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(12) United States Plant Patent
Westhoff**(10) Patent No.: US PP15,343 P2****(45) Date of Patent: Nov. 16, 2004****(54) PETUNIA PLANT NAMED 'WESPECAPINK'****(50)** Latin Name: *Petunia*×*hybrida*
Varietal Denomination: **Wespecapink****(75)** Inventor: **Heinrich Westhoff**, Südlohn (DE)**(73)** Assignee: **Josef & Heinrich Westhoff**
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Südlohn-Oeding (DE)**(*)** 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.: **10/759,729****(22)** Filed: **Jan. 16, 2004****(51) Int. Cl.⁷ A01H 5/00****(52) U.S. Cl. Plt./356****(58) Field of Search Plt./356***Primary Examiner*—Bruce R. Campell
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(74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm—C. A. Whealy**(57) ABSTRACT**A new and distinct cultivar of *Petunia* plant named 'Wespecapink', characterized by its cascading, roughly spherical growth habit; freely branching plant habit; freely flowering habit; finely textured foliage; and single pastel pink colored flowers with purple colored venation.**1 Drawing Sheet****1**Botanical classification/cultivar designation: *Petunia*×*hybrida* cultivar Wespecapink.**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**The present Invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of *Petunia* plant, botanically known as *Petunia*×*hybrida*, and hereinafter referred to by the name 'Wespecapink'.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 identified as code number 98K8463-332, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with a proprietary *Petunia* seedling selection identified as code number 98K66384-562, not patented, as the male, or pollen, parent. 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 taken 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 Wespecapink have not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in environment 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 'Wespecapink'. These characteristics in combination distinguish 'Wespecapink' as a new and distinct *Petunia* cultivar:

1. Cascading and roughly spherical growth habit.
2. Freely branching plant habit.
3. Freely flowering habit.
4. Finely textured foliage.
5. Single pastel pink-colored flowers with purple-colored venation.

2Plants of the new *Petunia* are more trailing, more freely branching and have larger flowers than plants of the female parent. Plants of the new *Petunia* produce flowers that are larger, open fully and are of a different color than plants of the male parent.Plants of the cultivar Wespecapink can be compared to plants of the *Petunia* cultivar Wespemab, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 14,165. However in side-by-side comparisons conducted in Südlohn-Oeding, Germany, plants of the new *Petunia* and the cultivar Wespemab, differed in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Petunia* were shorter than plants of the cultivar Wespemab.
2. Plants of the new *Petunia* had smaller leaves than plants of the cultivar Wespemab.
3. Flowers of the new *Petunia* were larger than flowers of the cultivar Wespemab.
4. Plants of the new *Petunia* had shorter sepals and longer peduncles than plants of the cultivar Wespemab.
5. Flower color of the new *Petunia* is different from flower color of the cultivar Wespemab.

Plants of the cultivar Wespecapink can also be compared to plants of the *Petunia* cultivar Wespesoro, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 14,184. However, in side-by-side comparisons conducted in Südlohn-Oeding, Germany, plants of the new *Petunia* and the cultivar Wespesoro differed in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Petunia* had smaller leaves than plants of the cultivar Wespesoro.
2. Plants of the new *Petunia* had smaller sepals and shorter peduncles than plants of the cultivar Wespesoro.
3. Flowers of the new *Petunia* were smaller than flowers of the cultivar Wespesoro.
4. Flowers of the new *Petunia* had a different color than flowers of the cultivar Wespesoro.
5. Anther color of flowers of the new *Petunia* differed from anther color of flowers of the cultivar Wespesoro.

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 at the top of the sheet comprises a side perspective view of a typical plant of 'Wespecapink'.

The photograph at the bottom of the sheet comprises a close-up view of a typical flower of 'Wespecapink'.

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 Wespecapink.

Parentage:

Female parent.—Proprietary *Petunia*×*hybrida* selection identified as code number 98K8463-332, not patented.

Male parent.—Proprietary *Petunia*×*hybrida* selection identified as code number 98K6384-562, 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; upright and outwardly spreading. Plants roughly spherical in shape. 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 19 cm.

Plant diameter.—About 60 to 70 cm.

Stem description.—Main branches, length: About 83 cm. Main branches, diameter: About 2.8 mm. Lateral branches, length: About 37 cm. Lateral branches, diameter: About 1.8 mm. Internode length: About 1.5 cm. Texture: Densely pubescent. Color: 138A.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Alternate; simple. Length: About 2.8 cm. Width: About 1.3 cm. Shape: Ovate. Apex: Acute to slightly rounded. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire. Aspect: Flat. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent, leathery with pustules. Venation pattern: Pinnate. Color: Developing foliage, upper surface: 147A. Developing foliage, lower surface: 147B. Fully expanded

foliage, upper surface: 147A. Fully expanded foliage, lower surface: 146B. Venation, upper surface: 147B. Venation, lower surface: 144B. Petiole length: About 1 to 4 mm. Petiole diameter: About 2 to 2.5 mm. Petiole color: 146B.

Flower description:

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

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 plant.—About one week.

Flower size.—Diameter: About 4.7 cm. Depth (height): About 2.8 cm. Tube length: About 2.1 cm. Throat diameter, distal end: About 1.1 cm. Tube diameter, proximal end: About 3 mm.

Flower buds.—Length: About 3.1 cm. Diameter: About 5 mm. Shape: Oblong. Color, towards apex: 77B and 77C; veins 166A. Color, midsection: 144B; veins 166A. Color, base: N77C.

Petals.—Arrangement/appearance: Single whorls of five petals, fused into a flared trumpet. Length from throat: About 1.9 cm. Width: About 2.2 cm. Shape: Obtuse. Apex: Obtuse. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, dull. Color: When opening, upper surface: 75A. When opening, lower surface: 76A. Fully opened, upper surface: 77C. Fully opened, lower surface: 84C. Flower throat (inside): 79A. Flower tube (outside): 79C. Venation, upper surface: 72A. Venation, lower surface: N79C. Venation, throat: N79A. Venation, tube: N79A.

Sepals.—Arrangement/appearance: Single whorl of five sepals, fused at base; star-shaped. Length: About 1.1 cm. Width: About 2 mm. Shape: Linear. Apex: Obtuse to rounded. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Densely pubescent; dull. Color, upper and lower surfaces: 146B.

Peduncles.—Length: About 2.5 cm. Width: About 1 mm. Strength: Wiry, strong. Texture: Pubescent. Color: 144A overlain with 166B.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: Quantity: About five per flower. Anther shape: Four-parted, ovate. Anther length: About 2.3 mm. Anther width: About 2 mm. Anther color: 85A to 85B. Pollen amount: Abundant. Pollen color: 91A. Pistils: Quantity: One per flower. Pistil length: About 2 cm. Stigma shape: Ovate. Stigma color, immature: 146A in center, surrounded by 146C. Stigma color, mature: 201A. Style length: About 1.6 cm. Style color: 145B to 145C. Ovary color: 145A. 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 'Wespecapink', as illustrated and described.

