

[54] GUZMANIA PLANT NAMED RANA  
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[57] ABSTRACT  
A new cultivar of Guzmania named 'Rana' character-  
ized by brilliant red inflorescence, produced on a  
strong, solid, compact, broad-leafed plant.  
2 Drawing Sheets

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The present invention relates to a new and distinct  
cultivar of the genus Guzmania, within the family  
Bromeliaceae, hereinafter referred to by the cultivar  
name 'Rana'.  
Guzmania comprise a genus of over 100 species of  
evergreen perennials suitable for cultivation in the  
home or under glass. Guzmania are predominantly epi-  
phytic with a few terrestrial species and are native to  
the tropics. For the most part the species vary in diame-  
ter from 7 or 8 inches to 3 or 4 feet and have rosettes of  
glossy, smooth edged leaves.  
Floral bracts of Guzmania frequently have brilliant  
colors and may last for many months. The range of  
colors for Guzmania is generally from yellow through  
orange but may also include flame red and red-purple.  
White or yellow, tubular, three petalled flowers may  
also appear on a stem or within the leaf rosette but are  
usually short lived.  
Guzmania may be advantageously grown as pot  
plants for greenhouse or home use. Desirably the plants  
are shaded from direct sunlight and during the spring to  
autumn period, the central vase-like part of the leaf  
rosette is desirably filled with water.  
Guzmania is native to tropical America. Leaves of  
the Guzmania are usually formed as basal rosettes  
which are stiff and entire and in several vertical ranks.  
Guzmania have terminal spikes or panicles which are  
often bracted with petals united in a tube about as long  
as the calyx. The ovary is superior and the seeds plu-  
mose.  
Asexual propagation of Guzmania is frequently done  
through the use of tissue culture practices. Propagation  
can also be from off-shoots produced by the plant  
which may then be rooted. The resulting plantlets are  
detached from the mother plant and may be potted up in  
a suitable growing mixture.  
The new cultivar 'Rana' is a product of a planned  
breeding program and was originated by the inventors  
from a cross made during such a program in Assendelft,  
The Netherlands, in 1983. The male, or pollen parent  
was a selection from *Guzmania lingulata* identified by  
Code No. 8320112, and the female, or seed parent was a  
selection from *Guzmania wittmackii* identified by Code  
No. 8320126. Both parents have a degree of homozy-  
gosity such that the progeny of the cross were and  
continue to be surprisingly uniform. The selection com-  
prising the new variety was chosen after commence-  
ment of flowering of the progeny in 1986, and subse-  
quent and continuous asexual propagation of offshoots

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has demonstrated that the combination of characteris-  
tics as herein disclosed for the new cultivar 'Rana' are  
firmly fixed and are retained through successive genera-  
tions of asexual reproduction.  
'Rana' is particularly characterized by the following:  
1. Its solid, compact growth habit.  
2. Relatively wide leaves.  
3. Superior floral bract production.  
4. Large inflorescence.  
5. Its long lasting habit.  
Perhaps the closest comparison cultivar is 'Grand  
Prix'. The above noted characteristics of 'Rana' also  
serve to distinguish 'Rana' from 'Grand Prix'.  
'Rana' has not been tested under all available environ-  
mental conditions and the phenotype may vary with  
variations in environmental conditions such as tempera-  
ture, light intensity, day length and humidity.  
The accompanying color photographic drawings  
show typical characteristics of 'Rana', with colors being  
as true as possible with illustrations of this type.  
Sheet 1 comprises a perspective view of a full plant  
with floral bracts.  
Sheet 2 contains at the top a somewhat more enlarged  
showing of the floral bracts and inflorescence, and at  
the bottom there appears an even more enlarged color  
showing of the floral bracts and inflorescence.  
In the following description, color references are  
made to The Royal Horticultural Society Color Chart  
(RHS).  
The following traits have been repeatedly observed  
and in combination distinguish 'Rana' as a new and  
distinct cultivar. These observations, measurements and  
descriptions have been performed under greenhouse  
conditions in Assendelft, The Netherlands.  
I. Plant:  
Form.—Funnel form rosette.  
Height.—Approximately 50 cm high when flower-  
ing.  
Growth habit.—Stemless.  
II. Foliage:  
Size of leaf.—Approximately 35–45 cm long.  
Shape of leaf.—Linear — lanceolate.  
Surface texture.—Smooth.  
Variegation.—None.

# Plant 7,471

3

*Color*.—Upperside, near RHS 139A. Underside, near RHS 137B.

## III. Bracts:

*Length*.—Primary bracts approximately 12 cm, scape bracts approximately 20 cm. 5

*Width*.—At the base, approximately 4½ cm.

*General shape*.—Lanceolate.

*Number*.—Approximately 11 primary bracts.

*Texture*.—Smooth.

*Margin*.—Entire. 10

*Color*.—Inner and outer surfaces, RHS 44A with dark anthocyanous tip.

## IV. Flowers:

*Borne*.—Erect stalks.

*Shape of inflorescence*.—Densely bipinnate. 15

*Size of inflorescence*.—Approximately 25 cm.

*Individual petals*.—(1) Length: For about ¾ of their length, the 3 petals are grown together to form a tube and are approximately 5½ cm long, of which 5 cm is disposed within the floral bracts hidden 20 behind the primary bracts. (2) Width: 6 mm. (3)

4

*Quantity*: Approximately 80 flowers divided over approximately 11 branches depending on the size of plant and inflorescence. (4) *Color*: 11B-12C (color appears lighter in photographs).

*Time of blooming*.—In a fully grown plant, flowers start 15 weeks after induction, and at any time of the year.

*Duration of blooms*.—Each flower blooms 1 day and the total duration of blooming is about 6 weeks.

## V. Reproductive organs:

*Ovaries*.—Superior.

*Stamens*.—6 in number.

## 15 VI. Seed characteristics: Sterile hybrid, therefore no seed.

I claim:

1. A plant of a new and distinct cultivar of *Guzmania* plant named 'Rana', as illustrated and described.

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