

[54] CARNATION NAMED LONTAKIA  
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[57] ABSTRACT

An original variety of standard carnation having me-  
dium sized blooms of a light pink coloration, produced  
profusely at recurrent intervals in Spring, Midseason  
and Fall, the flowers being carried on medium length,  
strong and erect stems, and having moderately abun-  
dant foliage. The plant itself is distinguished by its vig-  
orous, upright and tall growth habit.

1 Drawing Sheet

1

BACKGROUND OF THE NEW PLANT

This carnation variety originated as a seedling at San  
Remo, Italy, resulting from the crossing of plants se-  
lected from our collection of carnations maintained for  
breeding purposes at San Remo. Our object in making  
this crossing was to develop new carnations having  
blooms of good quality and excellent color on strong  
plants. This plant was selected from the seedlings result-  
ing from the said crossing because of its very extraordi-  
nary flower coloration and its apparently vigorous and  
strong growth habit. Propagation of the selected plant  
was carried on under our direction at San Remo by  
cuttings and in vitro propagation through several suc-  
cessive generations, which clearly demonstrated that  
the novel characteristics of its blooming and growth  
habits appear to be firmly fixed and would remain true  
from generation to generation.

Accordingly, our new carnation variety is now being  
propagated for commercial purposes by means of cut-  
tings, as well as by in vitro propagation procedures, at  
Etablissements Barberet et Blanc, Laboratoire de  
Physiologie Vegetale, 83250 La Londe-Les Maures,  
France.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

Our new carnation variety is illustrated by the ac-  
companying photographic drawing, which shows sev-  
eral blooming stems with flowers and buds in several  
stages of development, the color rendition being as  
nearly true to that herein specified as is reasonably  
possible to obtain by professional photographic proce-  
dures.

DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW PLANT

The following is a detailed description of our new  
carnation variety based upon observations made in the  
Spring of 1988 of plants grown in greenhouse, as well as  
outside, at San Remo, Italy, the color designations  
stated herein being according to the R.H.S. Colour  
Chart published by the Royal Horticultural Society of  
London, England.

THE PLANT

Origin: Seedling.  
Parentage:

2

Seed parent.—Variety No. 141.

Pollen parent.—Variety No. 64.

Both parents are unpatented and unnamed and  
are identified in the breeding records maintained  
in the Di Giorgio nursery office at Via Villetta  
41, 18038 San Remo, Italy.

Classification:

Botanic.—*Dianthus caryophyllus*.

Commercial.—Standard Carnation.

Form: A tall, erect bush having at least four stems emit-  
ted near the ground.

Height: Averages about 125 cm at eight months of  
growth.

Main stem length: Less than 15 cm due to pinching to  
foster branching.

Branching: This plant is branched.

Growth: Vigorous and upright.

Foliage:

Quantity.—Moderately abundant.

Number of leaves.—More than 120.

Leaf size.—(At the seventh node) About 16.3 cm  
long and about 0.72 cm wide.

Leaf shape.—Oblong — with curved margins.

Texture.—Leathery.

Color.—Both upper and under sides, 189-A/B.

THE BUD

Size: Large.

Diameter.—Averages about 2.4 cm.

Length.—Averages about 3.5 cm.

Shape: Ovoid.

Rate of opening: Normal.

Color of petals: When sepals first divide and petals  
begin to unfurl: the same as at full bloom.

Sepals:

Number.—Five.

Shape.—Generally ovoid, with acuminate tip and  
joined together at the lower parts.

Character.—The sepals are hooded over the bud  
before they divide and stand up when the flower  
opens. They are not branched.

Color.—Inside, 145-D; outside, between 138-A and  
144-A and 145-A.

Striae.—Longitudinal.

Calyx:

Shape.—Bell-shaped.

*Size.*—Large.

*Aspect.*—Smooth.

*Splitting.*—Sometimes a little splitting occurs.

Flower stem:

*Length.*—Averages about 70 cm when cut at the tenth node.

*Character.*—Moderately rigid and erect.

*Color.*—189-A/B.

#### THE FLOWER

Blooming habit: Recurrent, blooming profusely in the Spring, Midseason and Fall blooming periods with a tendency to give few blooms in the Fall.

Size of flower: Medium.

*Diameter.*—Averages about 7.4 cm.

*Depth.*—Averages about 6.0 cm.

Borne: Singly, on a long, strong, upright stem.

Shape: When bloom first opens, high-centered. When bloom matures, dome-shaped.

Petalage:

*Number of petals.*—Averages about 82.

*Arrangement.*—Imbricated.

*Form.*—Fan-shaped with moderately serrated outer end margins.

*Texture.*—Leathery.

*Aspect.*—Satiny.

*Color.*—Both inner and outer petals — Body: Light Pink, 38D, 36C. Edges: 36D. Base: Greenish.

Reverse Side: Light Pink, 36C/D.

Petaloids:

*Number.*—Less than ten.

*Size.*—Smaller than the petals.

*Color.*—The same as the petals.

Flower stem:

*Character.*—Upright with good strength.

Discoloration after full bloom: A little.

Persistence: The flower petals hang on and dry.

Fragrance: Perceptible.

Lasting quality: As a cut flower, at least ten days in vase keeping.

#### REPRODUCTIVE ORGANS

Stamens:

*Number.*—Varies from 9 to 18.

*Arrangement.*—Encircling the ovary.

*Anthers.*—Size: Less than 4 mm. Color: Yellowish White.

*Filaments.*—Length: Averages about 3.2 cm.

Color: Yellowish White.

Pistils:

*Number.*—Three or four.

*Styles.*—Length: About 1.4 cm. Color: Yellowish white.

*Stigma.*—Color: Yellowish white.

Character of ovaries: Ribbed.

This carnation variety most nearly resembles the variety Lonseva (unpatented). Our new variety, however, differs from Lonseva because it has a lighter color and a wider calyx.

We claim:

1. A new and distinct standard variety of carnation plant substantially as herein shown and described, particularly distinguished by its profuse production of medium sized light pink blooms, borne on moderately long, strong, upright stems of a vigorous, rapidly growing and tall plant having moderately abundant foliage.

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**U.S. Patent**

**Mar. 6, 1990**

**Plant 7,183**

