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(54) **NEW GUINEA IMPATIENS PLANT NAMED 'TAMAR FUCHSIA'**

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(58) **Field of Search** Plt./318

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of New Guinea Impatiens plant named 'Tamar Fuchsia', characterized by its large, red purple-colored flowers; freely flowering habit with flowers positioned above or beyond the foliage; upright, somewhat outwardly spreading, rounded, uniform and compact plant habit; freely branching growth habit; and very dark green leaves.

1 Drawing Sheet

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 Tamar Fuchsia.

The new Impatiens is a product of a planned breeding program Inventor in Maasland, The Netherlands. The objective of the breeding program is to develop new Impatiens cultivars with uniform plant habit and attractive flower and foliage colors.

The new Impatiens originated from a cross made by the Inventor in 1994 of the *Impatiens hawkeri* cultivar Grenada, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 9,343, as the male, or pollen parent, with the *Impatiens hawkeri* cultivar Aruba, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 8,456, as the female, or seed parent. The cultivar Tamar Fuchsia was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a flowering plant within the progeny of the stated cross in a controlled environment in Maasland, The Netherland in 1995.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal cuttings taken at Maasland, The Netherlands, has shown that the unique features of this new Impatiens are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

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

1. Large red purple-colored flowers.

2. Freely flowering habit with flowers positioned above or beyond the foliage.

3. Upright, somewhat outwardly spreading, rounded, uniform and compact plant habit.

4. Freely branching growth habit.

5. Very dark green leaves.

In side-by-side comparisons conducted by the Inventor in Maasland, The Netherlands, plants of the new Impatiens differ primarily from plants of the male parent, the cultivar

Grenada, in flower color as flower color of plants of the cultivar Grenada is salmon pink.

In side-by-side comparisons conducted by the Inventor in Maasland, The Netherlands, plants of the new Impatiens differ from plants of the female parent, the cultivar Aruba, in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new Impatiens are more compact than plants of the cultivar Aruba.

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

3. Flower color of plants of the new Impatiens is more red, or less blue, than flower color of plants of the cultivar Aruba.

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. Colors in the photograph may differ slightly from the color values cited in the detailed botanical description which accurately describe the actual colors of the new Impatiens. The photograph comprises a top perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'Tamar Fuchsia' grown in a 12.5-cm container.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The cultivar Tamar Fuchsia has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in environment such as temperature, light intensity, water status and fertility level, without, however, any variance in genotype. The following observations and measurements describe plants grown in Maasland, The Netherlands, during the early autumn, under commercial practice in a glass-covered greenhouse. Plants used in the following description were about 10 to 12 weeks old from planting rooting cuttings and grown in 12.5-cm containers with one plant per container.

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 Tamar Fuchsia.

Commercial classification: New Guinea Impatiens cultivar Tamar Fuchsia.

Parentage:

Male parent.—*Impatiens hawkeri* cultivar Grenada, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 9,343.

Female parent.—*Impatiens hawkeri* cultivar Aruba, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 8,456.

Propagation:

Type cutting.—Terminal cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—Summer: About 5 to 7 days at 19 to 20° C. Winte: About 6 to 8 days at 19 to 20° C.

Time to produce a rooted cutting or liner.—Summer: About 14 to 19 days at 19 to 20° C. Winter: About 14 to 21 days at 19 to 20° C.

Root description.—Numerous, fibrous, and freely branching.

Plant description:

General appearance.—Upright, somewhat outwardly spreading, rounded, uniform and compact plant habit. Appropriate for 10 to 25-cm containers; multiple plants are typically planted in larger containers.

Growth and branching habit.—Freely branching with about 8 lateral branches at the base. Pinching, that is, removal of the terminal apices, is typically not required. Moderately vigorous.

Crop time.—From a rooted cutting, about 10 to 12 weeks are required to produce finished flowering plants in 12-5-cm containers.

Plant height.—About 17.4 cm.

Plant diameter.—About 35.3 cm.

Lateral branches.—Length: About 14.5 cm. Diameter: About 9 mm. Internode length (lower internodes): About 4.3 cm. Color: Close to 59A.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Opposite or whorled. Length: About 9.5 cm. Width: About 3.7 cm. Shape: Elliptic. Apex: Acute to acuminate. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Serrulate with ciliation. Texture: Leathery; glabrous. Aspect: Somewhat arching. Color: Young foliage, upper surface: Much darker than 147A. Young foliage, lower surface: Close to 187A. Fully expanded foliage, upper surface: Much darker than 147A. Fully expanded foliage, lower surface: Close to 183A. Midvein, upper surface: 53A. Midvein, lower surface: Close to 59A. Petiole: Length: About 2.8 cm. Diameter: About 3 mm. Color: 53A.

Flower description:

Flower type and flowering habit.—Single red purple-colored flowers. Freely flowering, usually about 9 flowers and flower buds per lateral branch. Flowers

positioned above and beyond the foliage and typically face upward or outward. Flowers cupped when opening then mostly flat when opened. Flowers roughly orbicular in shape. Flowers last about 7 to 14 days on the plant depending on temperature and weather conditions. Petals self-cleaning; gynoecium persistent. Flowers not fragrant.

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

Flower length.—About 6.6 cm.

Flower width.—About 6.3 cm.

Flower depth.—About 9 mm.

Flower buds (*just before opening*).—Rate of opening: From showing color to fully open flower, typically about 2 to 3 days depending on temperature. Length: About 1.7 cm. Diameter: About 1.2 cm. Shape: Ovoid. Color: 67A to 67B.

Petals.—Quantity: Single, five per flower. Length: Banner petal: About 2.9 cm. Lateral petals: About 3.3 cm. Base petals: About 3.6 cm. Width: Banner petal: About 3.4 cm. Lateral petals: About 2.9 cm. Base petals: About 3.3 cm. Shape: Roughly cordate. Apex: Emarginate. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire. Texture: Smooth, velvety. Color: When opening, upper surface: 67A to 67B. When opening, lower surface: 67B to 67C. Fully opened, upper surface: 67A to 67B to 64B; color fading to 64C with subsequent development. Fully opened, lower surface: 67B to 67C.

Spur.—Length: About 4.9 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm at flower; apex, about 1 mm. Color: Proximally, 59D; distally, 59A.

Peduncles.—Length: about 4.8 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Strength: Strong, flexible. Aspect: Mostly upright. Color: Translucent light whitish green with reddish, 59A, overtones.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Stamen number: Five fused at anthers, filaments free. Anther shape: Obovate. Anther size: About 5 mm by 2.25 mm. Anther color: Apex, 11D; base, close to 53A. Amount of pollen: Moderate. Pollen color: 11C. Gynoecium: Pistil length: About 3.75 mm. Stigma color: 11C. Style color: 144C. Ovary color: 144C.

Seed development.—Seed development has not been observed.

Disease resistance: Plants of the new Impatiens have not been observed to be resistant to pathogens common to Impatiens.

It is claimed:

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

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