

[54] IMPATIENS PLANT NAMED DIANE  
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Fed. Rep. of Germany  
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[57] ABSTRACT  
An impatiens plant named Diane having dark red flow-  
ers and nicely contrasting dark red-green foliage, up-  
right but compact habit with very strong branching,  
and early and very profuse flowering.

1 Drawing Sheet

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The present invention relates to a new and distinct  
cultivar of impatiens plant known by the cultivar name  
Diane, and botanically known as impatiens.  
Diane was developed by applicant through a con-  
trolled breeding program in Bad Kreuznach, Federal  
Republic of Germany. Both the male and female par-  
ents are unknown at this time. Diane was discovered  
and selected as one flowering plant within the progeny  
of the cross by applicant in a controlled environment in  
Bad Kreuznach, Federal Republic of Germany.  
The first act of asexual reproduction of Diane was  
accomplished when terminal or stem cuttings were  
taken from the initial selection by applicant in a con-  
trolled environment in Bad Kreuznach, Federal Repub-  
lic of Germany. Horticultural examination of selected  
plants of Diane has demonstrated that the combination  
of characteristics as herein disclosed for Diane are  
firmly fixed and are retained through successive genera-  
tions of asexual reproduction.  
Diane has not been observed under all possible envi-  
ronmental conditions. The phenotype may vary signifi-  
cantly with variations in environment such as tempera-  
ture, light intensity, soil conditions, nutrient feeding,  
and day length.  
The following characteristics distinguish the new  
impatiens from both its parent varieties and other culti-  
vated impatiens of this type known and used in the  
floriculture industry within the knowledge of applicant:  
1. Dark red flowers.  
2. Dark red-green leaves which contrast well with  
flower color.  
3. The plant flowers early and is very floriferous.  
4. The growth habit is upright with very strong  
branching. The overall form is somewhat compact and  
the height less than average, making it a good plant for  
small plant culture.  
The accompanying colored photograph illustrates in  
perspective view the overall appearance of this cultivar,  
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 Diane based  
on plants produced under commercial practice in Enini-  
tas, Calif. Unrooted cuttings were rooted in March  
under intermittent mist, and the plants subsequently  
transplanted to 6" pots. Flowering commenced in July,  
and a plant nicely proportioned for a 6" pot was ready  
five or six weeks later. Most of the data which follows  
was collected between September 1-5 in Encinitas,

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Calif. The measurements and description of foliage  
were taken from fully expanded leaves.  
Color references are made to The Royal Horticul-  
tural Society Colour Chart except where general terms  
of ordinary dictionary significance are used. Color  
chart correlations were made indoors but under natural  
light conditions, with the leaves and flowers being com-  
pared to the R.H.S. color chart near a west-facing win-  
dow.  
Parentage: Seedling from cross pollination, with both  
the male and female parents being unknown at this  
time.  
Propagation:  
Type cutting.—Tip cutting. Stems 2-3 cm long will  
develop to 4-5 cm after 21 days in propagation.  
Time to initiate roots.—8-10 days at 73° C. Nicely  
developed root mass in 18-21 days.  
Rooting habit.—Numerous, fibrous adventitious  
roots from the stem.  
Plant description:  
Form.—Symmetrical, bush shaped, flowering herb,  
with self-branching characteristics giving the  
plant a full appearance.  
Habit of growth.—Vigorous, self-branching, com-  
pact habit, producing whorls of leaves and flow-  
ers on branched stems. Growth is indeterminate  
and flowering is continuous.  
Foliage description.—Leaves are simple. Lower  
leaves on stem are opposite. Higher leaves in  
whorls of 5. Leaf shape: Lanceolate to ovate  
with acuminate tip and acute base. Leaf blade  
size: 6-7 cm×3 cm. Leaf margin: Ciliate. Leaf  
texture: Upper surface: Mostly glabrous with  
minute cilia. Under surface: glabrous. Leaf color:  
Dark green with red mid vein, small amount of  
yellow variegation on either side of mid vein on  
older leaves. Upper surface: Darker than 139A.  
Under surface: 187A. Venation: Pinnate.  
Flowering description:  
Flowering habits.—Very floriferous, flowering con-  
tinuously. Flowers develop progressively  
around the whorl of leaves, taking 5-7 days from  
buds which show color to bloom. Flowers are  
single and large, lasting for 2-3 weeks.  
Natural flowering season.—Flowering is indetermi-  
nate and occurs throughout the year. Quantity of  
flowers increases with increasing light intensity  
and duration.

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*Flower buds*.—Ellipsoidal and covered with 3 sepals. A reddish approximately 3.5 cm long spur originates from the base of the major sepal. Two additional, rudimentary sepals are fused to back of the top petal. 5

*Flowers borne*.—Singly, on pedicels 2.5–3.5 cm long, pedicels reddish in color.

*Quantity of flowers*.—Floriferous. Two flowers per leaf occurring progressively around the whorl of leaves so that tight buds to mature blooms are visible at the same time in large numbers. 10

*Petals*.—Number of petals: Five (5). Shape: Top petal heart shaped with wide base, all other petals heart shaped with pointed base. All petals overlap. Color: Red. Upper surface: Near 46B. 15

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Under surface: Near 43A. Size of flowers: 4.5–5 cm.

*Reproductive organs*.—Stamens: Five (5) with the lower stamen being shorter than the other stamens. Stamens united in an asymmetrical tube surrounding the ovary. Anthers: Hooded, cream fused with red. Pollen: Cream color. Stigma: Five pointed star, colorless. Styles: Very short, reddish in color. Ovary: 5 celled, 4–5 mm long until fertilized, green in color.

I claim:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of impatiens plant named Diane, as illustrated and described, and parts thereof.

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**U.S. Patent**

**Mar. 21, 1989**

**Plant 6,683**

