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IMPATIENS PLANT

Plant Pat. 3,919

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FIG _ 1

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FIG - 2

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3,919

IMPATIENS PLANT

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1 Claim

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of impatiens plant distinguished by large very double flowers of clear red color. It is a second generation seedling from a cross between the existing double clone "Appleblossom" and a red semi-double clone selected from single *Impatiens sultani*.

Background of the Invention

The invention is concerned with the breeding of improved varieties of impatiens (*Impatiens sulani*). The prime object of the breeding was to produce a new impatiens cultivar with large very double flowers of a bright clear red color. The objective was substantially achieved along with other desirable improvements as evidenced by the following unique combinations of characteristics which are outstanding in the new cultivar and which distinguish it from its parents as well as from all other impatiens cultivars.

First, the plant is vigorous and heavily branched and grows in an upright but bushy manner. Second, the flowers of the plant are large compared to that of the plants from which it was bred. Third, the new cultivar exhibits a significantly larger number of whorls of petals over that of the existing double clone "Appleblossom" which was crossed to produce it. Fourth, the color of the flowers is clear red.

Asexual reproduction of this new cultivar by cuttings was performed at Cartago, Costa Rica and Gilroy, Calif. The new cultivar was selected from second generation self-pollinated progeny of the cross breeding of the existing double clone "Appleblossom" and a red semi-double clone selected from single *Impatiens sultani*. On asexual reproduction by cuttings, the new cultivar was found to retain its distinctive characteristics as listed herein through successive propagations.

Brief Description of the Drawings

The invention will be better understood by reference to the figures of the drawings wherein:

FIG. 1 is an overall view illustrating an impatiens plant of the present invention; and

FIG. 2 is a close-up view illustrating the leaves, buds and flowers of the impatiens plant of the present invention.

Detailed Description of the Drawings

The following is a detailed description of the new impatiens plant of the present invention. The color terminology used in following is in accordance with the Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, except where ordinary dictionary significance of color is indicated.

The parentage of the new impatiens plant is as follows:

Seed parent—unnamed

Pollen parent—Appleblossom

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The classification of the impatiens plant is as follows:

Botanical—*Impatiens sultani*

Pollen from Appleblossom was crossed with an unnamed red semi-double clone seed parent to produce a first generation. The best plants from the first generation were selected and self-pollinated to produce a second generation. The best plant from the second generation in the sense of the plant having the most desired color, highest degree of doubleness, and largest size of flowers, was asexually reproduced by cuttings at Cartago, Costa Rica and Gilroy, Calif., U.S.A.

Some of the leaves shown in FIG. 1 show a slight spotting. This spotting was caused by spraying with insecticide and is not normally characteristic of the leaves as will be apparent from examination of FIG. 2.

The new cultivar has flowers of larger diameter and much higher petal count (doubleness) and has a distinctively different shade of color than existing clones. Plants grow to a mature height of 50–60 cms. The description and drawings in this application were made from plants grown in one gallon containers inside a fiber-glass greenhouse with 15° C. minimum night temperatures and light shade (20%) at Gilroy, Calif., U.S.A. Color and size of plant parts vary slightly with different environmental conditions, but are uniform for similar aged plants in a similar environment.

The following table compares the new cultivar with one of its parents and with another somewhat similarly colored *Impatiens sultani*.

TABLE OF COMPARISON

	New cultivar	Appleblossom	The Rose
Flower diameter	30–38 mm	25–35 mm	30–35 mm.
Flower color, top of petals	Red 45B	Red 55D	Red 52A.
Flower color, bottom of petals	Red 45C	Red 55D	Red 52C–D.
No. of whorls of petals	4 to 8	3 to 4	2 to 3.
Flower spur length	25 mm	25 mm	25 mm.
Flower spur color	Yellow-green 145A–D Occasional red streaks.	Greyed-yellow 160C.	Red 51C to 47A.
Leaf shape	Ovate to elliptic.	Ovate	Ovate.
Leaf width	30–40 mm	35–40 mm	25–35 mm.
Leaf length	60–70 mm	50–65 mm	40–50 mm.
Leaf color top	Yellow-green 146A–B.	Yellow-green 144A–146B.	Yellow-green 147A.
Leaf color bottom	Yellow-green 148D.	Yellow-green 148C–D.	Yellow-green 148C, greyed purple blotches 183D.

The blooming habit of the plant is recurrent and substantially continuous. The plant is generally bushy in shape and grows in a vigorous upright branching manner.

The new cultivar of the invention is of the genus *Impatiens* and the species *sultani* as are its parents.

That which is claimed is:

1. A new and distinctive cultivar of *Impatiens sultani*, substantially as herein shown and described, characterized particularly as to novelty by its large, highly double flowers and distinct bright clear red color.

No references cited.

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