

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

(10) **Patent No.:** **US PP15,321 P2**  
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Nov. 16, 2004**

(54) **PETUNIA PLANT NAMED ‘WESPEQUEEN’**

(50) Latin Name: *Petunia*×*hybrida*  
Varietal Denomination: **Wespequeen**

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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.

(21) Appl. No.: **10/759,721**

(22) Filed: **Jan. 16, 2004**

(51) **Int. Cl.<sup>7</sup>** ..... **A01H 5/00**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **Plt./356**

(58) **Field of Search** ..... **Plt./356**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A distinct cultivar of *Petunia* plant named ‘Wespequeen’,  
characterized by its cascading growth habit; freely flowering  
habit; single bicolored flowers that are purple in color with  
white-colored margins; light bluish violet-colored anthers;  
and large sepals.

**1 Drawing Sheet**

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Botanical classification/cultivar designation: *Petunia*×*hybrida* cultivar Wespequeen.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

The present Invention relates to a new and distinct culti-  
var of *Petunia* plant, botanically known as *Petunia*×*hybrida*,  
and hereinafter referred to by the name ‘Wespequeen’.

The new *Petunia* is a product of a planned breeding  
program conducted by the Inventor in Südlohn-Oeding,  
Germany. The new *Petunia* originated from a cross-  
pollination made by the Inventor of a proprietary *Petunia*  
seedling selection, not patented, as the female, or seed  
parent, identified as code number 99P078 with a proprietary  
*Petunia* seedling selection not patented, as the male, or  
pollen, parent, identified as code number 99P048. The new  
*Petunia* was selected by the Inventor in 2000 in a controlled  
environment in Südlohn-Oeding, Germany.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal  
cuttings in Südlohn-Oeding, Germany since 2001, has  
shown that the unique features of this new *Petunia* are stable  
and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

Plants of the cultivar ‘Wespequeen’ have not been  
observed under all possible environmental conditions. The  
phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in environ-  
ment such as temperature, daylength, and light intensity  
without, however, any variance in genotype.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and  
are determined to be the unique characteristics of ‘Wespe-  
queen’. These characteristics in combination distinguish  
‘Wespequeen’ as a new and distinct *Petunia* cultivar:

1. Cascading growth habit.
2. Freely flowering habit.
3. Single bicolored flowers that are purple in color with  
white-colored margins.
4. Light bluish violet-colored anthers.
5. Large sepals.

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Plants of the new *Petunia* produce flowers that are larger  
and darker in color than plants of the female parent, a  
proprietary selection. Plants of the new *Petunia* have a more  
cascading plant habit and have larger and darker colored  
flowers than plants of the male parent, a proprietary selec-  
tion.

Plants of the cultivar Wespequeen can be compared to  
plants of the *Petunia* cultivar Brevt, described in U.S. Plant  
Pat. No. 12,679. However in side-by-side comparisons con-  
ducted in Südlohn-Oeding, Germany, plants of the new  
*Petunia* and the cultivar Brevt, differed in the following  
characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Petunia* had shorter internodes than  
plants of the cultivar Brevt.
2. Plants of the new *Petunia* had larger flowers with larger  
sepals than plants of the cultivar Brevt.
3. Flower color of plants of the new *Petunia* was different  
than flower color of plants of the cultivar Brevt.
4. Plants of the new *Petunia* had longer peduncles than  
plants of the cultivar Brevt.
5. Flowers of the new *Petunia* had anthers of a different  
color than flowers of the cultivar Brevt.

Plants of the cultivar ‘Wespequeen’ can also be compared  
to plants of the *Petunia* cultivar Bresh, disclosed in U.S.  
Plant patent application Ser. No. 09/592,379, now aban-  
doned. However in side-by-side comparisons conducted in  
Südlohn-Oeding, Germany, plants of the new *Petunia* and  
the cultivar Bresh differed in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Petunia* had shorter internodes than  
plants of the cultivar Bresh.
2. Plants of the new *Petunia* had larger flowers with larger  
sepals than plants of the cultivar Bresh.
3. Flower color of plants of the new *Petunia* was more  
intense than flower color of plants of the cultivar Bresh.
4. Flowers of the new *Petunia* had anthers of a different  
color than flowers of the cultivar Bresh.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS**

The accompanying colored photographs illustrate 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 photographs may differ slightly from the color values cited in the detailed botanical description, which accurately describe the colors of the new *Petunia*.

The photograph comprises a side perspective view of a typical plant of 'Wespequeen'.

#### DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 2001 Edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used. Plants used for the aforementioned photographs and the following botanical description were grown in 12-cm containers during the spring and summer for about 20 weeks in a glass-covered greenhouse and under conditions that closely approximate commercial production conditions in Südlahn-Oeding, Germany. During the production of the plants, day temperatures were about 20 to 25° C., night temperatures were about 16 to 18° C. and light levels ranged from 3,000 to 50,000 lux.

Botanical classification: *Petunia*×*hybrida* cultivar Wespequeen.

Parentage:

*Female parent*.—Proprietary *Petunia*×*hybrida* selection identified as code number 99P078, not patented.

*Male parent*.—Proprietary *Petunia*×*hybrida* selection identified as code number 99P048, not patented.

Propagation:

*Type cutting*.—Terminal vegetative cuttings.

*Time to initiate roots*.—About 18 days at 20° C.

*Time to develop roots*.—About 20 to 28 days at 20° C.

*Root description*.—Numerous, fine, fibrous and well-branched.

Plant description:

*Form*.—Annual flowering plant; cascading plant habit. Viscid, glandular pubescent. Freely and continuous basal branching with lateral branches potentially forming at every node.

*Usage*.—Appropriate for hanging baskets, window boxes and patio containers.

*Plant height (from soil level to top of plant plane)*.—About 20 cm.

*Plant diameter*.—About 50 to 60 cm.

*Stem description*.—Main branches, length: About 80 cm. Main branches, diameter: About 4 to 6 mm. Lateral branches, length: About 32 to 48 cm. Lateral branches, diameter: About 2 mm. Internode length: About 3.2 cm. Texture: Densely pubescent. Color: 144A to 144B.

*Foliage description*.—Arrangement: Alternate; simple. Length: About 5.6 cm. Width: About 3.9 cm. Shape: Ovate to round. Apex: Obtuse. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire. Aspect: Flat. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Leathery; pubescent. Venation pattern: Pinnate. Color: Developing foliage, upper and lower surfaces: 147B. Fully expanded foliage, upper surface: 147A to 147B. Fully expanded foliage, lower surface: 147B. Venation, upper surface: 147C. Venation, lower surface: 147B. Petiole length: About

8 to 12 mm. Petiole diameter: About 2.4 mm. Petiole color: 147B.

Flower description:

*Flower type and habit*.—Single salverform flowers; flowers face upward and outward; single, axillary. Freely flowering.

*Natural flowering season*.—Long day responsive; flowering from April until frost in the autumn in Germany; flowering continuous during this period.

*Fragrance*.—None detected.

*Flower longevity on the plant*.—About one week.

*Flower size*.—Diameter: About 7.4 cm. Depth (height): About 3.3 cm. Tube length: About 2.8 cm. Throat diameter, distal end: About 1.3 cm. Tube diameter, proximal end: About 5 mm.

*Flower buds*.—Length: About 3.3 cm. Diameter: About 6 mm. Shape: Oblong. Color: 138C to 144B overlain with N77C.

*Petals*.—Arrangement/appearance: Single whorls of five petals, fused into a flared trumpet. Length from throat: About 3.4 cm. Width: About 3.2 cm. Shape: Obtuse. Apex: Rounded. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, satiny. Color: When opening, upper surface: 86A; towards the margins, 155D. When opening, lower surface: 83D overlain with N80B; towards the margins 155D. Fully opened, upper surface: N78A; towards the margins, 155D. Fully opened, lower surface: N81A to N81C; towards the margins, 155D. Flower throat (inside): N187A. Flower tube (outside): N77B overlain with N79B to N79C. Venation, upper surface: 79A. Venation, lower surface: N187A. Venation, throat: Similar to throat. Venation, tube: Similar to tube.

*Sepals*.—Arrangement/appearance: Single whorl of five sepals, fused at base; star-shaped. Length: About 2.2 cm. Width: About 7 mm. Shape: Ovate. Apex: Round, obtuse. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent; leathery. Color, upper and surfaces: 144A.

*Peduncles*.—Length: About 3.6 cm. Width: About 2 mm. Strength: Wiry, strong. Texture: Pubescent. Color: 144A.

*Reproductive organs*.—Stamens: Quantity: About five per flower. Anther shape: Four-parted, reniform. Anther length: About 2.5 mm. Anther width: About 2.2 mm. Anther color: 195B overlain with 91B. Pollen amount: Moderate. Pollen color: 91C. Pistils: Quantity: One per flower. Pistil length: About 1.9 cm. Stigma shape: Ovate. Stigma color, immature: 137A. Stigma color, mature: 147A. Style length: About 1.4 cm. Style color: 144D. Ovary color: 144B. Seed/fruit: Seed and fruit production have not been observed.

Disease/pest resistance: Plants of the new *Petunia* have not been noted to be resistant to pathogens or pests common to *Petunia*.

Temperature tolerance: Plants of the new *Petunia* have been observed to be tolerant to temperatures from 2 to 30° C. It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Petunia* plant named 'Wespequeen', as illustrated and described.

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