashibara, Toyoda-cho, Iwata-gun, Shizuoka, 438 JAPAN**

(hereinafter designated as the undersigned) has (have) invented certain new and useful improvements in "**Method for Producing Potato Tubers**"

---

for which an application for Letters Patent of the United States of America has been executed by the undersigned on **May 25, 1998**.

WHEREAS, **JAPAN TOBACCO INC.** of **2-1, Toranomon 2-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo, 105 JAPAN**, its heirs, successors, legal representatives and assigns (hereinafter designated as the Assignee) is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention and in and to any Letters Patent(s) that may be granted therefor in the United States of America;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) to the undersigned in hand paid, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, and other good and valuable consideration, the undersigned has(have) sold, assigned and transferred, and by these presents do sell, assign and transfer unto said Assignee the full and exclusive right to the said invention in the United States of America and its territories, dependencies and possessions and the entire right, title and interest in and to any and all Letters Patent(s) which may be granted therefor in the United States of America and its territories, dependencies and possessions, and in and to any and all divisions, reissues, continuations and extensions thereof for the full term or terms for which the same may be granted.

The undersigned agree(s) to execute all papers necessary in connection with this application and any continuing, divisional or reissue applications thereof and also to execute separate assignments in connection with such applications as the Assignee may deem necessary or expedient.

The undersigned agree(s) to execute all papers necessary in connection with any interference which may be declared concerning this application or continuation, division or reissue thereof or Letters Patent(s) or reissue patent issued thereon and to cooperate with the Assignee in every way

possible in obtaining and producing evidence and proceeding with such interference.

The undersigned agree(s) to execute all papers and documents and to perform any act which may be necessary in connection with claims or provisions of the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property or similar agreements.

The undersigned agree(s) to perform all affirmative acts which may be necessary to obtain a grant of a valid United States patent(s) to the Assignee and to vest all rights therein hereby conveyed to said Assignee as fully and entirely as the same would have been held by the undersigned if this Assignment and sale had not been made.

The undersigned hereby authorize(s) and request(s) the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue any and all Letters Patents of the United States of America resulting from said application or any division or divisions or continuing or reissue applications thereof to the said Assignee, as Assignee of the entire interest, and hereby covenants that he has (they have) the full right to convey the entire interest herein assigned, and that he has (they have) not executed, and will not execute, any agreement in conflict herewith.

The undersigned hereby grant(s) the law firm of Birch, Stewart, Kolasch and Birch the power to insert on this Assignment any further identification which may be necessary or desirable in order to comply with the rules of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office for recordation of this document.

In witness whereof, executed by the undersigned on the date(s) opposite the undersigned name(s).

Date May 25, 1998, Name of Inventor *Ichiro Ohno* (SEAL)  
(signature)

Date May 25, 1998, Name of Inventor *Takahiro Ohno* (SEAL)  
(signature)

(This assignment should preferably be acknowledged before a United States Consul or Notary Public. If not, then the execution by the Inventor(s) should be witnessed by at least two other

persons who sign here.)

Witness \_\_\_\_\_

Witness \_\_\_\_\_