

[54] AFRICAN VIOLET PLANT
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Rep. of Germany
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Erfindergemeinschaft "Optimara",
Rees Haffen, Fed. Rep. of Germany
[21] Appl. No.: 424,361
[22] Filed: Sep. 27, 1982
[51] Int. Cl.³ A01H 5/00
[52] U.S. Cl. Plt./69
[58] Field of Search Plt./69

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[57] ABSTRACT
An African violet named Improved New Jersey charac-
terized by its uniform and vigorous growth habit;
strong upright flower stems each of which carries 7–10
large single pink frilled flowers; intensive flower color
which does not fade under high temperature conditions;
profuse flowering, with the flowers being long lasting
and non-dropping, and by its medium green leaves.

1 Drawing Figure

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The present invention comprises a new and distinct
cultivar of African violet plant, botanically known as
Saintpaulia ionantha, and hereinafter referred to by the
cultivar named Improved New Jersey.

The new cultivar was referred to during the breeding
and selection process by the designation D 29/11 pink
frilled, and is a product of a planned breeding program.
Improved New Jersey was originated from a cross
made by me in a controlled breeding program in Issel-
burg, West Germany. The female or seed parent was a
cultivar designated B 224/10 pink, and the male or
pollen parent was a cultivar designated B 16/6 pink
frilled.

The new cultivar Improved New Jersey was discov-
ered and selected by me in 1978 as a flowering plant
within the progeny of the stated cross in a controlled
environment in Isselburg, West Germany. Asexual re-
production of the new cultivar by leaf cuttings, as per-
formed by me at Isselburg, West Germany, has demon-
strated that the combination of characteristics as herein
disclosed for the new cultivar are firmly fixed and are
retained through successive generations of asexual re-
production.

Improved New Jersey has not been observed under
all possible environmental conditions. The pheno-type
may vary significantly with variations in environments
such as temperature, light intensity and day length. The
following observations, measurements and values de-
scribe the new cultivar as grown in Isselburg, West
Germany, and Nashville, Tenn., under greenhouse con-
ditions which closely approximate those generally used
in commercial practice.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed
and are determined to be basic characteristics of Im-
proved New Jersey, which in combination distinguish
the new cultivar both from the cultivar New Jersey,
disclosed in my U.S. Pat. No. 4,214, and other african
violet cultivars known in the industry:

1. Improved New Jersey has a very uniform and
vigorous growth habit.
2. Relatively deep pink single frilled flowers, with the
center of the flowers being of relatively deeper pink.
3. The flowers are supported on very upright flower
stems which curve to the center, thereby providing a
tight bouquet above the leaves.

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4. The flowering is profuse, with 7–10 and even more
single large frilled flowers being carried on each stem.
 5. The pink flower color is intensive and does not
fade under high temperature conditions.
 6. The flowers are long lasting and non-dropping.
 7. The leaves are medium green in color, providing a
pleasant contrast with the pink flower color.
- The accompanying photographic drawing illustrates
a typical specimen plant of Improved New Jersey. The
colors appearing in the photograph are as true as possi-
ble with color illustrations of this type.
- In the following description, color references are
made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart
(H.C.C) issued by Wilson Colour Ltd., except where
general colors or ordinary significance are referred to,
and except for the color of the individual flowers,
where the color values are based on The Royal Horti-
cultural Society Colour Chart (R.H.S.). Color values
were taken at approximately 2 P.M. under natural light
conditions at Nashville, Tenn.

BOTANICAL CLASSIFICATION

Saintpaulia ionantha, Ramat. cv. Improved New Jer-
sey.

PARENTAGE

Male parent: B 16/6 pink frilled.
Female parent: B 224/10 pink.

PROPAGATION

The new cultivar holds its distinguishing characteris-
tics through successive propagations by leaf cuttings.

PLANT

From 6 cm. to 8 cm. tall when grown in pots, and
approximately 25–30 cm. in diameter when fully grown.
Leaves:

- General form.*—Broadly oval with lobes overlap-
ping.
Diameter.—5–6 cm.
Texture.—Velvet-hairy.
Aspect.—Slightly shiny.
Viens.—Well pronounced, light green, shiny.
Color (upperside).—Parsley green, 00962.
Color (underside).—Willow green, 000862/2.

Petiole.—Light green on older leaf, purplish on young leaf.

Flowers:

Buds.—7-10 and more; ball-shaped.

Sepals.—Color: sage green 000861/1. Calyx: flat funnel. Aspect: hairy-spear shape.

Individual flowers:

Size.—3-3.5 cm.; relatively large.

Color.—Upperside 68A-B, center darker pink. Underside: 68B-C.

Borne.—Upright on short pedicel.

Shape: Violet shape, single, frilled.

Corolla: Profuse, tight flowering; full bouquet approximately 10-12 cm. in diameter.

Flowering time: Marketable in 8-10 weeks after potting.

Reproduction organs:

Anthers.—2; compound of 4 cells.

Filaments.—Styles: color like flower. Pollen color; canary yellow 2.

Roots: Normal development, white when young and active, brownish when older.

Disease resistance: Very good to date.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

Improved New Jersey is a very uniform and vigorous grower with strong upright wire-like flower stems each of which carries 7-10 large single pink frilled flowers which are intensive in color and do not fade under higher temperature conditions. The flowers are long lasting and non-dropping.

I claim:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of African violet known by the cultivar name Improved New Jersey, as described and illustrated, and strictly characterized by its uniform and vigorous growth habit; strong upright flower stems each of which carries 7-10 large single pink frilled flowers; intensive flower color which does not fade under high temperature conditions; profuse flowering, with the flowers being long lasting and non-dropping, and by its medium green leaves.

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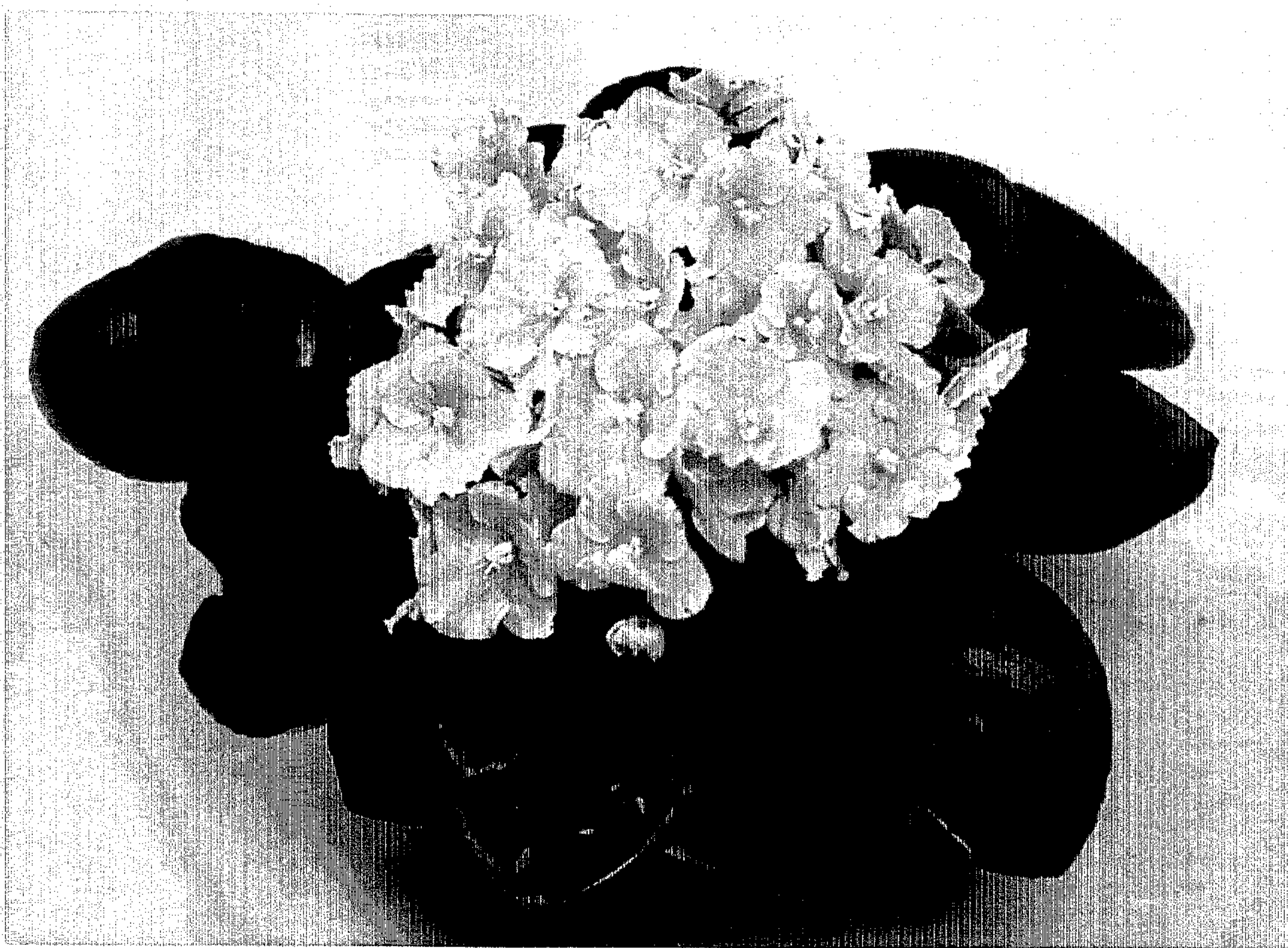
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U.S. Patent

Jan. 1, 1985

Plant 5,383



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT NO. : Plant 5383
DATED : January 1, 1985
INVENTOR(S) : Reinhold Holtkamp

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent are hereby corrected as shown below:

On the title page Item 54 should read:

AFRICAN VIOLET PLANT NAMED IMPROVED NEW JERSEY

Signed and Sealed this

Ninth **Day of** *July* 1985

[SEAL]

Attest:

DONALD J. QUIGG

Attesting Officer

Acting Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks