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Westhoff

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(54) **SCAEVOLA PLANT NAMED ‘BRILLANT’**
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(57) **ABSTRACT**
A distinctive cultivar of Scaevola plant named ‘Brillant’,
characterized by its spreading, cascading and uniformly
rounded plant habit; compact growth habit with short inter-
nodes; very freely branching plant habit; vigorous growth
habit; and numerous blue purple fan-shaped flowers.

1 Drawing Sheet

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present Invention relates to a new and distinct culti-
var of Scaevola plant, botanically known as *Scaevola*
aemula and referred to by the cultivar name Brillant.
The new cultivar is a product of a planned breeding
program conducted by the Inventor in Sudlohn-Oeding,
Germany. The new Scaevola originated from a cross of the
Scaevola cultivar Fancy, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No.
9,867, as the female, or seed, parent with an unidentified
selection of *Scaevola aemula*, not patented, as the male, or
pollen, parent. The new Scaevola was selected by the
Inventor in 1998 on the basis of its compact plant habit.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal
cuttings taken at Sudlohn-Oeding, Germany, has shown that
the unique features of this new Scaevola are stable and
reproduced true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The new cultivar has not been observed under all possible
environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary some-
what with variations in environment such as temperature,
daylength and light intensity, without, however, any vari-
ance in genotype.

The following characteristics have been repeatedly
observed and are determined to be the basic characteristics
of ‘Brillant’ which distinguish ‘Brillant’ as a new and
distinct cultivar.

1. Spreading, cascading and uniformly rounded plant
habit.
2. Compact plants with short internodes, dense and bushy
plant form.
3. Very freely branching plant habit.
4. Vigororous growth habit.
5. Very floriferous with numerous blue purple fan-shaped
flowers.

Plants of the new Scaevola are most similar to the female
parent, the cultivar Fancy. However in side-by-side com-
parisons conducted by the Inventor in Sudlohn-Oeding,
Germany, plants of the new Scaevola and the cultivar Fancy
differ in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new Scaevola are more compact and have
shorter lateral branches than plants of the cultivar Fancy.

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2. Plants of the new Scaevola are more freely branching
than plants of the cultivar Fancy.
3. Plants of the new Scaevola have shorter internodes than
plants of the cultivar Fancy.
4. Plants of the new Scaevola have more flowers per
centimeter of lateral stem than plants of the cultivar Fancy.
5. Petal of the new Scaevola are not white at the base
whereas petals of the cultivar Fancy are white at the base
forming a white band.

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. Colors in the photograph may differ
slightly from the color values cited in the detailed botanical
description which more accurately describe the actual colors
of the new Scaevola. The photograph comprises a side
perspective view of a typical hanging basket container of
‘Brillant’.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The following observations, measurements and values
describe plants of the new Scaevola grown in containers in
Sudlohn-Oeding, Germany under conditions which approxi-
mate those used in commercial production. Plants used for
this description were about 8 weeks old and grown in
12.5-cm container during the spring in a glass-covered
greenhouse. Color references are made to The Royal Hor-
ticultural Society Colour Chart except where general terms
of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Botanical classification: *Scaevola aemula* cultivar Brillant.
Parentage:
Female, or seed, parent.—*Scaevola aemula* cultivar
Fancy, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 9,867.
Male, or pollen, parent.—Unidentified selection of
Scaevola aemula, not patented.
Propagation:
Type cutting.—Terminal cuttings.
Time to develop roots.—About four weeks at 22° C.
Rooting habit.—Fine, fibrous, and freely branching.

Plant description:

Plant form and growth habit.—Annual container and garden plant. Spreading, cascading and uniformly mounded plant habit; eventually plants become spherical in shape. Suitable for hanging basket, window box and patio containers. Compact plants with numerous leaves and short internodes; full, dense and bushy plant form. Very freely branching with lateral branches potentially forming at every vegetative leaf axil.

Crop time.—About 8 weeks are required to produce a finished, flowering plant in a 12.5-cm container.

Vigor.—Vigorous.

Plant height (soil level to top of plant plane).—About 22.5 cm.

Plant length (soil level to apices of lateral branches).—About 87.5 cm.

Stem description.—Lateral branch length: About 30 cm. Diameter: Main stems, about 5.5 mm; lateral branches, about 2.6 mm. Internode length: About 1.6 cm. Color: 144A, under high light, anthocyanin, 166A to 166B, is observed. Texture: Smooth; sparse pubescence.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Alternate, single. Length: Fully expanded leaf, about 6.5 cm. Width: Fully expanded leaf, about 2 cm. Shape: Oblanceolate to spatulate. Apex: Acute. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Irregularly serrated, slightly serrated towards base and more strongly serrated towards apex. Texture: Very sparsely pubescent, rough and somewhat leathery, both surfaces. Color: Young leaves, upper surface: 137A to 137B. Young leaves, lower surface: 137C. Fully expanded leaves, upper surface: 137A to 137B. Fully expanded leaves, lower surface: 137C.

Flower description:

Flower type and shape.—Zygomorphic, semi-circular, fan-shaped flowers with five petals fused at the base to form a tubular flower throat. Flower throat open along the upper surface exposing reproductive organs. Flowers persistent. No fragrance detected.

Flower arrangement and quantity.—Solitary flowers arise from leaf axils with one flower per axil. Flowers held outwardly on upturned lateral apices. Flowering on about 24 cm of distal end of lateral stems. Very freely flowering, typically about 3 flowers per centimeter of flowering stem.

Flowering time.—Plants flower continuously from spring until frost. Flowers typically last at least 3 days on the plant.

Flower buds.—Shape: Lanceolate. Length: About 1.3 cm. Diameter: About 3 mm. Color: 145A becoming 148B to 148C just before opening.

Perianth.—Aspect: Fan-shaped, flat. Length, fan: About 3.75 cm. Width, fan: About 2 cm.

Petals.—Quantity: Five, fused at base. Shape: Close to oblanceolate. Apex: Cuspidate. Margin: Entire. Length, above tube: About 1.6 cm. Width, above tube: About 6 mm. Length, tube: About 1.4 cm. Diameter, tube opening: About 4 mm. Diameter, tube: About 2.5 mm. Texture: Smooth. Flower throat, whiskered. Color: When opening, upper surface: 90B. When opening, lower surface and tube: 90C. Fully opened, upper surface: 90C, veins, 79B. Fully opened, lower surface and tube: 90D, veins, 85D. Throat: 160A, veins, 200C. Tube: Upper surface, 199A, lower surface, 160D.

Sepals.—Quantity and arrangement: One large sepal, two smaller sepals lateral to larger sepal. Length: Larger sepal, about 1.75 cm; lateral sepals, about 9 mm. Width: Larger sepal, about 6 mm; lateral sepals, about 1.5 mm. Shape: Larger sepal, lanceolate; lateral sepals, acicular, needle-like. Apex: Acute. Margin: Entire. Texture: Leathery, slightly pubescent, both surfaces. Color: Upper surface: 137A. Lower surface: 137C.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Five stamens. Anthers: Shape: Oval. Length: About 2 mm. Diameter: About 0.5 mm. Color: 166B. Pollen: Very scarce, yellow. Gynoecium: Pistil quantity: One. Pistil length: About 1.7 cm. Style length: About 1.2 cm. Style color: Apex, 166A; base, 145C. Stigma shape: Elongate. Stigma color: 155A. Ovary color: 145A.

Seed.—Seed production has not been observed.

Pest disease resistance: Plants of the new *Scaevola* have been noted to be resistant to pest/pathogens common to *Scaevola*.

Weather tolerance: Plants of the new *Scaevola* have been observed to be tolerant to rain and wind.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Scaevola* plant named 'Brillant', as illustrated and described.

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