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Uchneat

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(54) **DOUBLE IMPATIENS PLANT NAMED
‘BALFIEPLOS’**

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(US)

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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(51) **Int. Cl.**⁷ **A01H 5/00**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./317**

(58) **Field of Search** **Plt./317**

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

PP9,616 P * 7/1996 Leue Plt./317

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

UPOV ROM GTITM Computer Database, GTI JOUVE
Retrieval software, citations for ‘Balfieplos’ 2002/02.*

* cited by examiner

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of Double Impatiens plant named
‘Balfieplos’, characterized by its compact, upright, out-
wardly spreading and mounded plant habit; freely branching
growth habit; dark green-colored leaves; freely flowering
habit; and light pink-colored flowers that are fully double
and positioned above the foliage.

1 Drawing Sheet

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**BOTANICAL CLASSIFICATION/CULTIVAR
DESIGNATION**

Impatiens walleriana cultivar Balfieplos.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present Invention relates to a new and distinct culti-
var of Double Impatiens plant, botanically known as *Impa-*
tiens walleriana, and hereinafter referred to by the name
‘Balfieplos’.

The new Impatiens is a product of a planned breeding
program conducted by the Inventor in Elburn, Ill. The
objective of the breeding program was to develop new
compact Double Impatiens cultivars with fully double
flowers, freely branching growth habit, and attractive flower
and foliage coloration.

The new Impatiens originated from a cross made by the
Inventor in March, 2000, of a proprietary *Impatiens walle-*
riana selection identified as 487C-2-1, not patented, as the
female, or seed parent, with a proprietary *Impatiens walle-*
riana selection identified as 3032-1-1-5-2-1, not patented, as
the male, or pollen parent. The cultivar Balfieplos was
discovered and selected by the Inventor as a flowering plant
within the progeny of the stated cross in a controlled
environment in Elburn, Ill.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal
cuttings taken at Elburn, Ill. since April, 2000, has shown
that the unique features of this new Impatiens are stable and
reproduced true to type in successive generations of asexual
reproduction.

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SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and
are determined to be the unique characteristics of ‘Balfiep-
los’. These characteristics in combination distinguish
‘Balfieplos’ as a new and distinct cultivar:

1. Compact, upright, outwardly spreading and mounded
plant habit.

2. Freely branching growth habit.

3. Dark green-colored leaves.

4. Freely flowering habit.

5. Light pink-colored flowers that are fully double and
positioned above the foliage.

Plants of the new Impatiens differ primarily from plants of
the parent selections in flower color.

The new Impatiens can be compared to the *Impatiens*
walleriana cultivar Pink Ruffle, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat.
No. 9,616. However, in side-by-side comparisons conducted
in West Chicago, Ill., plants of the new Impatiens differed
from plants of the cultivar Pink Ruffle in the following
characteristics:

1. Plants of the new Impatiens had larger and darker
green-colored leaes than plants of the cultivar Pink Ruffle.

2. Plants of the new Impatiens were more freely flowering
than plants of the cultivar Pink Ruffle.

3. Flower color of plants of the new Impatiens was lighter
pink than flower color of plants of the cultivar Pink Ruffle.

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 repro-

ductions of this type. Colors in the photograph differ slightly from the color values cited in the detailed botanical description which accurately describe the colors of the new *Impatiens*.

The photograph comprises a side perspective view of multiple flowering plants of 'Balfieplos' grown in a container.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The cultivar Balfieplos has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in environment such as temperature and light intensity without, however, any variance in genotype. The aforementioned photograph and following observations and measurements describe plants grown in West Chicago, Ill., under commercial practice in a polycarbonate-covered greenhouse with day temperatures ranging from 20 to 24° C., night temperatures ranging from 10 to 17° C. and light levels ranging from 4,000 to 6,000 footcandles. Rooted young plants were planted in containers and had been growing for about five to six weeks when the photographs and the 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: *Impatiens walleriana* cultivar Balfieplos.

Parentage:

Female parent.—Proprietary *Impatiens walleriana* selection identified as 487C-2-1, not patented.

Male parent.—Proprietary *Impatiens walleriana* selection identified as 3032-1-1-5-2-1, not patented.

Propagation:

Type cutting.—Terminal cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—About 7 days at 18° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant.—About 21 days at 18° C.

Root description.—Fibrous and fine.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching.

Plant description:

General appearance.—Compact, upright, outwardly spreading and mounded plant habit. Appropriate for 10-cm and larger containers.

Growth and branching habit.—Vigorous and freely-branching growth habit with about three or four basal branches and lateral branches potentially forming at every node; dense and bushy growth. Pinching, that is, removal of the terminal apices, is not required, but will enhance branching.

Plant height.—About 13.4 cm.

Plant diameter or spread.—About 26.7 cm.

Lateral branches.—Length: About 15.2 cm. Diameter: About 5 mm. Internode length: About 3.3 cm. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: 146D.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Opposite, simple. Length: About 5.3 cm. Width: About 2.9 cm. Shape: Ovate. Apex: Acuminate. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Serrate to crenate with ciliation. Texture, upper and

lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Venation pattern: Pinnate, arcuate. Color: Young and fully expanded foliage, upper surface: 139A. Young and fully expanded foliage, lower surface: 138B. Venation, upper and lower surfaces: 144A. Petiole: Length: About 1.1 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color: 143D.

Flower description:

Flower type and habit.—Numerous and consistently double flowers. Flower buds open similar to a rose in fullness; flowers rounded in shape. Flowers arise from leaf axils. Freely flowering, usually about nine flowers and flower buds per lateral branch. Flowers positioned above the foliage and typically face upright or outward. Flowers last about five to seven days under greenhouse conditions. Flowers not persistent. Flowers not fragrant.

Flowering season.—Year-round under greenhouse conditions. In the garden, flowering is continuous from spring until fall.

Flower size.—Diameter: About 4.8 cm. Depth: About 2.2 cm.

Flower buds (at stage of showing color).—Length: About 1.7 cm. Diameter: About 1.2 cm. Shape: Ovoid. Color: 62D.

Petals.—Quantity/arrangement: About 27 per flower; imbricate. Length, largest petals: About 2.4 cm. Width, largest petals: About 2.1 cm. Shape: Obovate. Apex: Emarginate. Base: Truncate to attenuate. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Velvety, smooth. Color: Outer petals, when opening and fully opened, upper surface: 62C; at the base, a small darker pink, 62A, spot. Inner petals, when opening and fully opened, upper surface: Towards the margin, 68B; at the center, 68D; at the base, a small red purple, 71D, spot. Outer and inner petals, when opening and fully opened, lower surface: Towards the margin, 62C; at the center and base, 62D.

Sepals.—Quantity/arrangement: Five in a single whorl; one modified into an elongated spur. Calyx length: About 1 cm. Calyx diameter: About 1 cm. Shape: Elliptic. Apex: Acute. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, upper and lower surfaces: 144B. Spur length: About 3.1 cm. Spur color: 144C to 144D; towards the apex, close to 144C.

Peduncles.—Length: About 2.2 cm. Diameter: About 1.25 mm. Angle: Acute. Strength: Strong. Color: 144C.

Reproductive organs.—None observed.

Seed/fruit.—None observed.

Disease/pest resistance: Plants of the new *Impatiens* have not been observed to be resistant to pathogens and pests common to *Impatiens*.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of Double *Impatiens* plant named 'Balfieplos', as illustrated and described.

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