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Trees

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[54] NEW GUINEA IMPATIENS PLANT NAMED 'BALCELVAGO'

[56] References Cited

[75] Inventor: Scott C. Trees, Nipomo, Calif.

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

P.P. 8,112 1/1993 Flamenco Plt./318
P.P. 8,421 10/1993 Kientzler Plt./318

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[57] ABSTRACT

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A new and distinct cultivar of New Guinea Impatiens plant named 'Balcelavgo', characterized by its dark lavender-colored flowers; floriferousness; upright and mounded plant habit; medium plant size; vigor; good basal branching; and dark green leaves.

[51] Int. Cl.⁷ A01H 5/00

[52] U.S. Cl. Plt./318

[58] Field of Search Plt./318

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 *Impatiens hawkeri*, and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name 'Balcelavgo'.

Arroyo Grande, Calif., plants of the new Impatiens differ from plant of the cultivar Aruba in the following characteristics:

The new 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, medium upright growth habit, numerous large flowers, and interesting flower and foliage colors.

1. Plants of the new Impatiens are shorter and not as broad as plants of the cultivar 'Aruba'.

2. Lower leaf surfaces of plants of the new Impatiens are green in color whereas lower leaf surfaces of plants of the cultivar 'Aruba' are maroon in color.

The new Impatiens originated from a cross made by the Inventor of the *Impatiens hawkeri* cultivar 'Moorea', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 9,147, as the male, or pollen parent, with the proprietary *Impatiens hawkeri* selection BFP-685, as the female, or seed parent. The cultivar 'Balcelavgo' 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., in December, 1996. Plants of the new Impatiens differ from plants of 'Moorea' primarily in flower color as plants of 'Moorea' have white colored flowers.

3. Plants of the new Impatiens have larger flowers than plants of the cultivar 'Aruba'.

A detailed comparison of plants of the cultivar 'Balcelavgo' and the cultivar 'Aruba' appears in Chart A at the end of the specification.

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 reproduced true to type in successive generations of asexual reproduction.

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 reproductions of this type. The photograph comprises a top perspective view of a typical plant of 'Balcelavgo'. Flower and foliage colors in the photograph may appear different than the actual colors due to light reflectance.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

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

The cultivar 'Balcelavgo' 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 in 10-cm pots in Arroyo Grande, Calif., under commercial practice in a glass-covered greenhouse with day temperatures about 20 to 22° C., night temperatures about 18 to 20° C., and light levels generally about 2,500 to 3,000 footcandles.

1. Relatively large dark lavender-colored flowers; freely flowering.
2. Upright and mounded plant habit.
3. Medium plant size; vigorous.
4. Good basal branching.
5. Dark green leaves.

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 'Balcelavgo'.

Parentage:

Male parent.—*Impatiens hawkeri* cultivar 'Moorea', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 9,147.

The new Impatiens can be compared to the *Impatiens hawkeri* cultivar 'Aruba', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 8,456. However, in side-by-side comparisons conducted in

Female parent.—Proprietary *Impatiens hawkeri* selection BFP-685.

Propagation:

Type cutting.—Terminal cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—About 7 days at 18° C.

Time to develop roots.—About 21 days at 18° C.

Rooting habit.—Fibrous, fine, freely branching.

Plant description:

General appearance.—Upright and mounded; medium plant size; vigorous. Appropriate for 10 and 12.5-cm containers.

Growth and branching habit.—Good basal branching with about five to seven lateral branches at the base, dense and bushy growth. Pinching, that is, removal of the terminal apices, is usually not required.

Crop time.—Starting with a rooted cutting, about ten weeks are required to produce a finished flowering plant in a 10-cm container.

Plant height.—About 14 to 16 cm.

Plant width.—About 20 to 25 cm.

Lateral branches.—Length: About 11 to 12 cm. Diameter: About 5 to 7 mm. Internode length: About 3 to 4 cm. Color: 183D.

Foliage description.—Leaves simple, generally symmetrical, abundant, in whorls or opposite. Length: About 7 to 8 cm. Width: About 2 to 3 cm. Shape: Elliptic. Apex: Acuminate. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Serrate/ciliate. Texture: Slightly rugose; glossy; glabrous. Color: Young foliage, upper surface: 137A. Young foliage, lower surface: Between 148A and 148B. Fully expanded foliage, upper surface: 139A. Fully expanded foliage, lower surface: 138B. Venation, upper surface: 59C. Venation, lower surface: 59B. Petiole: Length: About 5 to 10 mm. Diameter: About 1.5 to 2.5 mm. Color: 183D.

Flower description:

Flower type and habit.—Dark lavender-colored flowers. Freely and continuously flowering. Flowers arise from leaf axils. Usually about eight to ten flowers and flower buds per lateral branch. Flowers positioned mostly above the foliage and typically face outward to upward. 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.—Flowers last about one week depending on temperature, light level, and water status.

Flower size.—Diameter: About 7.3 to 7.5 cm. Depth: About 1 cm.

Flower buds.—Length: About 1.6 to 1.8 cm. Diameter: About 1 cm. Shape: Elliptic. Color: Close to 80A.

Petals.—Quantity: Five, overlapping. Length: About 3 to 4 cm. Width: About 5 to 6 cm. Shape: Cordate. Apex: Retuse. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire. Texture: Smooth. Color: When opening, upper surface: 81B, iridescent. When opening, lower surface: 81C, iridescent. Fully opened, upper surface: 81C, iridescent. Fully opened, lower surface: 81D, iridescent. Fading to, upper surface: 76A, iridescent.

Spur.—Length: About 5 to 6 cm. Shape: Narrow and curved. Color: 183D.

Peduncles.—Length: About 4 to 6 cm. Angle: About 45° to the lateral branch. Strength: Strong. Color: 183D.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Stamen number: Five, anthers fused, filaments free. Anther shape: Obovate. Pollen amount: Moderate. Pollen color: 11B. Gynoecium: Five-loculate fused. Ovary color: 144A.

Disease resistance: Resistance to pathogens common to *Impatiens* has not been observed.

Seed development: Seed production has not been observed.

CHART A

CHARACTERISTIC	'BALCELAVGO'	'ARUBA'
PLANT HEIGHT	About 14 to 16 cm	About 19 to 21 cm
PLANT WIDTH	About 20 to 25 cm	About 30 to 35 cm
STEM COLOR	183D	187A
LEAF COLOR, UPPER SURFACE	139A	136A
LEAF COLOR, LOWER SURFACE	138A	187A
PETIOLE LENGTH	About 5 to 10 mm	About 2 to 2.5 cm
PETIOLE COLOR	183D	Between 59C and 185A
FLOWER DIAMETER	About 7.3 to 7.5 cm	About 6 to 6.5 cm
SPUR COLOR	183D	185A
PETAL COLOR, FULLY OPENED, UPPER SURFACE	81C, iridescent	78A
PETAL COLOR, FULLY OPENED, LOWER SURFACE	81D, iridescent	78B
PETAL COLOR, FADING TO	76A, iridescent	78B
PEDUNCLE COLOR	183D	185A

It is claimed:

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

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