

[54] BEGONIA PLANT NAMED BAVARIA

[75] Inventor: Soeren Hvid, Aarup, Denmark

[73] Assignee: L. Daehnfeldt A/S, Odense, Denmark

[21] Appl. No.: 838,080

[22] Filed: Mar. 10, 1986

[51] Int. Cl.⁴ A01H 5/00

[52] U.S. Cl. Plt./68

[58] Field of Search Plt./68

Primary Examiner—Robert E. Bagwill
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Olson and Olson

[57] ABSTRACT

A new and distinctive cultivar of begonia plant bearing medium sized, heavily filled flowers of rose color contrasting with dark medium green foliage. The plant is characterized by a vigorous growth habit, and produces a very floriferous raceme display, which is continuous for long periods of time.

1 Drawing Sheet

1

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to a new and distinctive cultivar of begonia plant known botanically as *Begonia hiemalis* Begonia (Fotsch) and known by the cultivar name Bavaria.

This new cultivar was discovered by me as a mutation of Barbara observed in a group of plants.

Asexual reproduction by stem and/or leaf cuttings has reproduced the unique features of the new cultivar through successive propagations.

The following characteristics distinguish the new begonia from both its parents and other begonias commercially known and used in the floriculture industry:

(1) The new cultivar shows no pubescence on the foliage. The plant form is vigorous, compact and sturdier.

(2) In comparison to Barbara, which has pink double flowers, the flower color of Bavaria is darker almost rose with many flowers having 2-3 and sometimes four whorls of tepals in the center of the flower.

(3) In all other respects the mutation has nearly the same morphological appearance as the parent excepting darker foliage, smaller leaves and a darker flower.

(4) This new cultivar is considered to be highly floriferous. The stems on which flowering occurs tend to have initiation and development at several nodes at one time.

(5) The keeping qualities of the flowers and the foliage in all seasons allows production and sales efficiencies to be maximized.

(6) The new cultivar tends to be very vigorous so that 10 cm. pot production is best done with shoot cuttings and tip pinching.

(7) Propagation by leaf cuttings is difficult under light and high temperatures in summer months. Stem cuttings can readily be produced in this season.

(8) The flowers of Bavaria undergo little or no fading under abnormal conditions. Bavaria is also very superior with respect to keeping qualities of winter crops of hiemalis begonias.

THE DRAWING

The accompanying color photograph illustrates the overall appearance of this cultivar taken as a face view of the plant and showing the colors as true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in a colored reproduction of this type.

2

DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW VARIETY

The following is a detailed description of my new begonia cultivar based on plants produced under commercial practices in glasshouses in various places in Denmark. Color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, except where general color terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Parentage: A mutation of the cultivar Barbara.

Propagation:

Type cutting.—Stem cutting.

Time to root.—27-30 days at 21° C. in summer; 25-28 days at 21° C. in winter.

Rooting habit.—Uniform, dendritic, fibrous.

Time for shoot development of leaf cuttings.—70-85 days to develop adventitious shoots 5-6 cm. (1.96-2.37 inches) long from stick date.

THE PLANT

Form: Low, bush type, self-branching, herbaceous.

Habit of growth: Generally rapid, vigorous with strong stems, strong peduncles and strong pedicels.

Foliage: Leaves simple, alternate, borne on vigorous petioles, firm.

(1) *Size.*—Average leaf at maturity from 7-9 cm. (2.75-3.54 inches) leaves may be larger or smaller depending on density of leaf canopy.

(2) *Shape.*—Ovate, slightly concave.

(3) *Texture.*—Leaf is firm, top glabrous, underside rugose.

(4) *Margin.*—Crenate.

(5) *Color.*—Young foliage top side; medium green; under side; light medium green, mature foliage top side; darker medium green; under side; medium green.

(6) *Veination.*—Palmate.

THE FLOWER

Flowering habits: Flowering in racemes, with several clusters arising from the stem nodes at the same time giving a highly floriferous appearance. Flowering is continuous for a long period of time.

Natural flowering season: Flowering occurs naturally with shortened days lengths beginning mid-September and continuing through May. Reducing day length in summer speeds up flower initiation.

Plant 6,182

3

Flower bud: Flat, oval, nearly round.

Flowers borne: On vigorous peduncles and pedicels in a raceme. The extra doubleness of the flowers causes a pendulous appearance because of the weight of the flowers.

Quantity: Very floriferous, often having 18-20 flowers per main stem in flowering stage at one time.

Tepals:

(1) *Shape*.—Nearly circular.

(2) *Color*.—Top side in winter when opening: almost red HCC 21-21/1. fading to: rose HCC 20/1. under side: rose HCC 20/1.

(3) *Number*.—6-26.

4

(4) *Size*.—Basal from 25 mm (1.0 inch), interior tepals 10-20 mm (0.4-0.75 inch).

(5) *Flower size*.—4-7 cm (1.5-2.75 inches)

Reproductive organs:

Stamens.—None; cultivar is sterile.

Disease Resistance: No particular increase in resistance to disease observed to date.

I claim:

10 1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Begonia hiemalis* plant named Bavaria, as shown and described, and particularly characterized by its medium-sized, heavily filled rose flowers, pleasantly contrasting with the darker medium green foliage, compact and vigorous
15 growth habit and by its excellent keeping qualities.

* * * * *

20

25

30

35

40

45

50

55

60

65

U.S. Patent

May 17, 1988

Plant 6,182



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT NO. : Plant 6,182
DATED : 17 May 1988
INVENTOR(S) : Soeren Hvid

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

Column 3, line 16, "6-26" should read -- 16-26 --.

**Signed and Sealed this
Twentieth Day of September, 1988**

Attest:

Attesting Officer

DONALD J. QUIGG

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks