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Grünewald

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(54) **TIBOUCHINA PLANT NAMED ‘GRUE-TIB 04’**

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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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(58) **Field of Search** **Plt./226**

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

PP12,034 P2 * 8/2001 Masuda Plt./226

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

UPOV ROM 2002/02 Citation for ‘Grue-tib-04’.*

* cited by examiner

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of Tibouchina plant named ‘Grue-TiB 04’, characterized by its upright and outwardly spreading plant habit; freely branching habit; and purple-colored flowers.

1 Drawing Sheet

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BOTANICAL CLASSIFICATION/CULTIVAR DESIGNATION

Tibouchina organensis cultivar Grue-TiB 04.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present Invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of Tibouchina plant, botanically known as *Tibouchina organensis*, and hereinafter referred to by the name ‘Grue-TiB 04’.

The new Tibouchina is a product of a induced mutation breeding program conducted by the Invention in Lünen, Germany. The objective of the program is to create new Tibouchinas with different plant forms and sizes.

The new Tibouchina is an induced mutation of an unnamed selection of *Tibouchina organensis*, not patented. Mutations were induced by exposing unrooted cuttings of the unnamed Tibouchina selection to gamma radiation. The new Tibouchina was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a single flowering plant within a population of irradiated plants of the unnamed Tibouchina selection in 1999 in a controlled environment in Lünen, Germany. The new Tibouchina was selected on its plant form amd growth habit.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by cuttings taken in a controlled environment in Lünen, Germany since 1999, has shown that the unique features of this new Tibouchina are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Plants of the cultivar Grue-TiB 04 have not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in environment and culture such as temperature and light intensity without, however, any variance in genotype.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be the unique charateristics of ‘Grue-TiB

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04’. These characteristics in combination distinguish ‘Grue-TiB 04’, as a new and distinct cultivar:

1. Upright and outwardly spreading plant habit.
2. Freely branching habit.
3. Purple-colored flowers.

In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Lünen, Germany, plants of the new Tibouchina differed from plants of the parent selection in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new Tibouchina were more outwardly spreading than plants of the parent selection.
2. Plants of the new Tibouchina were more compact than plants of the parent selection.
3. Plants of the new Tibouchina had shorter internodes than plants of the parent selection.

Compared to plants of the Tibouchina cultivar Grue-TiB 01, disclosed in U.S Plant patent application Ser. No. 10/094,274, plants of the new Tibouchina are more freely branching, have larger leaves, and are not as freely flowering. Compared to plants of the Tibouchina cultivar Grue-TiB 02, disclosed in U.S. Plant patent application Ser. No. 10/094,327, plants of the new Tibouchina are more freely branching, have larger leaves, have larger flowers, and are not as freely flowering. Compared to plants of the Tibouchina cultivar Grue-TiB 03, disclosed in U.S. Plant patent application Ser. No. 10/094,336, plants of the new Tibouchina are larger, are more freely branching, have larger leaves, and have larger flowers. Compared to plants of the Tibouchina cultivar Grue-TiB 05, disclosed in U.S. Plant patent application Ser. No. 10/094,334, plants of the new Tibouchina are shorter, are not as upright, are more freely branching, have longer leaves, and have larger flowers.

Plants of the new Tibouchina can be compared to plants of the *Tibouchina urvilleana* Rich Blue Sun, not patented. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Lünen, Germany, plants of the new Tibouchina differed from plants of the cultivar Rich Blue Sun in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Tibouchina* were more outwardly spreading and not as upright as plants of the cultivar Rich Blue Sun.

2. Plants of the new *Tibouchina* were more compact than plants of the cultivar Rich Blue Sun.

3. Plants of the new *Tibouchina* had shorter internodes than plants of the cultivar Rich Blue Sun.

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 colors of the new *Tibouchina*. The photograph comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'Grue-TiB 04'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

Plants used for the aforementioned photograph and following observations and measurements were planted into 12-cm containers and grown for about six months during the summer and fall in a glass-covered greenhouse in Lünen, Germany. During the production of the plants, the day temperature ranged from 22 to 25° C. and night temperatures averaged 20° C. In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, Edition 1995, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Botanical classification: *Tibouchina organensis* cultivar Grue-TiB 04.

Parentage: Induced mutation of an unnamed selection of *Tibouchina organensis*, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—By cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—About 15 days at 20° C.

Root description.—Fine, freely branching.

Plant description:

Form.—Upright and outwardly spreading plant habit; open form; subshrub. Appropriate for 12 to 17-cm containers. Moderately vigorous.

Plant height.—About 25 cm.

Plant diameter.—About 35 cm.

Lateral branches.—Quantity per plant: About 7 to 12, freely branching. Length: About 30 cm. Diameter: About 2.5 mm. Internode length: About 1.5 to 5 cm. Strength: Strong. Texture: Pubescent. Color: Immature: 146C. Mature: Woody, 199D.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Opposite, simple. Quantity of leaves per lateral branch: About 20. Length, largest leaves: About 9 cm. Width, largest leaves: About 4 cm. Shape: Lanceolate. Apex: Acuminate. Base: Obtuse, rounded. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent. Vena-

tion pattern: Parallel. Petiole length: About 4 to 15 mm. Petiole diameter: About 3 mm. Color: Young foliage, upper surface: 137A. Young foliage, lower surface: 146B. Fully expanded foliage, upper surface: Darker than 147A. Fully expanded foliage, lower surface: 147B. Venation, upper surface: 147A. Venation, lower surface: 147C. Petiole, upper and lower surfaces: 145C.

Flower description:

Flower type and habit.—Rotate flowers solitary or arranged in terminal or axillary panicles, typically three flowers per panicle; about 5 to 10 flowers per lateral branch will develop during the flowering period. Flowers and flowers face mostly outward. Flowers not persistent.

Natural flowering season.—In the northern hemisphere, plants flower during the summer and autumn; flowering recurrent during this period.

Flower longevity on the plant.—About one day.

Fragrance.—None detected.

Flowers.—Diameter: About 9 cm. Depth (height): About 3.5 cm.

Flower buds (before showing color).—Length: About 1.6 cm. Diameter: About 1.1 cm. Shape: Roughly ovoid. Color: 144A.

Petals.—Arrangement: Four to five petals in a single whorl. Length: About 4.75 cm. Width: About 4.75 cm. Shape: Obovate. Apex: Rounded. Base: Cuneate. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, satiny. Color: When opening, upper surface: 88A. When opening, lower surface: 88B. Fully opened, upper and lower surfaces: 88A.

Sepals.—Arrangement: Five sepals in a single whorl. Length: About 1 cm. Diameter: About 5 mm. Shape: Lanceolate. Apex: Acute. Base: Cuneate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent. Color, upper and lower surfaces: 145C.

Peduncles.—Length: About 2.5 mm. Diameter: About 7 mm. Strength: Strong. Texture: Pubescent. Color: 146B.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: Quantity per flower: About eight to ten. Filament length: About 2.2 cm. Filament color: 83B. Anther length: About 1.2 cm. Anther color: Darker than 89A. Pollen: None observed. Pistils: Quantity per flower: One. Style length: About 3.25 cm. Style color: 83B. Stigma shape: Round. Stigma color: 155C. Ovary color: 145B.

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

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

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Tibouchina* plant named 'Grue-TiB 04', as illustrated and described.

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