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**Jobling**

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(54) **VERBENA PLANT NAMED 'DOSMAU'**

(76) Inventor: **Beres Jobling**, P.O. Box 26  
Haartcheeshoek 498JQ, Skeerpoort,  
Magaliesberg (ZA), 0232

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*Primary Examiner*—Bruce R. Campell  
*Assistant Examiner*—Michelle Kizilkaya

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new cultivar of Verbena named 'Dosmau' that is charac-  
terized by its spreading growth habit with dense foliage  
coverage and by its bright pink flowers with a distinct white  
eye zone. The flowers fade in color to give a multi-colored  
pink flower cluster.

**3 Drawing Sheets**

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**CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED  
APPLICATIONS**

The application for this new invention will be co-pending  
with two other applications corresponding to plants that  
were derived from the same breeding program. They are  
entitled: Verbena Plant Named 'Dospi' (application Ser. No.  
09/590,359) and Verbena Plant Named 'Dosblu' (application  
Ser. No. 09/590,360). However, 'Dosmau', 'Dosblu' and  
'Dospi' are not known to be genetically related since the  
parents chosen for each cross were unique.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar  
of *Verbena peruviana*, a perennial that is grown as a bedding  
and container plant. The new invention will be referred to  
hereinafter by the cultivar name 'Dosmau'.

The new Verbena is a selection from a breeding program  
conducted by the inventor in Skeerpoort, Magaliesberg,  
South Africa. The objective of the program is to select new  
cultivars of *Verbena peruviana* that have an improved habit  
combined with unique flower colors. 'Dosmau' and its  
co-pending varieties are especially characterized by their  
flower colors with prominent white eyes and their dense,  
spreading habit. 'Dosmau' was a seedling from a hand-  
pollinated cross made between Verbena 'Mauve'  
(unpatented) and Verbena 'Pink with Eye' (unpatented). The  
crossing and selection was done by the inventor in  
Skeerpoort, Magaliesberg, South Africa. The initial cross  
was made in February, 1996 and 'Dosmau' was selected in  
August, 1996. 'Dosmau' differs from its parents in that it has  
a more dense and well-branched habit than either of its  
parents. 'Dosmau' has a prominent white eye, whereas  
Verbena 'Mauve', which has similar flower color, has no  
white eye. The combined characteristics of the new  
invention, 'Dosmau', are unique. 'Dosmau' differs from  
another Verbena on the market known as Verbena 'Violet'.  
Verbena 'Violet' has a more open habit in the center of the  
plant when grown in a container, is less branched and has  
flower color that is violet with no eye. 'Dosmau' differs from  
the co-pending white-eyed variety, 'Dospi' in that 'Dospi'  
has flowers that are a brighter and different shade of pink and  
the foliage of 'Dosmau' is more pubescent than that of  
'Dospi'. 'Dospi' is more variable in flower color as it fades.

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Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar was first accom-  
plished by taking terminal cuttings in Skeerpoort,  
Magaliesberg, South Africa in August, 1996 by the inventor.  
The characteristics of this cultivar have been determined to  
be stable and are reproduced true to type in successive  
generations.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and  
represent the characteristics of the new cultivar. These  
attributes in combination distinguish this cultivar from other  
commercial varieties.

1. The flower color of 'Dosmau' is mauve pink with a  
distinct white eye, 0.3–0.5 mm in diameter. No other Ver-  
bena known to the inventor with this flower color has a  
distinct white eye.

2. The color of the flower of 'Dosmau' fades as the flower  
ages giving a multi colored effect to the blossom. This effect  
is not as pronounced as it is for 'Dospi'.

3. The habit of 'Dosmau' is mounded and then spreading.

4. 'Dosmau' plants are well branched with short intern-  
odes to give the plant a dense appearance. Many verbenas of  
the trailing types do not have this dense coverage of foliage.

5. The foliage of 'Dosmau' is pubescent.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING**

The accompanying drawings illustrate the distinguishing  
traits and overall appearance of the new Verbena cultivar  
'Dosmau'. The plants are 9 months old from cuttings, in  
three-gallon containers and were grown outdoors in  
Encinitas, Calif.

Drawing 1 is of 'Dosmau' and the flower color, plant  
habit, and dense foliage characteristics can be observed.

A close-up of the flowers is shown in Drawing 2.

'Dosmau' is shown to the right of Verbena 'Violet' in  
Drawing 3. This drawing illustrates the dense habit of  
'Dosmau' in comparison to Verbena 'Violet'. The prints  
were made from Fuji Provia slides and are as accurate as  
possible by conventional photography.

## BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANT

The following is a detailed description of the Verbena plant named 'Dosmau'. The data was collected from 9 month old plant grown in a three gallon container under outdoor conditions in Encinitas, Calif. Phenotypic differences may be observed with variations in environmental, climatic, and cultural conditions. The color determination is in accordance with The R.H.S. Colour Chart of The Royal Horticultural Society, London, England, except where general color items of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Botanical classification: 'Dosmau' is a cultivar of *Verbena peruviana*.

Commercial classification: Verbena grown for bedding, container planting and for hanging baskets.

Parentage: Seedling selection from crosses made between Verbena 'Mauve' and Verbena 'Pink With Eye', both are selections of *Verbena peruviana*.

## Plant description:

*Plant habit*.—Upright and then cascading.

*Height and spread*.—Up to 40 cm in height, up to 60 cm in spread.

*Type*.—Asexually propagated perennial, treated as annual in USDA hardiness zones 7 and colder.

*Root system*.—Fibrous, well branched, strong rooting habit.

*Propagation*.—Cuttings. Cuttings receive one pinch and are ready for transplanted in 3–4 weeks. 3 cuttings are used to finish a one-gallon basket container.

Diseases and pests: No known Verbena diseases observed.

## Stems:

*Shape*.—Tetragonal.

*Size*.—Main stems up to 3 mm in diameter.

*Internode length*.—0.5–2.0 cm.

*Color*.—146A with a reddish brown anthocyanin pigmentation which appears as the stem ages, either in streaks or occasionally all around the stem.

*Surface*.—Short hairs.

## Leaves:

*Shape*.—Ovate-Oblong.

*Division*.—Simple.

*Base*.—Cuneate.

*Apex*.—Acute.

*Venation*.—Not prominent.

*Margins*.—Crenate.

*Arrangement*.—Opposite.

*Surface*.—Upper: pubescent. Lower: pubescent.

*Length*.—Average 4 cm.

*Width*.—Average 2–3 cm.

*Color*.—Upper surface 137B, lower surface 147B.

*Petiole length*.—1.8–3.5 mm.

*Petiole width*.—2 mm in width.

*Petiole color*.—147B.

## Flowers clusters:

*Type*.—Semi-rounded raceme-like umbel.

*Number*.—25–30/cluster.

*Flower cluster width*.—5.5–6.5 cm

*Flower cluster height*.—3.5–5.0 cm (averages).

*Stems*.—5–7 cm.

## Perianth:

*Type*.—Salviform, fused at base.

*Margins*.—Entire.

*Texture*.—Smooth.

*Facing direction*.—Upward.

*Number*.—5.

*Size*.—Height: 2.2 cm. Width: 2.0 cm. Individual Petal Length: 0.8–0.9 cm. Individual Petal Width: 0.6–0.8 cm. Eye Diameter: 0.3–0.5 mm.

*Color*.—Bud: 81A. Opening: 81A (flushed with 87A).

Mature: 81B fading to 81A. Throat: 144C. Eye: 155D (more white).

Lastingness of the flowers and the umbel: Individual flowers last approximately 8 days The last individual flower to open in each umbel opens approximately 20 days after the first flower to open. The outer flowers open first.

Calyx: Gamosepalous, 5 sepals, 0.12–14 mm in length, 2.5–3.0 cm in width, 147B in color.

## Reproductive organs:

*Stamens*.—4 in number.

*Stamen color*.—145B.

*Pistil*.—1 in number.

*Pistil color*.—145B.

## Seed production:

*Quantity of seed*.—Usually 6 fertile seeds per capsule.

*Seed color*.—Light Brown.

*Shape of seed*.—Almost rectangular.

*Seed dimensions*.—5 mm length and 1 mm in width.

## I claim:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of Verbena plant named 'Dosmau' as described and illustrated.

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