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Heil

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(54) **CARNATION PLANT NAMED ‘SUNFLOR VINO’**

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(*) **Notice:** Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

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(56) **References Cited**
PUBLICATIONS

GTITM UPOVROM Citation for ‘Sunflor Vino’ as per QZ PBR 961270; Nov. 15, 1996.*

GTITM UPOVROM Citation for ‘Vino’ as per QZ PBR 961269; Nov. 15, 1996.*

* cited by examiner

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of Carnation plant named ‘Sunflor Vino’, characterized by its large dark purple red-colored flowers and flower buds; upright and mounded plant habit; good basal branching with about 10 lateral branches developing after pinching; very dark green waxy leaves; fragrant flowers, and good postproduction longevity.

1 Drawing Sheet

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of Carnation plant, botanically known as *Dianthus caryophyllus* and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name ‘Sunflor Vino’.

The new Carnation is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Aalsmeer, The Netherlands. The objective of the breeding program is to develop new compact Carnation cultivars suitable for container production with attractive flower color and early flowering.

The new Carnation originated from a cross made by the Inventor of the *Dianthus caryophyllus* cultivar ‘Sunflor Surprise’ (U.S. Plant patent application Ser. No. 09/379,263) as the female, or seed, parent with a proprietary *Dianthus caryophyllus* selection identified as 87083-04, as the male, or pollen, parent. The cultivar ‘Sunflor Vino’ was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a flowering plant within the progeny of the stated cross in a controlled environment in Aalsmeer, The Netherlands, in 1994.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal cuttings taken at Aalsmeer, The Netherlands, has shown that the unique features of this new Carnation are stable and reproduced 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 ‘Sunflor Vino’. These characteristics in combination distinguish ‘Sunflor Vino’ as a new and distinct cultivar:

1. Large dark purple red-colored flowers.
2. Upright and mounded plant habit.
3. Good basal branching with about 10 lateral branches developing after pinching.
4. Very dark green waxy leaves.
5. Fragrant flowers.

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6. Good postproduction longevity.

Plants of the new Carnation differ from its male parent, 87083-04, primarily in flower color.

The new Carnation can be compared to the female parent, the cultivar ‘Sunflor Surprise’. However, in side-by-side comparisons conducted by the Inventor in Aalsmeer, The Netherlands, plants of the new Carnation differ from plants of the cultivar ‘Sunflor Surprise’ in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new Carnation are taller than plants of the cultivar ‘Sunflor Surprise’.
2. Plants of the new Carnation have larger flowers than plants of the cultivar ‘Sunflor Surprise’.
3. Plants of the new Carnation and the cultivar ‘Sunflor Surprise’ differ in flower color.

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 side perspective view of a typical plants of ‘Sunflor Vino’. Flower and foliage colors in the photograph may appear different from the actual colors due to light reflectance.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The cultivar ‘Sunflor Vino’ 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 9-cm pots in Aalsmeer, The Netherlands, under conditions approximating commercial practice in a glass-covered greenhouse with day and night temperatures averaging about 20 and 14° C., respectively. Plants used for the description and photographs were about 10 weeks old.

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: *Dianthus caryophyllus* cultivar 'Sunflor Vino'.

Parentage:

Male parent.—Proprietary *Dianthus caryophyllus* selection identified as 87083-04, not patented.

Female parent.—*Dianthus caryophyllus* cultivar 'Sunflor Surprise', U.S. Plant patent application Ser. No. 09/379,263.

Propagation:

Type.—Terminal cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—About 5 days during the summer and about 7 days during the winter.

Time to develop roots.—About 20 days during the summer and about 28 days during the winter.

Root description.—Fine, freely-branching.

Plant description:

Plant form.—Upright and mounded; inverted triangle.

Growth and branching habit.—Good branching with about ten lateral branches developing after pinching, dense and bushy growth. Appropriate for 9-cm and larger containers.

Vigor.—Moderately vigorous.

Growth rate.—Moderate to slow growth rate; starting with a plant grown in a 5-cm container, about 12 weeks are required to produce a flowering plant in a 15-cm container.

Plant height.—About 15 cm.

Plant width.—About 15 cm.

Lateral branches.—Length: About 12 cm. Diameter: About 3 mm. Internode length: About 3 cm. Color: 133B.

Foliage description.—Leaves simple; symmetrical; abundant; opposite; sessile. Quantity of leaves per lateral branch: About 15. Length: About 5.5 cm. Width: About 8 mm. Shape: Linear; apex, acute; base, cordate; margin, entire. Texture: Smooth, glabrous; waxy. Color: Young foliage, upper surface: 137B. Young foliage, lower surface: 137D. Fully expanded foliage, upper surface: 133B. Fully expanded foliage, lower surface: 133B. Venation, upper surface: 133B. Venation, lower surface: 133B.

Flower description:

Flower type and habit.—Dark purple red-colored semi-double flowers. Very freely and continuously flow-

ering. Usually about four flowers per lateral branch; typically about 40 flowers per plant. Flowers flat and convex. Flowers positioned mostly above the foliage; typically facing upright or outward. Flowers persistent.

Flowering season.—Year-round under greenhouse conditions. In the garden, flowering is continuous during the summer.

Flower longevity.—About two weeks on the plant.

Fragrance.—Moderately strong, clove-like fragrance typical of the species.

Flower size.—Diameter: About 3.5 cm. Depth: About 3.5 cm.

Flower buds.—Length: About 1.5 cm. Diameter: About 8 mm. Shape: Elliptic. Color: 59A. Rate of opening: About one week.

Petals/petaloids.—Quantity: About 15, overlapping. Length: About 3 cm. Width: About 1.5 cm. Shape: Mostly rounded; apex, acute; margin, serrated; base attenuate. Texture: Rippled. Color: When opening and fully opened, upper surface: Dark purple red-colored; 59A towards the base and 60A towards the apex. When opening and fully opened, lower surface: Dark purple red-colored; 59A towards the base and 60A towards the apex.

Sepals.—Quantity: Five. Calyx length: About 2 cm. Calyx width: About 7 mm. Shape: Triangular; apex, acute; margin, entire. Texture: Smooth. Color: Upper surface: 138C and 59A. Lower surface: 145A and 59A.

Peduncles.—Length: About 5 mm. Angle: Erect. Strength: Strong. Color: 144B.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Stamen number: Up to five. Anther length: About 2 mm. Anther shape: Oblong. Anther color: 60C. Amount of pollen: Moderate. Pollen color: Yellow. Gynoecium: Pistil number: One. Pistil length: About 3.5 cm. Style length: About 1.5 cm. Style color: 4D. Stigma color: 59B. Ovary color: 145A.

Seed.—Size: About 2 by 2 mm. Color: Close to 202A.

Disease resistance: Under commercial conditions, resistance to pathogens common to *Dianthus* has not been observed.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of Carnation plant named 'Sunflor Vino', as illustrated and described.

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