

[54] DISTINCT VARIETY OF BEGONIA PLANT
NAMED PALOMA
[75] Inventor: Jan Man, Lisse, Netherlands
[73] Assignee: Oglevee Associates, Inc.,
Connellsville, Pa.
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Primary Examiner—Robert E. Bagwill
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Webb, Burden, Robinson &
Webb

[57] ABSTRACT
A new Begonia variety is characterized by its long
lasting, highly floriferous white bloom, short and com-
pact plant form, vigorous growth and smooth texture.
The new variety has a high tolerance to botrytis and
powdery mildew.

1 Drawing Sheet

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BACKGROUND OF THE NEW PLANT

The present invention comprises a new and distinct
cultivar of *Begonia* × *hiemalis* known by the varietal
name Paloma. The new cultivar is a mutation of the
Begonia hiemalis Rosalie. The new cultivar Paloma
differs from Rosalie in respect of its bloom color. The
cultivar Paloma has a tonality from a distance of white
whereas the cultivar Rosalie has a tonality from a dis-
tance of peach to light orange.

The new cultivar was discovered in April, 1983 at
Limaplant b.v. in Lisse, Holland; was first asexually
reproduced by cuttings at Limaplant b.v. in Lisse, Hol-
land; and has been repeatedly asexually reproduced by
cuttings for Oglevee Associates, Inc. in Connellsville,
Pa. It has been found to retain its distinctive characteris-
tics through successive propagations.

The new cultivar is generally characterized by its
long lasting, highly floriferous white bloom, short and
compact plant form, vigorous growth and smooth tex-
ture. The new cultivar has a high tolerance to botrytis
and powdery mildew.

The new cultivar, when grown in a greenhouse in
Connellsville, Pa., has a response time of nine to ten
weeks from a well-rooted cutting to a flowering fin-
ished plant in a six inch pot (no pinch).

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

The accompanying drawing illustrates a new culti-
var, the color being as nearly true as possible with color
illustrations of this type.

DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW PLANT

The following detailed description sets forth the
characteristics of the new cultivar. The data which
define these characteristics were collected from asexual
reproductions carried out for Oglevee Associates, Inc.
in Connellsville, Pa. The plant history was taken on ten
week plants blossomed under natural light in a green-
house and grown under temperature conditions of 62°
F. at night and 68° F. during the day. The plants were
potted in a peat-lite mix and fertilized with a 100 ppm
mixture of 15N-0P-15K. Color reading were taken
indoors under 200 footcandles of cool white fluorescent
tubes. Color references are to the R.H.S. Colour Chart
of The Royal Horticultural Society of London, unless
noted differently.

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Botanical classification: *Begonia* × *hiemalis*.
Flower:

Fully expanded.—5–6 cm across.
Borne.—Compound dichasium (cyme).
Stems.—Peduncles are upright and sturdy; main
peduncle 7 mm in diameter; color yellow-green
group 145B.
Form.—Semi-double to fully double.
Permanence.—Long lasting bloom, generally an
individual flower will last 2–3 weeks.

Color:

Tonality from a distance.—White.
Front of petals.—White group 155B.
Reverse of petals.—White group 155B.
Base of petals.—Yellow-green group 150D.
Eye (center).—Yellow group 4D.
Discoloration.—None.

Petals:

Texture.—Smooth.
Appearance.—Satin, matt finish with ripples.
Arrangement.—Whirl; spiral-like.
Persistence.—Very persistent, easily bruised.
Fragrance.—None.

Reproductive organs:

All reproductive organs have modified into petaloids.
Anthers, filament, pollen and style could not be ob-
served.

Plant:

Form.—Short, compact, close internodes (1–2 cm
apart); good self-support strength, good axillary
and basal shoot growth.
Growth.—Very vigorous.
Height from soil line.—20–22 cm in 10 weeks (no
pinch).
Spread.—32–36 cm in 10 weeks (no pinch).

Foliage:

Size.—Average width of 9 cm and average length
of 11 cm.
Quantity.—Very abundant.
Shape.—Ovate tip with oblique base with a slight
overlap of the leaf; edge is doubly serrate.
Top side.—Leaf color can vary due to position on
plant, light levels, age and fertilization range;
green group 137A to 137D.
Underside.—Green group 138B to 138C; veins
raised in palmate arrangement.

Plant 6,216

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Ribs and veins.—Smooth on top, raised on lower side, lower side veins only area where trichomes (hairs) appear.

Rib and vein color.—Top side: green group 137D; bottom side: yellow-green group 146A.

Margin.—None.

Stipules.—None.

Texture.—Top: smooth, shiny and leathery; bottom: matt finish with raised veins.

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I claim:

1. A new and distinct variety of *Begonia* characterized by its long lasting, highly floriferous white bloom,
5 short and compact plant form, vigorous growth, smooth texture and high tolerance to botrytis and powdery mildew as herein shown and described and parts therefor.

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U.S. Patent

Jul. 5, 1988

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