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Hofmann

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(54) **NEW GUINEA IMPATIENS PLANT NAMED
‘FISIMP 551’**

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of New Guinea Impatiens plant
named ‘Fisimp 551’, characterized by its upright and out-
wardly spreading, tall and uniformly mounded plant habit;
freely branching and freely flowering habit; large rounded
red purple-colored flowers that are positioned above and
beyond the foliage; and dark green-colored leaves.

1 Drawing Sheet

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**BOTANICAL CLASSIFICATION/CULTIVAR
DESIGNATION**

Impatiens hawkeri cultivar Fisimp 551.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present Invention relates to a new and distinct culti-
var of New Guinea Impatiens plant, botanically known as
Impatiens hawkeri, and hereinafter referred to by the name
‘Fisimp 551’.

The new Impatiens is a product of a planned breeding
program conducted by the Inventor in Hillscheid, Germany.
The objective of the breeding program is to develop new
vigorous Impatiens cultivars that flower relatively early with
large rounded flowers and attractive flower colors.

The new Impatiens originated from a cross made by the
Inventor in July, 1998 of the *Impatiens hawkeri* cultivar
BFP-467 Cherry Red, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 9,520,
as the female, or seed, parent with the *Impatiens hawkeri*
cultivar Danharmgta, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No.
12,093, as the male, or pollen, parent. The cultivar Fisimp
551 was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a
flowering plant within the progeny of the stated cross in a
controlled environment in Moncarapacho, Portugal in
March, 1999.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal
cuttings taken in Moncarapacho, Portugal, since March,
1999, has shown that the unique features of this new
Impatiens are stable and reproduced true to type in succes-
sive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and
are determined to be the unique characteristics of ‘Fisimp
551’. These characteristics in combination distinguish
‘Fisimp 551’ as a new and distinct Impatiens cultivar:

1. Upright and outwardly spreading, tall and uniformly
mounded plant habit.
2. Freely branching and freely flowering habit.
3. Large rounded red purple-colored flowers that are
positioned above and beyond the foliage.
4. Dark green-colored leaves.

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Plants of the new Impatiens are most similar to plants of
the female parent, the cultivar BFP-467 Cherry Red. In
side-by-side comparisons conducted by the Inventor in
Hillscheid, Germany, plants of the new Impatiens differed
from plants of the cultivar BFP-467 Cherry Red in the
following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new Impatiens had shorter internodes than
plants of the cultivar BFP-467 Cherry Red.
2. Plants of the new Impatiens had darker green-colored
leaves than plants of the cultivar BFP-467 Cherry Red.
3. Plants of the new Impatiens had larger and flatter
flowers than plants of the cultivar BFP-467 Cherry
Red.
4. Flowers of plants of the new Impatiens were red purple
in color whereas flowers of plants of the cultivar
BFP-467 Cherry Red were closer to cherry red in color.

Plants of the new Impatiens can be compared to plants of
the male parent, the cultivar Danharmgta. In side-by-side
comparisons conducted by the Inventor in Hillscheid,
Germany, plants of the new Impatiens differed from plants
of the cultivar Danharmgta in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new Impatiens were larger and more
vigorous than plants of the cultivar Danharmgta.
2. Flowers of plants of the new Impatiens were slightly
lighter red purple in color than flowers of plants of the
cultivar Danharmgta.

Plants of the new Impatiens and the cultivar Fisimp 102,
disclosed in a U.S. Plant Patent application filed
concurrently, differ primarily in flower color.

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 may 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 a typical flowering plant of ‘Fisimp 551’ grown in
a container.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The cultivar Fisimp 551 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, following observations and measurements describe plants grown in Langley, British Columbia, Canada, under commercial practice in a greenhouse. Rooted young plants were planted in 17.5-cm containers during the spring and the aforementioned photograph and following observations and measurements were taken during the summer about 17 weeks later. During the production of the plants, day temperatures ranged from 21 to 24° C. and night temperatures were about 17 to 18° C. 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 hawkeri* cultivar Fisimp 551.

Parentage:

Female parent—*Impatiens hawkeri* cultivar BFP-467 Cherry Red, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 9,520.

Male parent—*Impatiens hawkeri* cultivar Danharmgta, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 12,093.

Propagation:

Type cutting.—Terminal tip cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—Summer: About 8 to 9 days at 24° C. Winter: About 10 days at 21° C.

Time to produce a rooted cutting.—Summer: About 15 days at 24° C. Winter: About 18 days at 21° C.

Root description.—Numerous, fibrous, and freely branching; 159A in color.

Plant description:

General appearance.—Upright and outwardly spreading, tall and uniformly mounded plant growth habit; freely branching habit, dense and bushy appearance; freely flowering. Vigorous.

Crop time.—From a rooted cutting, about 10 to 11 weeks are required to produce finished flowering plants in 12-cm containers.

Plant height.—About 23.4 cm.

Plant diameter or spread.—About 57.3 cm.

Lateral branches.—Quantity per plant: About 13. Length: About 20 cm. Diameter: About 8 mm. Internode length: About 3 cm. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: 146D to lighter than 146D; occasionally overlain with 180C.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Primarily in whorls. Length: About 14.5 cm. Width: About 4.8 cm. Shape: Elliptic. Apex: Acuminate. Base: Acute. Margin: Serrulate with ciliation. Texture: Smooth, somewhat rugose; glabrous. Color: Young foliage, upper surface: Between 137A to 139A. Young foliage, lower surface: 185A. Fully expanded foliage, upper surface: 139A. Fully expanded foliage, lower surface: 185B. Venation, upper surface: 47A. Venation, lower surface: 53B. Petiole: Length: About 3.75 cm. Diameter: About 3.5 mm. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: Upper surface: 47B. Lower surface: 53D.

Flower description:

Flower type and flowering habit.—Single; large rounded red purple-colored flowers; flat to slightly cupped. Freely and continuously flowering; usually about 6 to 9 flowers and flower buds per lateral branch. Flowers positioned above and beyond the foliage and typically face parallel to the leaf canopy. Petals not persistent; gynoecium persistent. Flowers not fragrant.

Flower longevity.—Flowers last about 8 to 9 days on the plant.

Flowering season.—Year-round under greenhouse conditions. Plants begin flowering about 9 to 9.5 weeks after planting.

Flower buds.—Length: About 2.1 cm. Diameter: About 1.5 cm. Shape: Ovoid. Color: 53C.

Flower length.—About 7.1 cm.

Flower width.—About 7.1 cm.

Flower depth.—About 1.25 cm.

Petals.—Quantity: Five per flower, imbricate. Length: Banner petals: About 3.1 cm. Lateral and base petals: About 3.4 cm. Width: Banner petal: About 4.9 cm. Lateral and base petals: About 3.6 cm. Shape: Roughly cordate. Apex: Emarginate. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire. Aspect: Mostly flat. Texture: Smooth; satiny. Color: When opening, upper surface: More red than 57A. When opening, lower surface: 52A. Fully opened, upper surface: Close to 57A; towards the base or eye, 74B to 74C, faint; color becoming closer to 74B to 74C towards the base with subsequent development. Fully opened, lower surface: 52A.

Spur.—Quantity: One per flower. Length: About 5.9 cm. Diameter: At apex: About 0.5 mm. At flower: About 3 mm. Aspect: Curved. Color: 53B.

Peduncles.—Length: About 6.6 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Strength: Strong, flexible. Angle: About 45° from the lateral branch. Color: 144B; towards the flower, slightly overlain with 48A.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Stamen number: Five fused at anthers, hooded; filaments free. Anther length: About 6.5 mm. Anther shape: Obovate. Anther color: 50A. Pollen amount: Moderate. Pollen color: 8D. Gynoecium: Pistil quantity: One per flower. Pistil length: About 5.5 mm. Stigma color: 53C. Style color: 53C. Ovary: Five-celled. Ovary color: 187A.

Seed/fruit.—Seed and fruit development has not been 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 New Guinea *Impatiens* plant named 'Fisimp 551', as illustrated and described.

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