



US00PP11402P

United States Patent [19]
Trees

[11] Patent Number: Plant 11,402
[45] Date of Patent: Jun. 6, 2000

[54] NEW GUINEA IMPATIENS PLANT NAMED
‘BFP-857’
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Horticultural Company, West
Chicago, Ill.
[21] Appl. No.: 09/113,133
[22] Filed: Jul. 9, 1998
[51] Int. Cl.⁷ A01H 5/00
[52] U.S. Cl. Plt./318
[58] Field of Search Plt./318

[56] References Cited
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS
P.P. 9,188 7/1995 Dehan Plt./318
P.P. 9,984 7/1997 Dummen Plt./318
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[57] ABSTRACT
A new and distinct cultivar of New Guinea Impatiens plant
named ‘BFP-857’, characterized by its white-colored flow-
ers; compact, upright and mounded plant habit; good basal
branching; and dark green leaves.
1 Drawing Sheet

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of New Guinea Impatiens plant, botanically known as *Impa-
tiens hawkeri*, and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar
name ‘BFP-857’.
The new New Guinea Impatiens is a product of a planned
breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Arroyo
Grande, Calif. The objective of the breeding program was to
develop new cultivars with excellent basal branching,
upright and medium growth habit, numerous large flowers,
and interesting flower and foliage colors.
The new New Guinea Impatiens originated from a cross
made by the Inventor of the proprietary selection identified
as 712-LF as the male, or pollen parent, with the *Impatiens*
hawkeri cultivar ‘Moorea’ (disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No.
9,147) as the female, or seed parent. The cultivar ‘BFP-857’
was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a flowering
plant within the progeny of the stated cross in a controlled
environment in Arroyo Grande, Calif., on Sep. 15, 1996.
Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal
cuttings taken at Arroyo Grande, Calif., has shown that the
unique features of this new Impatiens are stable and repro-
duced true to type in successive generations of asexual
reproduction.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and
are determined to be the unique characteristics of ‘BFP-
857’. These characteristics in combination distinguish ‘BFP-
857’ as a new and distinct cultivar:
1. White-colored flowers.
2. Compact, upright and mounded plant habit.
3. Good basal branching.
4. Dark green leaves.
The new New Guinea Impatiens can be compared to the
parent cultivar, ‘Moorea’. However, in side-by-side com-
parisons conducted by the Inventor in Arroyo Grande, Calif.,
plants of the new New Guinea Impatiens differ from plants
of the cultivar ‘Moorea’ in the following characteristics:
1. Plants of the new New Guinea Impatiens are more
vigorous and larger than plants of the cultivar ‘Moorea’.
2. Leaves of plants of the new New Guinea Impatiens are
smaller, smoother and less numerous than leaves of plants of
the cultivar ‘Moorea’.

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3. Plants of the new New Guinea Impatiens have larger
flowers than plants of the cultivar ‘Moorea’.
4. Plants of the new New Guinea Impatiens have shorter
peduncles than plants of the cultivar ‘Moorea’.
A detailed comparison of plants of the cultivar ‘BFP-857’
and the cultivar ‘Moorea’ appears in Chart A at the end of the
specification.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying colored photograph illustrates the
overall appearance of the new cultivar, showing the colors as
true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored repro-
ductions of this type. The photograph comprises a top
perspective view of a typical plant of ‘BFP-857’. Flower and
foliage colors in the photograph may appear different from
the actual colors due to light reflectance.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The cultivar ‘BFP-857’ has not been observed under all
possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary
somewhat with variations in environment such as tempera-
ture and light intensity, without, however, any variance in
genotype. The following observations, measurements and
comparisons describe plants grown in 10-cm pots in Arroyo
Grande, Calif., under commercial practice in a glass-covered
greenhouse with day temperatures about 22° C. and night
temperatures about 18° C.
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.
Botanical classification: *Impatiens hawkeri* cultivar ‘BFP-
857’.
Parentage:
Male parent.—Proprietary *Impatiens hawkeri* selection
712-LF.
Female parent.—*Impatiens hawkeri* cultivar ‘Moorea’,
disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 9,147.
Propagation:
Type cutting.—Terminal cuttings.
Time to initiate roots.—About 7 days at temperatures
about 18° C.
Time to develop roots.—About 21 days at temperatures
about 18° C.
Rooting habit.—Fibrous, fine, freely branching.

Plant description:

Plant form.—Compact, upright and mounded.
Growth and branching habit.—Moderately vigorous. Good basal branching with about five lateral branches at the base, dense and bushy growth. Appropriate for 10 and 12.5-cm containers.
Plant height.—About 8.3 cm.
Crop time.—About eight weeks are required to produce a finished flowering plant in a 10-cm container from a rooted cutting.
Lateral branches.—Length: About 6 cm. Diameter: About 5 mm. Internode length: About 2.8 cm. Color: 144A/146A.
Foliage description.—Leaves simple, generally symmetrical, abundant, in whorls or opposite. Quantity of leaves per lateral branch: About 11. Length: About 9 cm. Width: About 3 cm. Shape: Lanceolate with acuminate apex, attenuate base and serrate/ciliate margin. Texture: Smooth, slightly pubescent. Color: Fully expanded foliage, upper surface: 147A. Fully expanded foliage, lower surface: 137C. Venation, upper surface: 144B. Venation, lower surface: 144B. Petiole: Length: About 1.3 cm. Diameter: About 2.5 mm. Color: 144B.

Flower description:

Flower type and habit.—White-colored flowers. Freely and continuously flowering. Flowers arise from leaf axils. Usually about four flowers and flower buds per lateral branch. Flowers positioned mostly above the foliage and typically face upright. Flowers generally flat and rounded. Flowers persistent.
Flowering season.—Year-round under greenhouse conditions. In the garden, flowering is continuous from spring until fall.
Flower longevity.—About 3 or 4 days.
Flower size.—Diameter: About 6 cm. Depth: About 1.2 cm.
Flower buds.—Length: About 2 cm. Diameter: About 1 cm. Shape: Ovoid. Color: Light green to white, 155A.
Petals.—Quantity: Five, overlapping. Length: About 3.5 cm. Width: About 3 cm. Shape: Cordate with emarginate apex, attenuate base and entire margin.

Texture: Smooth, iridescent. Color: When opening, upper surface: 155A. When opening, lower surface: 155A. Fully opened, upper surface: 155A. Fully opened, lower surface: 155A.
Spur.—Length: About 6 cm. Shape: Narrow and curved. Color: 154D.
Peduncles.—Length: About 4 cm. Angle: About 45° to the lateral branch. Strength: Moderately strong. Color: 144A.
Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Stamen number: Five, anthers fused, filaments free. Anther shape: Obovate. Anther color: 10D. Amount of pollen: Moderate. Pollen color: 4D. Gynoecium: Five-loculate fused. Stigma color: Colorless. Ovary color: 144A.

Disease resistance: Under commercial conditions, resistance to pathogens has not been observed.
Seed development: Seed production has not been observed.

CHART A

CHARACTERISTICS	‘BFP-857’	‘MOOREA’
PLANT HEIGHT	About 8.3 cm	About 7.1 cm
LATERAL BRANCH LENGTH	About 6 cm	About 4 cm
LATERAL BRANCH DIAMETER	About 5 mm	About 6 mm
QUANTITY OF LEAVES PER LATERAL BRANCH	About 11	About 13
LEAF LENGTH	About 9 cm	About 10 cm
LEAF WIDTH	About 3 cm	About 4 cm
LEAF TEXTURE	Smooth	Some rugosity
PETIOLE LENGTH	About 1.3 cm	About 2 cm
PETIOLE DIAMETER	About 2.5 mm	About 3.5 mm
FLOWER DIAMETER	About 6 cm	About 5.5 cm
PETAL LENGTH	About 2.5 cm	About 3 cm
PETAL WIDTH	About 3 cm	About 2.5 cm
PEDUNCLE LENGTH	About 4 cm	About 5 cm
PEDUNCLE STRENGTH	Moderate	Strong

It is claimed:
1. A new and distinct cultivar of New Guinea Impatiens plant named ‘BFP-857’, as illustrated and described.

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