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Hofmann

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(54) **NEW GUINEA IMPATIENS PLANT NAMED ‘FISUPNIC WHITE’**

(50) Latin Name: *Impatiens hawkeri*
Varietal Denomination: **Fisupnic White**

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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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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of New Guinea Impatiens plant named ‘Fisupnic White’, characterized by its outwardly spreading and uniformly mounded plant habit; tall growth habit; freely branching and freely flowering habit; intense medium green-colored foliage; and large, rounded, white-colored flowers that are positioned above or beyond the foliage.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical classification/cultivar designation: *Impatiens hawkeri* cultivar Fisupnic White.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present Invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of New Guinea Impatiens plant, botanically known as *Impatiens hawkeri*, and hereinafter referred to by the name ‘Fisupnic White’.

The new Impatiens is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Hillscheid, Germany and Galder, Gran Canaria, Spain. The objective of the breeding program is to develop new vigorous Impatiens cultivars with medium flowering response and large rounded flowers with attractive coloration.

The new Impatiens originated from a cross-pollination made by the Inventor during the spring of 1999 of a proprietary seedling selection of *Impatiens hawkeri* identified as code number 98-4098-11, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with a proprietary seedling selection of *Impatiens hawkeri* identified as code number K98-4069-21, not patented, as the male, or pollen, parent. The cultivar Fisupnic White was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a flowering plant within the progeny of the stated cross-pollination in a controlled environment in Galder, Gran Canaria, Spain in April, 2000.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal cuttings taken in Galder, Gran Canaria, Spain, since July, 2000, has shown that the unique features of this new Impatiens are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

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

1. Outwardly spreading and uniformly mounded plant habit; tall growth habit.
2. Freely branching and freely flowering habit.
3. Intense medium green-colored foliage.
4. Large, rounded, white-colored flowers that are positioned above or beyond the foliage.

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

1. Plants of the new Impatiens were more vigorous than plants of the female parent selection.
2. Plants of the new Impatiens had lighter green-colored leaves than plants of the female parent selection.
3. Plants of the new Impatiens and the female parent selection differed in flower coloration as plants of the female parent selection had light lavender-colored flowers.

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

1. Plants of the new Impatiens were larger and more vigorous than plants of the male parent selection.
2. Leaves of plants of the new Impatiens were lighter green in color than leaves of plants of the male parent selection.
3. Plants of the new Impatiens had white to pale light green-colored flower spurs and peduncles whereas plants of the male parent selection had brownish pink-colored flower spurs and peduncles.
4. Plants of the new Impatiens and the male parent selection differed in flower coloration as plants of the male parent selection had white-colored flowers with a light pink-colored hue and small pink-colored eye zone.

Plants of the new Impatiens can also be compared to plants of the cultivar BFP-857, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 11,402. In side-by-side comparisons conducted by the Inventor in Hillscheid, Germany, plants of the new Impatiens differed from plants of the cultivar BFP-857 in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new Impatiens were smaller than plants of the cultivar BFP-857.
2. Leaves of plants of the new Impatiens were smaller and deeper green in color than leaves of plants of the cultivar BFP-857.

3. Plants of the new *Impatiens* and the cultivar BFP-857 differed in flower coloration as plants of the cultivar BFP-857 had white-colored flowers with an occasional light pink hue.

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 *Impatiens*. The photograph comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'Fisupnic White' grown in a container.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The cultivar *Fisupnic White* 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 Hilscheid, Germany, under commercial production practice in a glass-covered greenhouse. Rooted young plants were planted in 12-cm containers and the aforementioned photograph and following observations and measurements were taken about 11 weeks later. During the production of the plants, day temperatures were about 18 to 22° C. and night temperatures were about 16 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 *Fisupnic White*.

Parentage:

Female parent.—Proprietary seedling selection of *Impatiens hawkeri* identified as code number K98-4098-11, not patented.

Male parent.—Proprietary seedling selection of *Impatiens hawkeri* identified as code number K98-4069-21, not patented.

Propagation:

Type cutting.—Terminal tip cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—Summer: About 8 to 10 days at 24° C. Winter: About 12 to 15 days at 21° C.

Time to produce a rooted cutting.—Summer: About 15 days at 24° C. Winter: About 18 to 20 days at 21° C.

Root description.—Numerous, fibrous, and freely branching; 158D in color.

Plant description:

General appearance.—Outwardly spreading and uniformly mounded plant growth habit; tall growth habit; freely branching habit; bushy appearance; freely flowering. Vigorous.

Crop time.—From a rooted cutting, about 9 to 10 weeks are required to produce finished flowering plants in 12-cm containers.

Plant height.—About 25 cm.

Plant diameter or spread.—About 45 to 50 cm.

Lateral branches.—Quantity per plant: About 12 to 13. Length: About 20 to 23 cm. Diameter: About 6 to 7 mm. Internode length: About 4 to 5 cm. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: 143C.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Primarily in whorls. Length: About 11 to 12 cm. Width: About 4

to 4.5 cm. Shape: Elliptic, narrow. Apex: Acute. Base: Acute. Margin: Serrulate with ciliation. Texture: Smooth, slightly rugose; glabrous. Color: Developing foliage, upper surface: 137C. Developing foliage, lower surface: 138B. Fully expanded foliage, upper surface: Between 137A and 139A. Fully expanded foliage, lower surface: 138B. Venation, upper surface: 145D. Venation, lower surface: 145A. Petiole: Length: About 1.5 to 2 cm. Diameter: About 4 mm. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color, upper surface: 179C. Color, lower surface: 145C.

Flower description:

Flower type and flowering habit.—Single, large, rounded, white-colored flowers. Freely and continuously flowering; usually about 6 to 9 flowers and flower buds per lateral branch. Flowers positioned above or beyond the foliage; flowers 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 10 weeks after planting.

Flower buds.—Length: About 2.2 cm. Diameter: About 1.5 cm. Shape: Ovoid. Color: 150D to 145D.

Flower length.—About 7.2 to 7.8 cm.

Flower width.—About 7.5 to 8 cm.

Flower depth.—About 1 to 1.5 cm.

Petals.—Quantity: Five per flower, imbricate. Length: Banner petals: About 3.2 to 3.3 cm. Lateral and base petals: About 3.8 to 4.2 cm. Width: Banner petal: About 5.3 to 5.5 cm. Lateral petals: About 4 to 4.2 cm. Base petals: About 4.8 to 5 cm. Shape: Cordate. Apex: Distinctly lobed; emarginate. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire. Aspect: Mostly flat. Texture: Smooth; satiny. Color: When opening, upper surface: 155D. When opening, lower surface: 157D. Fully opened, upper and lower surfaces: 155D.

Spur.—Quantity: One per flower. Length: About 5.5 to 6 cm. Diameter: At apex: About 0.5 mm. At flower: About 3 mm. Aspect: Curved. Color: Between 155D and 157A.

Peduncles.—Length: About 5 to 5.5 cm. Diameter: About 1.75 mm. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Strength: Strong, flexible. Color: 145A.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Stamen number: Five fused at anthers, hooded; filaments free. Anther length: About 6 mm. Anther shape: Obovate. Anther color: 155D. Pollen amount: Moderate. Pollen color: 8D. Gynoecium: Pistil quantity: One per flower. Pistil length: About 5 to 6 mm. Stigma color: 150D. Style color: 150D. Ovary: Five-celled. Ovary color: 143A.

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*.

Low temperature tolerance: Plants of the new *Impatiens* have been observed to tolerate night temperatures of 5° C. with 10° C. day temperatures.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of New Guinea *Impatiens* plant named 'Fisupnic White', as illustrated and described.

