



US00PP16528P2

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

(10) **Patent No.:** **US PP16,528 P2**

(45) **Date of Patent:** **May 9, 2006**

(54) **NEMESIA PLANT NAMED ‘SUMNEM 04’**

(50) Latin Name: *Nemesia caerulea*
Varietal Denomination: **Sumnem 04**

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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 36 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **10/959,872**

(22) Filed: **Oct. 6, 2004**

(51) **Int. Cl.**
A01H 5/00 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./263**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** **Plt./263**
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Nemesia* plant named ‘Sum-
nem 04’, characterized by its upright and compact plant
habit; freely branching habit; short internodes; dense and
bushy growth habit; early flowering habit; and numerous
white-colored flowers.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical classification/cultivar designation: *Nemesia caerulea* cultivar Sumnem 04.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of *Nemesia* plant, botanically known as *Nemesia caerulea*
and referred to by the name ‘Sumnem 04’.

The new *Nemesia* is a product of a planned breeding
program conducted by the Inventor in Lüdinghausen, Ger-
many. The objective of the program is to create new upright,
vigorous and early-flowering *Nemesia* cultivars with numer-
ous flowers and unique flower colors.

The new *Nemesia* originated from a cross-pollination
made by the Inventor of a proprietary *Nemesia caerulea*
selection identified as Seedling 1, not patented, as the
female, or seed, parent with a proprietary *Nemesia caerulea*
selection identified as Seedling 6, not patented, as the male,
or pollen, parent in April, 2002. The cultivar Sumnem 04
was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a flowering
plant within the progeny of the stated cross-pollination in a
controlled environment in Lüdinghausen, Germany in
March, 2003.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Nemesia* by terminal
cuttings in a controlled environment in Lüdinghausen, Ger-
many since March, 2003, has shown that the unique features
of this new *Nemesia* are stable and are reproduced true to
type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The new *Nemesia* has not been observed under all pos-
sible 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 characteristics have been repeatedly
observed and are determined to be basic characteristics of
‘Sumnem 04’ and distinguish ‘Sumnem 04’ as a new and
distinct cultivar:

1. Upright and compact plant habit.
2. Freely branching habit.

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3. Short internodes; dense and bushy growth habit.
4. Early flowering habit.
5. Numerous white-colored flowers.

Plants of the new *Nemesia* differ primarily from plants of
the female parent selection in flower color as plants of the
female parent selection have light purple-colored flowers.

Plants of the new *Nemesia* differ primarily from plants of
the male parent selection in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Nemesia* are more upright than plants
of the male parent selection.
2. Plants of the new *Nemesia* have stronger lateral
branches than plants of the male parent selection.

Plants of the new *Nemesia* can be compared to plants of
the cultivar Pensug, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 12,811.
In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Lüdinghausen,
Germany, plants of the new *Nemesia* differed from plants of
the cultivar Pensug in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Nemesia* were more compact than
plants of the cultivar Pensug.
2. Plants of the new *Nemesia* flowered about one to two
weeks earlier than plants of the cultivar Pensug.
3. Plants of the new *Nemesia* has larger flowers than
plants of the cultivar Pensug.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying colored photograph illustrates the
overall appearance of the new *Nemesia*, 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 *Nemesia*. The photograph comprises a side perspec-
tive view of a typical plant of ‘Sumnem 04’ grown in a
hanging basket container.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photograph and following observa-
tions and averaged measurements describe plants grown in
Lüdinghausen, Germany, in an outdoor nursery during the
spring and summer with day temperatures ranging from 16

to 24° C., night temperatures ranging from 8 to 12° C. and light levels ranging from 25,000 to 45,000 lux. After rooting, plants were grown for about four months in hanging basket containers. Plants were pinched once. Color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 2001 Edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Botanical classification: *Nemesia caerulea* cultivar Sunnem 04.

Parentage:

Female parent.—Proprietary *Nemesia caerulea* selection identified as Seedling 1, not patented.

Male parent.—Proprietary *Nemesia caerulea* selection identified as Seedling 6, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—By vegetative cuttings.

Time to initiate roots, summer.—About 7 days at 18° C.

Time to initiate roots, winter.—About 8 to 9 days at 18° C.

Time to develop roots, summer.—About 16 days at 18° C.

Time to develop roots, winter.—About 24 days at 18° C.

Root description.—Fine, fibrous; freely branching; 162C in color.

Plant description:

General appearance.—Upright and compact plant habit. Freely branching, typically about six to eight primary lateral branches each with numerous secondary and tertiary lateral branches. Short internodes; dense and bushy growth habit. Numerous white-colored zygomorphic flowers. Moderately vigorous growth habit.

Plant height.—About 25 to 30 cm.

Plant diameter or spread.—About 20 to 25 cm.

Lateral branches.—Length: About 20 cm. Diameter: About 2 to 3 mm. Internode length: About 2.5 to 4 cm. Strength: Strong. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: 144A.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Opposite, simple. Shape: Lanceolate. Apex: Acute. Base: Rounded. Length: About 2.5 to 3 cm. Width: About 8 to 10 mm. Margin: Slightly serrate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Venation pattern: Pinnate, arcuate. Petiole length: About 3 to 4 mm. Petiole diameter: About 1 mm. Petiole texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color: Developing leaves, upper surface: 137A. Developing leaves, lower surface: 138A. Fully expanded leaves, upper surface: 137B. Fully expanded leaves, lower surface: 138B. Venation, upper surface: 139A. Venation, lower surface: 144A. Petiole, upper surface: 144A. Petiole, lower surface: 144B.

Flowering description:

Arrangement/appearance.—Zygomorphic solitary flowers arranged on terminal racemes; flowering acropetally towards apex. Flowers bilabiate with nectar spur. Flowers face upright to outwardly. Flowers last about eight to ten days on the plant. Flowers not persistent.

Natural flowering season.—Natural flowering season is early spring to fall in northern Europe; flowering continuous during this period. Early flowering, plants start flowering about five to six weeks after pinching.

Quantity of flowers.—Freely flowering with about 22 to 28 flower and flower buds per raceme at one time.

Fragrance.—Floral-like; faint.

Inflorescence length.—About 12 to 15 cm.

Inflorescence diameter.—About 3 to 3.5 cm.

Flower diameter.—About 1.8 to 2 cm.

Flower depth.—About 2 to 2.2 cm.

Flower buds.—Shape: Rotund. Length: About 2 mm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Color: 138A.

Petals.—Arrangement/shape: Five petals. Four upper petals are fused at base to form an upright lobed and arched banner lip; lower petal modified into a larger lip with nectar spur and convex oval protuberance which serves as pollinator nectar guide and landing platform. Shape: Oval to obovate. Apex: Rounded. Margin: Entire. Length: Upper lip petals: About 1.5 to 1.7 cm. Lower lip petal: About 1 to 1.1 cm. Width: Upper lip petals: About 4 to 15 mm. Lower lip petal: About 1.5 cm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, velvety. Color: When opening, upper surface: Upper lip petals: 69D. Lower lip petal: 155C. When opening, lower surface: 155C. Fully opened, upper and lower surfaces: N155D. Nectar guide: Close to 4A. Nectar spur, when opening: 158A. Nectar spur, fully opened: 160B.

Sepals.—Quantity: Five-parted, star-shaped calyx. Shape: Lanceolate. Apex: Acute. Base: Truncate. Margin: Entire. Length: About 1.5 to 2 mm. Diameter: About 1 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, immature, upper and lower surfaces: 144A. Color, mature, upper and lower surfaces: 144A.

Pedicels.—Length: About 1.5 to 2 cm. Diameter: About 0.5 to 1 mm. Strength: Strong. Angle: About 35 to 45° from the stem. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: 144A.

Androecium.—Stamen number: Two per flower. Anther shape: Rounded. Anther length: Less than 0.5 mm. Anther color: 3B. Amount of pollen: Moderate. Pollen color: 3B.

Gynoecium.—Pistil number: One per flower. Pistil length: Less than 1 mm. Style length: Less than 1 mm. Style color: 144C. Stigma shape: Rounded. Stigma color: 144B. Ovary color: 144C.

Seed.—Length: About 3 mm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Color: 200D.

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

Temperature tolerance: Plants of the new *Nemesia* have been observed to be tolerant to temperatures ranging from 0° to 40° C.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Nemesia* plant named 'Sunnem 04', as illustrated and described.

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