

[54] KALANCHOE PLANT NAMED CHARME
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[57] ABSTRACT
A Kalanchoe plant named Charme, having relatively
small, bright deep pink flower color, compact growth
habit with superior basal branching, relatively small but
dense dark green leaves, large flower head and florifer-
ous habit, and by its ability to flower over a long period
of time in the home environment.

1 Drawing Sheet

1

The present invention relates to a new and distinctive
cultivar of Kalanchoe plant, botanically known as *Ka-
lanchoe blossfeldiana*, and known by the cultivar name
Charme. Charme was developed by me through con-
trolled breeding in Wiesmoor, Federal Republic of Ger-
many by crossing Singapur (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 5,361),
the seed parent, with Bali (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 5,348),
the pollen parent.

Asexual reproduction by me in Wiesmoor, Federal
Republic of Germany by stem cuttings of Charme of a
selection from the progeny of the stated cross has
shown that the unique features of this new Kalanchoe
are stabilized and are reproduced true to type in suc-
cessive propagations.

The following characteristics distinguish Charme
from both its parent varieties and other cultivated Ka-
lanchoes of this type known and used in the floriculture
industry:

1. Charme is characterized by its distinct bright deep
pink flower color. Bingo (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 5,876) has
lighter pink flowers while Sensation (U.S. Plant Pat.
No. 4,727), Cherry Jubilee (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 5,877)
and Satisfaction (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 5,894) have rose-
purple flowers, and Singapur (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 5,361)
has rose red flowers.

2. Flower size of Charme is smaller than the rest of
the comparison cultivars but there are more flowers in
the flower head. Thus, Charme produces a very good
show of color.

3. Charme has more pointed, narrow flower petals,
similar to Satisfaction, while Sensation, Bingo, Cherry
Jubilee, and Singapur have more rounded petals.

4. Charme is more compact and has superior basal
branching compared to the five comparison cultivars.

5. Charme is similar in maturity to Sensation and
Satisfaction, while Bingo, Cherry Jubilee, and Singapur
are approximately one week earlier.

6. Charme has the smallest leaves and the most dense
plant growth of any of these cultivars, with Bingo hav-
ing slightly larger leaves and Cherry Jubilee, Sensation,
Satisfaction, and Singapur having much larger leaves.

7. Charme has dark green leaves, as does Bingo, with
Cherry Jubilee, Sensation, Satisfaction, and Singapur
having a lighter yellow green leaf.

8. Charme has a very large, heavily branched flower
head, with Bingo, Singapur, and Cherry Jubilee having
a somewhat more open, less branched cluster and Sen-

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sation and Satisfaction having an even more open and
less full head.

9. To applicant's knowledge, Charme is the only
cultivar that exhibits branching on the lateral branches.

10. Charme has exhibited the ability to continue flow-
ering for a long period of time under less than ideal
conditions of the home environment.

The accompanying colored photograph illustrates in
top perspective view the overall appearance of Charme,
with colors being as true as it is reasonably possible to
obtain in a colored reproduction of this type.

The following is a detailed description of my new
Kalanchoe variety based on plants produced under
commercial practices in Wiesmoor, Federal Republic of
Germany and Ashtabula, Ohio. Color references are
made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart,
except where general colors of ordinary dictionary
significance are used.

Parentage: A controlled cross between the female par-
ent Singapur and the male parent Bali.

Propagation:
(A) *Type cutting*.—2 cm long stem tip cutting.
(B) *Time to root*.—10 days at 21° C. summer. 14
days at 21° C. winter.

(C) *Rooting habit*.—Abundant; fine, fibrous roots.

Plant description:

(A) *Form*.—Short, compact, almost no elongation
of main stem; excellent basal branching, with
even the basal branches developing flowers;
dense foliage growth. Scheduling practices can
produce a plant in either a 10 cm or 12 cm pot.

(B) *Habit of growth*.—Shoots form at every node,
and because of lack of elongation of main stem
the plant has a rosette appearance; very symmet-
rical plant with flowers above foliage.

(C) *Foliage*.—Leaves simple, opposite. (1) Size:
One full grown leaf of a 10 cm flowering plant is
90 mm long and 50 mm wide. (2) Shape: Ovate,
apex obtuse, base acute. (3) Texture: Glabrous,
succulent, coriaceous. (4) Margin: Crenate. (5)
Color: Young foliage, top side 146A, under side
146 A. Mature foliage, top side 147A, under side
147B.

Flowering description:

(A) *Flowering habits*.—Inflorescence is a cyme,
terminal flower of the main axis opens first, fol-

lowed by the terminal flowers of the side branches, continuing with subsequent development of branches in the inflorescence.

- (B) *Natural flowering season*.—Early January. Flowering time under controlled daylength at 20° C. in summer is 11 weeks; in winter 13 weeks. Flowering time depends on temperature, light intensity and other growing conditions.
- (C) *Flower buds*.—Elliptical to oblong, up to 7 mm long, developing to tubular as flower petals mature, sheathed with four green sepals; corolla at maturity is 5 mm long.
- (D) *Flowers borne*.—On compound dichasial cymes, primary peduncle 3 mm in diameter, with peduncle length depending on environment and B-9 application. Pedicels are up to 2 mm in diameter.
- (E) *Quantity of flowers*.—One of the most floriferous cultivars to date, with mature flowering plant having over 250 flowers due to its highly branched nature.
- (F) *Petals*.—(1) Shape: More long than rounded with acuminate tip. (2) Color: Top side, when

opening, 46D, fading to 67C; under side has both 66C and 68C red purple in it. (3) Number of petals: 4.

- (G) *Reproductive organs*.—(1) Stamens: Eight (8) in number. (a) Anther shape: Flat, elliptical, color yellow. (b) Filament color: Light green. (c) Pollen color: Yellow. (2) Pistils: (a) Stigma shape: Flat, color whitish when mature. (b) Style color: Yellow green. (c) Ovaries: 4 in number, size 4 mm, color light green.

Disease resistance: No disease problems observed to date.

Other important characteristics: Charme shows resistance to heat delay under blackcloth shading for short day treatment under high temperature conditions. The stems of Charme are not as large in diameter as other cultivars but can hold the smaller flowers up. Excellent 10 cm pot cultivar.

I claim:

- 1. A new and distinct cultivar of Kalanchoe plant named Charme, as illustrated and described.

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U.S. Patent

Mar. 7, 1989

Plant 6,648

