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(12) **United States Plant Patent**
Brown

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(54) **DIASCIA PLANT NAMED ‘CODIARED’**
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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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(57) **ABSTRACT**
A new and distinct cultivar of Diascia plant named
‘Codiared’, characterized by its upright, somewhat out-
wardly spreading, and compact plant habit; freely and con-
tinuous branching; and numerous red purple-colored flow-
ers.

1 Drawing Sheet

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**BOTANICAL CLASSIFICATION/CULTIVAR
DESIGNATION**

Diascia×*hybrida* cultivar Codiared.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present Invention relates to a new and distinct culti-
var of Diascia plant, botanically known as *Diascia*×*hybrida*,
and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name Codiared.
The new Diascia is a product of a planned breeding
program conducted by the Inventor in Cobbitty, New South
Wales, Australia. The objective of the breeding program is to
create new compact Diascias with numerous uniquely-
colored flowers.
The new Diascia originated from a cross made by the
Inventor in 1998 of a proprietary *Diascia*×*hybrida* selection
identified as X96.13.2, not patented, as the female, or seed
parent, with an unidentified proprietary selection of *Diascia*
ringens, not patented, as the male, or pollen parent. The new
Diascia was selected as a single plant from the resulting
progeny by the inventor in 1998, in Cobbitty, New South
Wales, Australia, on the basis of its numerous red purple-
colored flowers.
Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal
cuttings taken in Cobbitty, New South Wales, Australia since
1998 has shown that the unique features of this new Diascia
are stable and reproduced true to type in successive genera-
tions.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Plants of the cultivar Codiared have not been observed
under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype
may vary somewhat with variations in environment such as
temperature, light intensity and daylength without, however,
any variance in genotype.
The following traits have been repeatedly observed and
are determined to be the unique characteristics of ‘Codi-
ared’. These characteristics in combination distinguish
‘Codiared’ as a new and distinct cultivar:
1. Upright, somewhat outwardly spreading and compact
plant habit.
2. Freely and continuous branching.
3. Numerous red purple-colored flowers.

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Compared to plants of the female parent, the selection
X96.13.2, plants of the new Diascia are more compact in
plant habit. In addition plants of the new Diascia and the
female parent differ in flower color as plants of the selection
X96.13.2 have light red-colored flowers.
Compared to plants of the male parent, the unidentified
proprietary selection of *Diascia ringens*, plants of the new
Diascia flower earlier. In addition plants of the new Diascia
and the male parent differ in flower color as plants of the
unidentified proprietary selection of *Diascia ringens* have
pink-colored flowers.
Plants of the new Diascia can be compared to plants of the
Diascia cultivar Herace, disclosed in U.S. Plant patent
applicaton Ser. No. 09/639,898 (abandoned). In side-by-side
comparisons conducted in Cobbitty, New South Wales,
Australia, plants of the new Diascia were more compact and
had larger flowers than plants of the cultivar Herace.
Plants of the new Diascia can also be compared to plants
of the cultivar Strawberry Sundae, disclosed in U.S. Plant
Pat. No. 11,488. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in
Encinitas, Calif., plants of the new Diascia differed from
plants of the cultivar Strawberry Sundae in the following
characteristics:
1. Plants of the new Diascia were shorter and more
compact than plants of the cultivar Strawberry Sundae.
2. Plants of the new Diascia had smaller and flatter
flowers than plants of the cultivar Strawberry Sundae.
3. Plants of the new Diascia had red purple-colored
flowers whereas plants of the cultivar Strawberry Sun-
dae had bright pink-colored flowers.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying colored photographs illustrate 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 photographs may differ
slightly from the color values cited in the detailed botanical
description which accurately describe the colors of the new
Diascia.
The photograph at the top of the sheet comprises a side
perspective view of three typical flowering plants of ‘Codi-
ared’ grown in a 20-cm container.

The photograph at the bottom of the sheet comprises a close-up view of typical leaves, flowering stems, flower buds, developing flowers, and fully opened flowers of 'Codiared'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photographs and following observations and measurements describe plants grown in Encinitas, Calif., in an outdoor nursery under full sunlight conditions during the late winter and early spring with day temperatures averaging 18° C. and night temperatures averaging 13° C. Plants were grown for 14 weeks in 20-cm containers with three plants per container and were pinched two times. Color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, version 1995, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Botanical classification: *Diascia*×*hybrida* cultivar Codiared.
Parentage:

Female parent.—Proprietary *Diascia*×*hybrida* selection identified as X96.13.2, not patented.

Male parent.—Unidentified proprietary selection of *Diascia ringens*, not patented.

Propagation:

Type cutting.—Terminal vegetative cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—Summer: About 10 days at 20° C., Winter: About 12 days at 10° C.

Time to develop roots.—Summer: About 26 days at 20° C. Winter: About 28 days at 10° C.

Root description.—Fine and fibrous.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching.

Plant description:

Form.—Upright, somewhat outwardly spreading and compact plant habit. Freely branching with lateral branches potentially forming at every node. Moderately vigorous growth habit.

Plant height.—About 23 cm.

Plant diameter.—About 24 cm.

Lateral branches.—Length: About 21 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Internode length: About 1.8 to 3 cm. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: 146B.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Opposite; simple. Quantity per lateral branch: About 20. Length: About 2 cm. Width: About 1.4 cm. Shape: Deltoid. Apex: Acute. Base: Truncate, rounded. Margin: Slightly serrate. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Venation pattern: Palmate. Color: Young and mature foliage, upper surface: 147A. Young and mature foliage, lower surface: 147B. Venation, upper surface: 147A. Venation, lower surface: 147B. Petiole length: About 3 mm. Petiole diameter: About 2 mm. Petiole color: 147B.

Flower description:

Flower type and habit.—Solitary axillary flowers: zygomorphic. Five modified petals fused at base: two upper (banner) petals, two lateral petals and one larger lower lip petal. Flowers not persistent. Very freely flowering; typically about 14 buds and flowers per lateral branch. Flowers face mostly outward.

Natural flowering season.—Plants typically flower from March through June in the Northern Hemisphere; flowering continuous during this period.

Flower longevity on the plant.—About 3 to 4 days.

Fragrance.—Not detected.

Flower size.—Height: About 2 cm. Width: About 1.7 cm. Depth (height): About 1 cm.

Flower buds (showing color).—Length: About 5.5 mm. Diameter: About 5.5 mm. Shape: Oval. Color: 78B to 78C.

Petals.—Quantity/arrangement: Five modified petals fused at base: two upper (banner) petals, two lateral petals and one larger lower lip petal. Base of banner petals with indented yellow eyespots; lower surfaces of lateral petals modified into nectar spurs; and lower lip petal convex forming horizontal insect landing platform. Length: Banner petals: About 5 mm. Lateral petals: About 7 mm. Lower lip petal: About 1.2 cm. Width: Banner petals: About 8 mm. Lateral petals: About 5 mm. Lower lip petal: About 1 cm. Lateral petal spur: Length: About 1 cm. Diameter, at petal attachment: About 2 mm. Shape, all petals: Roughly spatulate. Apex, all petals: Rounded. Margin, all petals: Entire. Texture, all petals: Smooth, velvety. Color, all petals: Upper surface, when opening: 71B. Lower surface, when opening: 77A to 77B. Upper surface, fully opened: 63A; at base of petals, 77A; main color fading to 78C to 78D with subsequent development. Lower surface, fully opened: 63B. Nectar spurs: 78C. Eyespot on banner petals: 5A.

Sepals.—Arrangement/appearance: Single whorl of five sepals fused at base; star-shaped. Calyx length: About 3 mm. Calyx diameter: About 5 mm. Shape: Elliptic. Apex: Acute. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color: Upper surface: 146B. Lower surface: 146A.

Peduncles.—Length: About 1 cm. Width: Less than 1 mm. Angle: About 45° from the stem. Strength: Moderately strong; slender. Texture: Smooth. Color: 144B.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: Quantity per flower: Four. Anther shape: Ovoid. Anther length: Less than 1 mm. Anther color: 7A. Pollen amount: Scarce. Pollen color: 7A. Pistils: Quantity per flower: One. Pistil length: About 2.5 mm. Style length: About 1 mm. Style color: 149A. Stigma shape: Rounded. Stigma color: 149A. Ovary color: 144B.

Seed/fruit.—Seed nor fruit production has not been observed.

Disease/pest resistance: Plants of the new *Diascia* have not been noted to be resistant to pathogens or pests common to *Diascia*.

Temperature tolerance: Plants of the new *Diascia* have been observed to tolerate temperatures from 0 to 32° C.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Diascia* plant named 'Codiared', as illustrated and described.

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