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(12) **United States Plant Patent**
VanLaeken

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(54) **CLEMATIS PLANT NAMED ‘SPRINKLES’**

(58) **Field of Search** Plt./228

(50) Latin Name: *Clematis*
Varietal Denomination: **Sprinkles**

(56) **References Cited**

PUBLICATIONS

(76) Inventor: **James P. VanLaeken**, P.O. Box 552,
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Spring Valley Greenhouse, Inc. Catalogue (4th ed) p. 9
“Ernest Markham”.

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
patent is extended or adjusted under 35
U.S.C. 154(b) by 4 days.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

(22) Filed: **Sep. 27, 2001**

A new variety of clematis plant named ‘Sprinkles’. The
variety is characterized by wavy edged petals having
sprinkles of light pink distributed throughout the tepal
surface and a light pink bar that extends along the center
longitudinal axis of each tepal.

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

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(51) **Int. Cl.**⁷ **A01H 5/00**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./228**

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical classification: *Clematis*.
Cultivar designation: ‘Sprinkles’.

BACKGROUND OF THE NEW VARIETY

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of clematis species plant, hereinafter referred to by the name
‘Sprinkles’ (i.e. Genus *Clematis*, cultivar ‘Sprinkles’, spe-
cies name unknown).

The new variety was discovered in a controlled planting
of cultivated plants in a clematis nursery in Walworth, N.Y.
in 1994. Plants were asexually propagated and observed
over the next four years. In 1998, an offspring was selected
and planted in an outside garden area and observed over the
next two years. Propagation was done in Walworth, N.Y.
Asexual propagation by vegetative cuttings has shown that
the propagules are identical to the original plant in all
distinguishing characteristics. The stability of the variety is
evidenced by the distinguishing characteristics remaining
true to form from generation to generation. The parentage of
the variety is unknown; therefore, a species name is not
designated.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Among the features which distinguish the new variety
from other presently available and known commercial
clematis cultivars are the unique color of the flower and the
long blooming habit of the plant. The flower has sprinkles of
light pink which are distributed throughout the tepals. A
tepal typically carries a light pink bar that extends along its
center longitudinal axis. While the light pink bar is not
dominant or very pronounced or consistent throughout the
flowers, it is consistent throughout the plant itself. However,
the light pink bar may appear to be near white when
contrasted against the rose pink color of the tepal edge. Their
wavy edged tepals and rose-tipped stamens further distin-
guish the flowers.

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RELEVANT PRIOR ART

The new variety is somewhat similar in appearance to the
Ernest Markham variety as shown in the Spring Valley
Greenhouse, Inc. catalogue (4th Edition) at page 9. While the
flowers of both varieties are about the same size and have
wavy edged tepals, there is a marked difference in the
coloration of the tepals. The tepals of the Ernest Markham
variety are a solid, magenta-red (PANTONE® #512C),
whereas the tepals of the new variety have edges which are
rose pink (PANTONE® #246U) and which fade to light pink
in the center thereby forming a light pink bar in the middle
of the tepal. Moreover, light pink is also sprinkled through-
out the tepals creating an aesthetically soft appearance.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying photograph illustrates the overall
appearance of the new variety. The flower and foliage colors
as shown are, within the limitations of color photography,
accurate and true reproductions of the actual colors of the
new variety. The photographic view is a front elevation of
typical *Clematis Sprinkles* in full bloom.

BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The following information is based on a six year old plant
grown in Walworth, N.Y. Color references are based on using
the PANTONE® matching system.

I. Plant:

- A. *Form*.—Upright climbing or spreading.
- B. *Growth*.—Vigorous, vining. 1. Height: approxi-
mately 10 feet to 12 feet. 2. Diameter/Spread:
approximately 3 feet to 4 feet.
- C. *Foliage*.—Deciduous, compound-trifoliate, oppo-
site. 1. Size typical and observed: a. compound leaf
length 2.5 inches, width 4.25 inches. b. individual
leaflets length 1.75 inches, width 1 inch. c. simple
leaf length 3 inches, width 2 inches. 2. Quantity per

- stem: typical and observed about 60. 3. Color: a. upper surface: dark green (PANTONE® #371C). b. lower surface: medium green (PANTONE® #377U). 4. Shape: lower leaves sometimes simple; normally three ovate leaflets in pinnate form; each leaf is cordate shaped. a. leaf base, typical and observed: rounded. b. leaf apex, typical and observed: acute. c. leaf edge, typical and observed: margin is entire. 5. Texture: upper side-glabrous veined, underside-ribbed. 6. Petiole: a. color: green/red (PANTONE® #384U). b. length, typical and observed: 2 inches. c. diameter, typical and observed: $\frac{1}{16}$ inch.
- D. *Wood*.—1. New shoots. a. Color: light green (PANTONE® #582U). b. Bark: smooth. c. Internodes: cylindrical, approximately from about 5 inches to about 8 inches in length and $\frac{3}{32}$ inch in diameter. 2. Old Wood. a. Color: light brown (PANTONE® #154C). b. Bark: rough.
- E. *Hardiness*.—Zones 4 through 8.
- F. *Disease*.—a. subject to any disease that normally affects clematis. b. has shown resistance to powdery mildew.
- G. *Pests*.—a. subject to any pests that normally affect clematis.
- II. Flower:
- A. *Blooming habit*.—Recurrent, June to September based on climate in Rochester, N.Y. area.
- B. *Bud*.—1. Size: typical and observed from about 1.5 inches to about 2.0 inches in length and about $\frac{5}{8}$ inch in diameter. 2. Form: elliptic to ovate. 3. Color: green/grayish white (PANTONE® #435C).
- C. *Stem*.—1. Length: from about 6 inches to about 8 inches. 2. Aspect: vertical. 3. Strength: erect. 4. Color: green (PANTONE® #582U), turning red/purple (PANTONE® #476C) with age.
- D. *Bloom*.—1. Size, typical and observed: from about 4 inches to about 6 inches in diameter with a depth of 0.5 inch. 2. Form: round, very symmetrical with six (6) tepals of equal size overlapping with wavy margins. 3. Color upper surface: edges of tepals are rose pink (PANTONE® #246U) fading to light pink (PANTONE® #250C) in the center; this color (PANTONE® #250C) is also sprinkled throughout

- the tepals giving the plant a very soft look to the human eye. 4. Color lower surface: (PANTONE® #248U) fading to center color (PANTONE® #243U). 5. Characteristics: borne on 6 inch to 8 inch stems; suitable for cut flower arrangements. 6. Quantity: very floriferous, resulting from multiple buds formed on each stem, the typical and observed number of blooms per stem being from about 7 to about 10, and the typical and observed number of stems per plant being from about 50 to about 75. 7. Lastingness: about 7 to about 10 days as a cut flower and about 10 days to about 14 days on the plant.
- E. *Tepals*.—1. Form: obovate in shape, starting $\frac{1}{4}$ inch wide at its base, expanding halfway up to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches at its widest point and then tapering down to a pointed apex, the typical and observed overall tepal length being about $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches. 2. Arrangement: regularly arranged, slightly overlapping at base. 3. Fragrance: none. 4. Color: (see II D 3 and II D 4 above). 5. Margins, typical and observed: wavy, irregular. 6. Base, typical and observed: narrow.
- III. Reproductive organs:
- A. *Stamens, filaments and anthers*.—1. Arrangement: regularly arranged. 2. Stamens: typical and observed, 85 to 100 per bloom, (PANTONE® #461C), length $\frac{5}{8}$ inch. 3. Anther: (PANTONE® #469C), length $\frac{3}{16}$ inch. 4. Pistil: typical and observed from about 35 to about 50 per bloom, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in length.
- B. *Pollen*.—1. Color: off white (PANTONE® #468C). 2. Amount: scarce.
- C. *Styles*.—Bunched, even, average length.
- D. *Stigmas*.—1. Color: off white (PANTONE® #461C).
- E. *Seed, typical and observed*.—1. Diameter: $\frac{3}{16}$ inch. 2. Thickness: $\frac{1}{16}$ inch. 3. Color: (PANTONE® #145U). 4. Shape: spherical. 5. Quantity per bloom: 10 to 20. 6. Description: 1 inch to about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, persistent style which is clothed with silky hairs $\frac{1}{16}$ inch in length.

I claim:

1. A new and distinct variety of clematis plant named 'Sprinkles' as shown and described herein.

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