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Kientzler

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[54] NEW GUINEA IMPATIENS PLANT NAMED 'TOGA'

[58] Field of Search ..... Plt./87.6

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### [57] ABSTRACT

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A new and distinct cultivar of New Guinea Impatiens plant named 'Toga', characterized by its flat and rounded lavender-colored flowers; upright to outwardly spreading, rounded and mounding growth habit; and dark green, somewhat glossy, non-variegated foliage.

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1 Drawing Sheet

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1

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The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of New Guinea Impatiens plant, botanically known as *Impatiens hawkeri*, known by the name 'Kitoga', and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name 'Toga'.

The new cultivar is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the inventor in Gensingen, Germany. The objective of the breeding program was to develop new varieties that have a uniform plant habit, attractive flower colors, good flower form and numerous flowers per plant.

The new cultivar originated from a cross made by the inventor of a proprietary seedling selection identified as L926 as the male, or pollen parent, with the proprietary seedling selection identified as W525 as the female, or seed parent. The cultivar 'Toga' was discovered and selected by the inventor as a flowering plant within the progeny of the stated cross in a controlled environment in Gensingen, Germany. Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal cuttings taken at Gensingen, Germany, has shown that the unique features of this new Impatiens are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations of asexual reproduction.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be the unique characteristics of 'Toga'. These characteristics in combination distinguish 'Toga' as a new and distinct cultivar:

1. Flat and rounded lavender-colored flowers.
2. Upright to outwardly spreading, rounded and mounding growth habit.
3. Dark green, somewhat glossy, non-variegated foliage.

The new New Guinea Impatiens is similar in flower color to the New Guinea Impatiens cultivar 'Light Lavender II' (disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 9,278). However in side-by-side comparisons in Encinitas, Calif., under commercial practice, plants of the new New Guinea Impatiens differed from plants of the cultivar 'Light Lavender II' in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new New Guinea Impatiens are more outwardly spreading and mounding than plants of the cultivar 'Light Lavender II'.
2. Plants of the new New Guinea Impatiens less vigorous than plants of the cultivar 'Light Lavender II'.
3. Plants of the new New Guinea Impatiens are more freely branching than plants of the cultivar 'Light Lavender II'.
4. Leaves of plants of the new New Guinea Impatiens are shorter than leaves of plants of the cultivar 'Light Lavender II'.
5. Flowers of plants of the new New Guinea Impatiens are more rounded and flatter than flowers of plants of the cultivar 'Light Lavender II'.

6. Flower spurs of plants of the new New Guinea Impatiens are shorter and more red than flower spurs of plants of the cultivar 'Light Lavender II'.

7. Peduncles of plants of the new New Guinea Impatiens are shorter, stronger and more red than flower spurs of plants of the cultivar 'Light Lavender II'.

A detailed comparison of plants of the new New Guinea Impatiens and the cultivar 'Light Lavender II' appears in Chart A at the end of the specification.

The accompanying colored photographs illustrate the overall appearance of the new cultivar, showing the colors as true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored reproductions of this type.

The first photograph comprises a top perspective view of a typical plant of 'Toga'.

The second photograph comprises a close-up view of typical flowers and upper (left) and lower (right) surfaces of leaves of the cultivars 'Light Lavender II' (top of photo) and 'Toga' (bottom of photo).

Flower and foliage colors in the photographs may differ from the actual colors due to light reflectance.

The cultivar Toga has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in environment such as temperature and light intensity, without, however, any variance in genotype. The following observations, measurements and comparisons describe plants grown 10-cm pots in Encinitas, Calif., under commercial practice in a fiberglass-covered greenhouse with day temperatures ranging from 23 to 29C and night temperatures ranging from 16 to 18C and light levels averaging 3,000 footcandles.

In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

#### Classification:

*Botanical.*—*Impatiens hawkeri* 'Toga'.

*Commercial.*—New Guinea Impatiens cv. 'Toga'.

#### Parentage:

*Male parent.*—Proprietary seedling selection L926.

*Female parent.*—Proprietary seedling selection W525.

#### Propagation:

*Type cutting.*—Terminal cuttings.

*Time to initiate roots.*—about 15 days with 21C soil temperature.

#### Plant Description:

*Plant form.*—Upright to outwardly spreading, mounded and compact.

*Growth habit.*—Moderately vigorous. Moderate branching, dense and bushy. Suitable for 10 to 25-cm containers.

*Plant size.*—Height: About 18 cm. Width or spread: About 21 cm.

*Lateral branches.*—Quantity: Five to seven. Size: Length: About 14 cm. Diameter: 1 to 1.3 cm. Internode length: 4 to 5 cm. Color: 146A with thin stripes of 59A.

*Foliage description.*—Leaves simple, generally symmetrical, abundant, opposite or in whorls of three, horizontal to plant and flat in aspect. Size, largest leaves: Length: About 11.5 cm. Width: About 4.5 cm. Shape: Ovate with acuminate apex, attenuate base and ciliate margin. Texture: Smooth, somewhat glossy. Color: Young foliage, upper surface: 137A. Young foliage, lower surface: 147B. Fully expanded foliage, upper surface: 147A. Fully expanded foliage, lower surface: 147B. Venation, upper surface: 147B. Venation, lower surface: Moderately deep reddish brown. Petiole: Size: Length: About 3.5 cm. Diameter: About 3 mm. Color: 182A.

**Flower description:**

*Flower type and habit.*—Lavender-colored flowers. Freely and continuously flowering. Flowers arise from leaf axils. Usually eight flowers per lateral branch. Flowers positioned at or just above the foliage and face upward or outward. Flowers flat and rounded. Flowers persistent.

*Flowering season.*—Year-round under greenhouse conditions. In the garden, flowering is continuous from spring until fall.

*Flower size.*—Length: About 6 cm. Width: About 6 cm. Depth: About 5 mm.

*Flower buds.*—Size: Length: About 2.3 cm. Diameter: About 1.6 cm. Shape: Ovoid. Color: 72B.

*Petals.*—Quantity: Five. Size (largest petals): Length: Top petal: About 2.6 cm. Middle petals: About 2.8 cm. Bottom petals: About 3.5 cm. Width: Top petal: About 4 cm. Middle petals: About 2.6 cm. Bottom petals: About 3.6 cm. Shape: Cordate with emarginate apex, cuneate or obtuse base and entire margin. Texture: Velvety, smooth. Color: When opening, upper surface: Iridescent, 81C. When opening, lower surface: Iridescent, 81D. Fully opened, upper surface: Iridescent, 82C. Fully opened, lower surface: Iridescent, 82D. Fading to: Slightly lighter than 82D.

*Spur.*—length: About 4.5 cm. Shape: Narrow and curved. Color: Proximal: 148C with 59C overtones. Distal: 59A.

*Peduncles.*—Length: About 4 cm. Angle: Erect and outward. Strength: Strong. Color: 59A.

*Reproductive organs.*—Androecium: Stamen number: Five, anthers fused, filaments free. Anther shape: Obovate. Anther size: 5 by 4 mm. Anther color: Cream. Amount of pollen: Moderate. Pollen color: Cream. Gynoecium: Five-loculate fused. Gynoecium color: 58B.

**Disease Resistance:** Under commercial conditions, resistance nor susceptibility to pathogens has not been observed.

Seed development: Seed production is not usually observed.

CHART A

CHARACTERISTIC	'TOGA'	'LIGHT LAVENDER II'
GROWTH HABIT	Upright to outwardly spreading and mounding	Upright, open
VIGOR	Moderate	Vigorous
NUMBER OF LATERAL BRANCHES	5 to 7	3 to 5
LATERAL BRANCH LENGTH	About 14 cm	About 17 cm
LATERAL BRANCH DIAMETER	1 to 1.3 cm	0.8 to 1 cm
LEAF LENGTH	About 11.5 cm	About 13 cm
LEAF WIDTH	About 4.5 cm	4.5 to 5 cm
LEAF COLOR, YOUNG, UPPER SURFACE	137A	137A
LEAF COLOR, YOUNG, LOWER SURFACE	147B	147C
LEAF COLOR, MATURE, UPPER SURFACE	147A	147A
LEAF COLOR, MATURE, LOWER SURFACE	147B	147C
LEAF VENATION COLOR, UPPER SURFACE	147B	Lighter than 146D
LEAF VENATION COLOR, LOWER SURFACE	148A	146D
PETIOLE LENGTH	About 3.5 cm	About 4 cm
PETIOLE DIAMETER	About 3 mm	About 5 mm
PETIOLE COLOR	182A	184D
FLOWER ASPECT	Flat	Slightly cupped
FLOWER SHAPE	Rounded	Slightly cupped
FLOWER LENGTH	About 6 cm	About 6 cm
FLOWER WIDTH	About 6 cm	About 5 cm
PETAL COLOR, WHEN OPENING, UPPER SURFACE	81C	81C
PETAL COLOR, WHEN OPENING, LOWER SURFACE	81D	82D
PETAL COLOR, OPENED, UPPER SURFACE	82C	81D
PETAL COLOR, OPENED, LOWER SURFACE	82D	75C
PETAL COLOR, FADING TO	Slightly lighter than 82D	75B
SPUR LENGTH	About 4.5 cm	About 6 cm
SPUR COLOR	Proximal: 148C with 59C overtones Distal: 59A	Proximal: Lighter than 145D Distal: 145C with 182B tip
PEDUNCLE LENGTH	About 4 cm	4.5 to 5 cm
PEDUNCLE STRENGTH	Strong	Moderate to strong
PEDUNCLE COLOR	59A	144B
FLOWER BUD COLOR	72B	82D

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of New Guinea Impatiens plant named 'Toga', as illustrated and described.

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