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(54) **POINSETTIA PLANT NAMED 'KLEW01072'**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of Poinsettia plant named 'KLEW01072', characterized by its uniform, upright and outwardly spreading plant habit; dark green-colored leaves with purple-colored petioles; dark red-colored flower bracts; early flowering habit; and good post-production longevity.

**1 Drawing Sheet**

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**BOTANICAL CLASSIFICATION/CULTIVAR DENOMINATION**

*Euphorbia pulcherrima* Willd. cultivar KLEW01072.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

The present Invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of Poinsettia plant, botanically known as *Euphorbia pulcherrima* Willd., and hereinafter referred to by the name 'KLEW01072'.

The new Poinsettia is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Stuttgart, Germany. The objective of the breeding program is to create new Poinsettia cultivars with attractive flower bract coloration and uniform plant habit.

The new Poinsettia originated from a cross made by the Inventor in 1996 of a proprietary selection of *Euphorbia pulcherrima* Willd. identified as code number L 52, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent, with an unidentified proprietary selection of *Euphorbia pulcherrima* Willd., not patented, as the male, or pollen, parent. The cultivar KLEW01072 was discovered and selected by the Inventor in 1998 as a flowering plant within the progeny of the stated cross in a controlled environment in Stuttgart, Germany. The selection of this plant was based on its attractive flower bract coloration and uniform plant habit.

Asexual reproduction of the new Poinsettia by vegetative terminal cuttings taken at Stuttgart, Germany since 1999, has shown that the unique features of this new Poinsettia are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations of asexual reproduction.

**BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be the unique characteristics of 'KLEW01072'. These characteristics in combination distinguish 'KLEW01072' as a new and distinct Poinsettia cultivar:

1. Uniform, upright and outwardly spreading plant habit.
2. Dark green-colored leaves with purple-colored petioles.
3. Dark red-colored flower bracts.
4. Early flowering; response time, about 8 weeks.
5. Good post-production longevity.

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Plants of the new Poinsettia differ from plants of the female parent, the selection L 52, in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new Poinsettia have darker green leaves than plants of the selection L 52.

2. Leaves of plants of the new Poinsettia are not as deeply lobed as leaves of plants of the selection L 52.

3. Plants of the new Poinsettia have darker red-colored flower bracts than plants of the selection L 52.

Plants of the new Poinsettia differ primarily from plants of the male parent, the unidentified proprietary selection in flower bract coloration.

Plants of the new Poinsettia differ primarily from plants of the cultivar KLEW01073, U.S. Plant patent application Ser. No. 10/036,947 filed concurrently, in plant form as plants of the new Poinsettia are more outwardly spreading than plants of the cultivar KLEW01073.

Plants of the new Poinsettia can also be compared to plants of the cultivar Fiscor, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 9,364. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Stuttgart, Germany, plants of the new Poinsettia differed from plants of the cultivar Fiscor in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new Poinsettia flowered about one week later than plants of the cultivar Fiscor.

2. Flower bracts of plants of the new Poinsettia were more upright than flower bracts of plants of the cultivar Fiscor.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH**

The accompanying colored photograph illustrates the overall appearance of the new Poinsettia, 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 Poinsettia. The photograph comprises a side perspective view of a single flowering plant of 'KLEW01072' grown in a container.

**DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION**

Plants of the new Poinsettia have not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in environment such as

temperature, daylength and light intensity, without, however, any variance in genotype.

The aforementioned photographs, following observations and measurements describe plants grown in Stuttgart, Germany under commercial practice in a glass-covered greenhouse with day temperatures ranging from 20 to 30° C. and night temperatures ranging from 16 to 20° C. Cuttings were harvested in August and planted into 12-cm containers when rooted and pinched once. Plants were flowered under natural season short day/long night conditions. Plants were about 15 weeks from unrooted cuttings when the photographs and the detailed botanical description were taken.

In the following description, 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: *Euphorbia pulcherrima* Willd. cultivar KLEW01072.

Parentage:

*Female, or seed, parent.*—Proprietary selection of *Euphorbia pulcherrima* Willd. identified as code number L 52, not patented.

*Male, or pollen, parent.*—Unidentified proprietary selection of *Euphorbia pulcherrima* Willd., not patented.

Propagation:

*Type cutting.*—Vegetative terminal cuttings.

*Time to initiate roots.*—Summer: About 12 days at 22° C. Winter: About 15 days at 22° C.

*Time to produce a rooted cutting.*—Summer: About 20 days at 22° C. Winter: About 23 days at 22° C.

*Root description.*—Fibrous and freely-branching.

Plant description:

*Growth habit.*—Uniform, upright and outwardly spreading plant habit; inverted triangle; top of plant rounded; moderately vigorous.

*Plant height.*—About 25 to 30 cm.

*Plant diameter or spread.*—About 30 to 40 cm.

*Lateral branch description.*—Quantity per plant: About four to six lateral branches develop after pinching. Length: About 20 cm. Diameter: About 5 to 10 mm. Internode length: About 2 to 5 cm. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: 143A overlain with 183A.

*Foliage description.*—Arrangement: Alternate, single. Quantity of leaves per lateral branch: About 8 to 15. Length: About 4 to 12 cm. Width: About 2 to 7 cm. Shape: Mostly ovate with slight irregular lobing. Apex: Acute to acuminate. Base: Obtuse. Margin: Entire with slight irregular lobing. Venation pattern: Pinnate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Glabrous, smooth. Color: Young foliage, upper surface: 144B. Young foliage, lower surface: 143C. Fully expanded foliage, upper surface: 139A. Fully expanded foliage, lower surface: 137B. Venation, upper surface: 139A. Venation, lower surface: 138B. Petiole: Length: About 3 to 5 cm. Diameter: About

2.5 mm. Texture: Glabrous, smooth. Color, upper and lower surfaces: 183A.

Inflorescence description:

*Inflorescence type and habit.*—Inflorescences are compound corymbs of cyathia with colored flower bracts subtending the cyathia. Inflorescences not persistent.

*Fragrance.*—None detected.

*Natural flowering season.*—Autumn/winter; flower initiation and development is induced under short day/long night conditions.

*Response time.*—Early, about 8 weeks.

*Post-production longevity.*—Plants of the new Poinsettia maintain good substance and bract color for about three to four weeks under interior conditions and about four to five weeks under greenhouse conditions.

*Quantity of inflorescences.*—One per lateral branch; about four to six per plant.

*Inflorescence size.*—Diameter: About 15 to 20 cm. Height (depth): About 2 to 5 cm.

*Flower bracts.*—Quantity of fully developed flower bracts per inflorescence: About seven to nine. Length: About 6 to 9 cm. Width: About 5 to 7 cm. Shape: Mostly ovate with lobing. Apex: Acute to acuminate. Base: Obtuse. Margin: Entire with lobing. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Glabrous, smooth. Surface: Mostly flat. Color: Developing bracts, upper and lower surfaces: 45A. Fully developed bracts, upper surface: 46B; color does not fade with subsequent development. Fully developed bracts, lower surface: 45A. Venation, upper and lower surfaces: Same as flower bracts. Bract petiole: Length: About 1 to 3 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Texture: Glabrous, smooth. Color: 183A.

*Cyathia.*—Quantity of cyathia per corymb: About four to ten. Diameter of cyathia cluster: About 1.5 to 2.5 cm. Length: About 4 to 7 mm. Diameter: About 3 to 5 mm. Shape: Ovoid. Color, immature and mature: 143C.

*Nectaries.*—Quantity of nectaries per cyathium: One or two. Diameter: About 2 to 3 mm. Color: 13A to 14B.

*Peduncle.*—Length: About 1 to 2 mm. Diameter: About 1 mm. Aspect: Erect. Strength: Moderately strong. Texture: Glabrous, smooth. Color: 144A to 144B.

*Reproductive organs.*—Stamens: Quantity of stamens per cyathium: About 5 to 10. Anther shape: Ovoid. Anther length: About 1 mm. Anther color: 9A to 12A. Amount of pollen: Moderate. Pollen color: 9A to 12A. Pistils: Quantity of pistils per cyathium: One. Pistil length: About 3 to 5 mm. Style length: About 2 to 3 mm. Stigma color: 185A.

Disease/pest resistance: Resistance to pathogens and pests common to Poinsettias has not been observed on plants grown under commercial conditions.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of Poinsettia plant named 'KLEW01072', as illustrated and described.

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