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(12) United States Plant Patent
Dümmen**(10) Patent No.: US PP15,877 P2**
(45) Date of Patent: Jul. 19, 2005**(54) POINSETTIA PLANT NAMED 'DUEMIRAGE'****(50)** Latin Name: *Euphorbia pulcherrima*
Varietal Denomination: **Duemirage****(75)** Inventor: **Marga Dümmen**, Rheinberg (DE)**(73)** Assignee: **Dümmen Jungpflanzen GbR**,
Rheinberg (DE)**(*)** Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
patent is extended or adjusted under 35
U.S.C. 154(b) by 1 day.**(21)** Appl. No.: **10/859,504****(22)** Filed: **Jun. 1, 2004****(51)** Int. Cl.⁷ **A01H 5/00****(52)** U.S. Cl. **Plt./306****(58)** Field of Search **Plt./306****(56) References Cited**
PUBLICATIONSUPOV-ROM GTITM, Plant Variety Database, 2004/04,
GTI Jouve Retrieval Software, Citation for Euphorbia
'Duemirage'.*

* cited by examiner

Primary Examiner—Anne Marie Grunberg*Assistant Examiner*—June Hwu**(74)** *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—C. A. Whealy**(57) ABSTRACT**A new and distinct cultivar of *Poinsettia* plant named
'Duemirage', characterized by its inflorescences with inflo-
rescences with dark pink-colored flower bracts; dark green-
colored leaves; vigorous growth habit; uniform and rounded
plant habit; early flowering; and excellent post-production
longevity.**1 Drawing Sheet****1**Botanical classification/cultivar denomination: *Euphor-*
bia pulcherrima Willd. cultivar Duemirage.**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**The present Invention relates to a new and distinct culti-
var of *Poinsettia* plant, botanically known as *Euphorbia*
pulcherrima Willd., and hereinafter referred to by the name
'Duemirage'.The new *Poinsettia* is a product of a planned breeding
program conducted by the Inventor in Rheinberg, Germany.
The objective of the breeding program is to create new
Poinsettia cultivars with uniform plant habit and attractive
flower bract coloration.The new *Poinsettia* originated is a naturally occurring
whole plant mutation of a proprietary selection of *Euphorbia*
pulcherrima Willd. identified as code number E-05-281, not
patented. The cultivar Duemirage was discovered and
selected by the Inventor as a flowering plant within a
population of plants of the parent selection in a controlled
environment in Rheinberg, Germany in January, 2002.Asexual reproduction of the new *Poinsettia* by vegetative
terminal cuttings at Rheinberg, Germany since September,
2002, has shown that the unique features of this new
Poinsettia are stable and reproduced true to type in succes-
sive generations of asexual reproduction.**BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**The following traits have been repeatedly observed and
are determined to be the unique characteristics of 'Duemi-
rage'. These characteristics in combination distinguish
'Duemirage' as a new and distinct cultivar:

1. Inflorescences with dark pink-colored flower bracts.
2. Dark green-colored leaves.
3. Vigorous growth habit.
4. Uniform and rounded plant habit.
5. Early flowering; response time, about eight weeks.
6. Excellent post-production longevity.

2Compared to plants of the parent selection, plants of the
new *Poinsettia* are larger, have darker green-colored flower
bracts and differ in flower bract coloration.Plants of the new *Poinsettia* can be compared to plants of
the *Poinsettia* cultivar Duejoker, disclosed in a U.S. Plant
patent application Ser. No. 10/859,522 filed concurrently.
Plants of the new *Poinsettia* differ primarily from plants of
the cultivar Duejoker in flower bract coloration.Plants of the new *Poinsettia* can be compared to plants of
the cultivar Elegance Pink, not patented. In side-by-side
comparisons conducted in Rheinberg, Germany, plants of
the new *Poinsettia* differed primarily from plants of the
cultivar Elegance Pink in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Poinsettia* were taller than plants of
the cultivar Elegance Pink.
2. Plants of the new *Poinsettia* were denser than plants of
the cultivar Elegance Pink.
3. Plants of the new *Poinsettia* and the cultivar Elegance
Pink differed in flower bract coloration.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHThe accompanying colored photograph illustrates the
overall appearance of the new *Poinsettia*, showing the colors
as true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored
reproductions of this type. Colors in the photograph differ
slightly from the color values cited in the detailed botanical
description which accurately describe the colors of the new
Poinsettia. The photograph comprises a side perspective
view of a single flowering plant of 'Duemirage' grown in a
container.**DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION**The new *Poinsettia* has 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 aforementioned photograph, following observations and averaged measurements describe plants grown in Rheinberg, Germany during the winter under commercial practice in a glass-covered greenhouse with day and night temperatures about 22° C. and light levels about 4,500 lux. Single plants were grown in 13-cm pots and pinched once about five weeks after planting. Plants were flowered under natural season short day/long night conditions. Plants were about 16 weeks from unrooted cuttings when the photographs and the detailed botanical description were taken.

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: *Euphorbia pulcherrima* Willd. cultivar Duemirage.

Parentage: Naturally-occurring whole plant mutation of a proprietary selection of *Euphorbia pulcherrima* Willd. identified as code number E-05-218, not patented.

Propagation:

Type cutting.—Vegetative terminal cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—Summer: About 9 days at 22° C. Winter: About 13 days at 22° C.

Time to develop roots.—Summer: About three weeks at 22° C. Winter: About four weeks at 22° C.

Root description.—Moderately thick, fibrous, fleshy and white in color.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching.

Plant description:

Plant form.—Inverted triangle, top of plant rounded.

Growth habit.—Upright and uniform plant habit; vigorous.

Plant height.—About 23 cm.

Plant diameter or spread.—About 33.3 cm.

Lateral branch description.—Quantity per plant: About five to seven lateral branches develop after pinching. Length: About 13.6 cm. Diameter: About 6 mm. Internode length: About 5 to 10 mm. Color: 137A.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Alternate, single. Length: About 9.9 cm. Width: About 6.7 cm. Shape: Mostly ovate with irregular lobing. Apex: Apiculate. Base: Obtuse. Margin: Entire with irregular lobing. Venation pattern: Pinnate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Glabrous, smooth. Surface: Mostly flat. Color: Developing foliage, upper surface: 137A. Developing foliage, lower surface: 137B. Fully expanded foliage, upper surface: 139A. Fully expanded foliage, lower surface: 137B. Venation, upper surface: 144A. Venation, lower surface: 146B. Petiole: Length: About 5.4 cm. Diameter: About 2.4 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Glabrous, smooth. Color, upper and lower surfaces: 183B to 183C.

Inflorescence description:

Inflorescence type and habit.—Inflorescences are compound corymbs of cyathia with colored flower bracts

subtending the cyathia. Inflorescences are not fragrant. Inflorescences persistent.

Natural flowering season.—Autumn/winter in Northern Hemisphere. Flower initiation and development is induced under long nyctoperiod conditions. Response time, about eight weeks.

Post-production longevity.—Plants of the new *Poinsettia* maintain good substance and bract color for about eight weeks under interior conditions and about twelve weeks under greenhouse conditions.

Quantity of inflorescences per plant.—One per lateral branch, about five to seven.

Inflorescence size.—Diameter: About 21 cm. Height (depth): About 3.3 cm.

Flower bracts.—Quantity of flower bracts per inflorescence: About 16 to 22. Length, largest bracts: About 9.7 cm. Width, largest bracts: About 4.8 cm. Shape: Mostly ovate with irregular lobing. Apex: Apiculate. Base: Obtuse. Margin: Entire with irregular lobing. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Glabrous, velvety. Surface: Mostly flat, slightly rugose. Orientation: Mostly horizontal. Color: Developing bracts, upper surface: 47B to 47C. Developing bracts, lower surface: 47C. Fully developed bracts, upper surface: 47C to 47D; color becoming closer to 48B to 48C with development. Fully developed bracts, lower surface: 48B. Venation, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 47A. Flower bract petiole: Length: About 1.9 cm. Diameter: About 2.6 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Glabrous, smooth. Color, upper and lower surfaces: 47A to 47B.

Cyathia.—Quantity of cyathia per corymb: About 15. Diameter of cyathia cluster: About 3 cm. Length: About 5 mm. Diameter: About 4.4 mm. Shape: Ovoid. Color, immature and mature: 144A to 144B. Peduncle: Length: About 4.2 mm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Strength/aspect: Strong, curved. Color: 144A to 144B. Stamens: Quantity of stamens per cyathium: About 39. Anther shape: Oval. Anther length: About 0.5 mm. Anther color: 187A. Amount of pollen: Moderate. Pollen color: 14A. Pistils: Quantity of pistils per cyathium: One. Pistil length: About 7.2 mm. Style length: About 2 mm. Style color: 144D. Stigma color: 59A to 59B. Ovary color: 144B. Nectaries: Quantity of nectaries per cyathium: One. Length: About 3.8 mm. Color: 15B.

Disease/pest resistance: Resistance to pathogens and pests common to *Poinsettias* has not been observed on plants grown under commercial conditions.

Temperature tolerance: Plants of the new *Poinsettia* have been observed to tolerate temperatures from 12 to 40° C.

It is claimed:

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

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