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Sakazaki

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(54) **PETUNIA PLANT NAMED ‘CONVIOLET’**

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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(58) **Field of Search** **Plt./356**

(56) **References Cited**

PUBLICATIONS

UPOV-ROM GTITM Computer Database, 2002/03, GTI
Jouve Retrieval Software, citation for ‘Conviolet’.*

* cited by examiner

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of Petunia plant named
‘Conviolet’, characterized by its outwardly spreading and
uniform plant habit; freely branching habit; small rounded
leaves; numerous small single flowers that are dark purple in
color; and good garden performance.

1 Drawing Sheet

1

**BOTANICAL CLASSIFICATION/CULTIVAR
DESIGNATION**

Petunia×hybrida cultivar Conviolet.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present Invention relates to a new and distinct culti-
var of Petunia plant, botanically known as *Petunia×hybrida*,
and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name Conviolet.

The new Petunia is a product of a planned breeding
program conducted by the Inventor in Shiga Prefecture,
Japan. The objective of the breeding program is to create
new Petunias with numerous small flowers with attractive
flower colors.

The new Petunia originated from a cross made by the
Inventor in April, 1999 of the Petunia cultivar Fantasy Blue,
not patented, as the female, or seed parent, with an uniden-
tified selection of Petunia, not patented, as the male, or
pollen parent. The new Petunia was selected as a single plant
from the resulting progeny on Oct. 20, 1999, in Gensingen,
Germany, on the basis of its small and numerous dark
purple-colored flowers.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal
vegetative cuttings taken in Gensingen, Germany has shown
that the unique features of this new Petunia are stable and
reproduced true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Plants of the cultivar Conviolet 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 ‘Convio-
let’. These characteristics in combination distinguish ‘Con-
violet’ as a new and distinct cultivar:

1. Outwardly spreading and uniform plant habit.
2. Freely branching habit.
3. Small rounded leaves.

2

4. Numerous small single flowers that are dark purple in
color.

5. Good garden performance.

5 Plants of the new Petunia differ from plants of the female
parent, the cultivar Fantasy Blue, in the following charac-
teristics:

1. Plants of the new Petunia are more outwardly spreading
and not as upright as plants of the female parent.

10 2. Plants of the new Petunia are more vigorous than plants
of the female parent.

3. Plants of the new Petunia have better garden perfor-
mance than plants of the female parent.

15 Plants of the new Petunia differ from plants of the male
parent, the unidentified Petunia selection, in the following
characteristics:

1. Plants of the new Petunia are more vigorous than plants
of the male parent.

20 2. Plants of the new Petunia have larger flowers than
plants of the male parent.

3. Plants of the new Petunia flower for a longer period of
time than plants of the male parent.

25 Plants of the new Petunia are similar in flower color to the
cultivar Sunblu, not patented; however in side-by-side com-
parisons conducted in Gensingen, Germany, plants of the
new Petunia had much smaller flowers than plants of the
cultivar Sunblu.

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
Petunia.

40 The photograph at the top of the sheet comprises a side
perspective view of three typical flowering plants of ‘Con-
violet’ grown in a 20-cm container.

The photograph at the bottom of the sheet comprises a close-up view of typical leaves, stems, opening flowers and fully opened flowers of 'Conviolet'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photographs and following observations and measurements describe plants grown in Bonsall, Calif., in an outdoor nursery during the late spring and early summer under full sun conditions with day temperatures ranging from 18 to about 35° C. and night temperatures ranging from 4 to 18° C. After planting rooted cuttings, plants were grown for about 18 weeks in 20-cm containers with three plants per container. Color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 1995 edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Botanical classification: *Petunia*×*hybrida* cultivar Conviolet.

Parentage:

Female parent.—*Petunia*×*hybrida* cultivar Fantasy Blue, not patented.

Male parent.—Unidentified *Petunia*×*hybrida* selection, not patented.

Propagation:

Type cutting.—Terminal vegetative cuttings.

Time to initiate roots, summer and winter.—About 15 days at 20 to 22° C.

Time to develop roots, summer and winter.—About 20 days at 18 to 22° C.

Root description.—Fine; white, close to 155D, in color.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching.

Plant description:

Form.—Annual flowering plant; indeterminate; initially upright, then outwardly spreading and trailing; uniform. Freely branching habit with about 15 lateral branches per plant.

Usage.—Appropriate for hanging baskets, window boxes, patio containers and landscape applications.

Plant height.—About 15 cm.

Plant diameter.—Individual plant: About 38 cm. All three plants: About 75 cm.

Vigor.—Vigorous.

Lateral branches.—Length: About 57 cm. Diameter: About 2.5 mm. Internode length: About 1.75 cm. Texture: Pubescent. Color: 144A.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Alternate before flowering; opposite after flowers develop; simple. Quantity per lateral branch: About 32. Length: About 3.1 cm. Width: About 2.2 cm. Shape: Elliptic, rounded. Apex: Broadly acute. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire. Texture: Upper and lower surfaces, pubescent and glandular. Venation pattern: Pinnate, arcuate. Color: Developing leaves, upper surface: More green than 146A. Developing leaves, lower surface: More green than 146B. Fully expanded leaves, upper surface: Slightly darker and more green than 146A. Fully expanded leaves, lower surface: Slightly lighter than 146A. Venation, upper surface: Slightly darker and more green than 146A. Venation, lower surface: Slightly lighter than 146A. Petiole length: About 5 mm. Petiole diameter: About 1.5 mm. Petiole color: 146A to 146B.

Flower description:

Flower type and habit.—Single salverform flowers; flowers face mostly upward or outward; axillary. Very freely flowering habit, about five flowers and flower buds per lateral branch at one time.

Natural flowering season.—Long day responsive; long flowering period, spring until frost in the autumn; flowering continuous during this period. Plants start flowering about three weeks after planting rooted cuttings. Flowers persistent.

Flower longevity on the plant.—About three to four days.

Fragrance.—Not detected.

Flower size.—Diameter: About 5 cm. Tube length: About 2.9 cm. Throat diameter, distal end: About 8 mm. Tube diameter, proximal end: About 3 mm.

Flower buds (showing color).—Length: About 3 cm. Diameter: At apex, about 7 mm; at base, about 5 mm. Shape: Elongated oblong with ruffled apices. Color: 79A.

Corolla.—Quantity/arrangement: Five fused petals in a single whorl, funnellform. Petal length from throat: About 2.1 cm. Petal width: About 2.4 cm. Petal shape: Roughly spatulate or fan-shaped. Petal apex: Broadly acute. Petal margin: Entire. Petal texture: Smooth, satiny. Color: Petal, upper surface, when opening: Closest to 83A, but more purple. Petal, lower surface, when opening: Close to 83A. Petal, upper surface, fully opened: Close to 88A; color fading to 88B with subsequent development. Petal, lower surface, fully opened: Close to 88B. Flower throat (inside): 79A. Flower tube (outside): 83A. Venation, upper and lower petal surfaces: Close to 79A. Venation, throat: 79A. Venation, tube: Close to 79A.

Sepals.—Arrangement/appearance: Single whorl of five sepals fused at base, star-shaped. Length: About 1.1 cm. Width: About 2.75 mm. Shape: Strap-like; elongate. Apex: Rounded. Margin: Entire. Texture, both surfaces: Pubescent, glandular. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Mid-section and towards apex, 144A; towards base, 79A.

Peduncles.—Length: About 1.2 cm. Width: About 1 mm. Angle: About 45° from the stem. Strength: Moderately strong. Texture: Pubescent. Color: 144A to 146A; faintly overlain with anthocyanin, 79A.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: Quantity per flower: About five. Anther shape: Ovoid. Anther size: About 1.5 mm by 1.5 mm. Anther color: 79A fading to 88A. Pollen amount: None observed. Pistils: Quantity per flower: One. Pistil length: About 2.2 cm. Style length: About 1.8 cm. Style color: 155D; towards apex, close to 77A. Stigma shape: Bi-lobed. Stigma color: 88A. Ovary color: Close to 144A.

Seed/fruit.—Seed and/or fruit production has not been observed to date.

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

Garden performance: Plants of the new *Petunia* have been observed to have good garden performance. Plants of the new *Petunia* have been noted to tolerate temperatures from 0 to 35° C. and have excellent tolerance to rain and wind.

It is claimed:

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

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