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W. P. THOMSON

Plant Pat. 3,422

CARNATION PLANT

Filed Jan. 24, 1972



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3,422
CARNATION PLANT

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1 Claim

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A new variety of carnation plant resulting from meristem propagation of the unpatented variety Barta, the new variety being a sport of Barta and being particularly distinguished from Barta by its larger and better formed flowers which have a more intense coloring, an almost complete absence of splitting, and a taller overall growth.

BACKGROUND OF THE NEW PLANT

My new variety of carnation plant was discovered by me at West Hartford, Conn., in May 1969 as a sport of the variety Barta which was a sport of the variety Lolita (unpatented) which, in turn, originated as a sport of Ember Sim (unpatented). Culture of the meristem of Barta, and propagation by cuttings, produced flowering plants which exhibited the before mentioned distinguishing characteristics and because of the absence of splitting, in particular, which gives the new plant important commercial value, asexual propagation for commercial exploitation has been carried on by greenhouse culture and under my direction at West Hartford, Connecticut. Successive asexually propagated generations of this new variety have all exhibited the same distinguishing characteristics possessed by the original sport and have demonstrated that these characteristics are firmly fixed and hold true from generation to generation.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

My new variety of carnation plant is illustrated by the accompanying drawings which show the color characteristics of the flower as nearly true as it is reasonably possible to obtain by conventional photographic procedures. The upper view shows the flower development from the bud at first opening to the fully opened bloom as seen from above the specimens; and the lower view shows the same specimens as seen from a lower angle to show the stems, leaves and calyx.

DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW PLANT

The following is a detailed description of the new variety of carnation plant with color designations according to the Methuen Handbook of Colour, second edition, published in 1967 by Methuen & Co. Ltd. of London, England.

The plant

Origin: Sport

Parentage: Barta (unpatented)

Classification:

Botanic.—*Dianthus caryophyllus*

Commercial.—Carnation

Form: Bush

Height: Normal for Sim varieties

Growth: Vigorous and branching, with strong generally upright stems

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Foliage: Quantity—normal for Sim varieties with 14 to 18 pairs of leaves per stem

Leaf size.—4 to 5 inches long x ½ inch wide

Shape.—Curly and long—lanceolate; margin—entire

Texture.—Smooth

Color.—Upper side—Green, Under side—same as upper side

Ribs.—Single rib along center of leaf

Petioles.—None. Leaf is decurrent and amplexicaul.

The bud

Form: Ovoid

Size: 1 to 1¼ inches tall and ¾ to 1 inch in diameter just before opening

Opening rate: Normal for Sim varieties

Color:

When sepals first divide—Pale Pink 10A3

When petals begin to unfurl—Pink 10A4 with inside appearance of 10A6

Sepals: Spear shaped and stand up from calyx

Color.—Pale Green

Calyx:

Shape.—Cupped and broad with five upright segments

Size.—Large

Aspect.—Smooth

Splitting.—Practically none—about one percent do split.

The flower

Blooming characteristics: Continuous and profusely the year around

Size of bloom: Large. 3¼ to 3¾ inches in diameter and 1¼ to 1½ inches in depth

Borne: Singly—after disbudding

Shape: Generally flat with medium high center and flat outer petals

Petalage: 58 to 64 petals in close imbricated arrangement

Form.—Symmetrically round with serrated margins

Color.—Both sides of petals have a background of Light Pink 10A4. Upper side has red stripes 10B8 radiating to outer edges of the petals in a non-uniform pattern and a slight blushing to a deeper shade of Pink 10A6 near the base. The base of the petals inside the calyx is of a Light Green color

Appearance.—Satiny

Peduncle: ¼ to ½ inch long. Sturdy, upright and of Green color

Discoloration: Pink darkens slightly with age

Effect of weather: Hot weather makes flowers smaller

Fragrance: Slight

Persistence: Flower hangs on and dries

Lasting quality: On plant and as a cut flower—normal for Sim varieties.

Reproductive organs

Stamens:

Anthers.—Arrangement—upright around ovaries.

Length—½ to 1 inch. Number—10 to 12

Filaments.—Length—approximately ⅓ inch. Color—White.

Pollen.—Yellow in color

Pistils: Number—2; length—1¼ to 1½ inches. Color—White

Stigmas: Color—White

Ovary: Slightly flattened pear-shaped, approximately ¼ x ⅜ inch wide at base and ½ inch high with pointed top.

Color—Light Green

Fruit: Pear-shaped, fertile, and of Brown color at maturity.

My new variety of carnation plant most nearly resembles its parent Barta and is distinguished by a somewhat taller overall growth and larger flowers. A particular distinction resides in the resistance of the new plant to splitting of the calyx tube when the flower opens. Grown under glass the splitting of the new variety is less than 1% as compared to about 10% for Barta.

I claim:

1. A new and distinct variety of carnation plant, substantially as herein shown and described, characterized by its taller growth and larger flower than its parent Barta and its resistance to splitting upon opening of the flower.

No references cited.

ROBERT E. BAGWILL, Primary Examiner