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**Sumser**

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(54) **POINSETTIA PLANT NAMED ‘FISMILLERL’**

(50) Latin Name: *Euphorbia pulcherrima Willd. ex Klotzsch*  
Varietal Denomination: **Fismillerl**

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35  
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**A01H 5/00** (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **Plt./307**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** ..... **Plt./307**  
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

**PUBLICATIONS**

Community Plant Variety Office—Application No. 2004/  
0245, filed Feb. 16, 2004, and Denomination Form dated  
Jun. 15, 2004.

Switzerland—Application No. 03–2071 filed Dec. 12, 2003.  
Germany—Application No. EUP 234, filed May 2, 2003,  
and Denomination Form dated Jan. 15, 2004.

Canada—Application No. 03–3838, filed Sep. 24, 2003, and  
Canadian Examination dated Apr., 2004; application still  
pending.

Fisher 2004 and Fisher USA 2004 catalogues offering ‘Fis-  
cor Electric’ as novelty item (with shipment of plant material  
beginning in or after May 1, 2004).

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct Poinsettia ‘Fismillerl’ particularly  
described by the combined features of uniform, red bract  
color; medium to large sized inflorescence, ovate bracts,  
uniform, dark-green foliage, ovate leaves almost without  
lobes; relatively vigorous growth, medium to tall, upright  
plant habit; and very early flowering response.

**1 Drawing Sheet**

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Latin name of the genus and species of the plant claimed:  
*Euphorbia pulcherrima Willd. ex Klotzsch.*  
Variety denomination: Fismillerl.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar  
of Poinsettia plant botanically known as *Euphorbia pulcher-  
rima Willd. ex Klotzsch*, and hereinafter referred to by the  
variety denomination ‘Fismillerl’.

‘Fismillerl’ was discovered by the inventor, Hubert  
Sumser, from a naturally occurring whole plant mutation in  
the variety ‘Fismille’ (patented, U.S. Plant Pat. No. 13,660).  
‘Fismille’ is characterized by large, bright red colored bracts,  
dark-green foliage almost without lobes, upright and mod-  
erately tall plant habit, and early flowering time.

‘Fismillerl’ was discovered among a group of potted  
plants of ‘Fismille’ growing in a greenhouse in Merzhausen,  
Germany, in 1999. Shading, black-out, by black cloth was  
applied from Sep. 1, 1999, on, and by mid September one  
plant began to develop colored bracts while the rest of plants  
were still green. This plant was observed and after a few  
weeks taken to Hillscheid for further observation and cul-  
tivation. In the summer of 2000, cuttings were taken, rooted  
and grown out for the trial cultivation in the fall. After  
discarding 20% of the plants during this first examination,  
the test was repeated in 2001 and 2002, and thereafter, the  
new characteristic proved to be uniform and stable.

Asexual reproduction of ‘Fismillerl’ was performed by  
vegetative terminal cuttings. Asexual reproduction of  
‘Fismillerl’ was first performed in a greenhouse in July of  
2000 in Hillscheid, Germany. Horticultural examination of  
the plants starting in 2001 and continuing thereafter has

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demonstrated that the combination of characteristics as  
herein disclosed for ‘Fismillerl’ are firmly fixed and retained  
through successive generations of asexual reproduction. The  
new cultivar reproduces true to type.

**BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and  
are determined to be basic characteristics of ‘Fismillerl’,  
which in combination distinguish this Poinsettia as a new  
and distinct cultivar:

1. uniform, red bract color;
2. medium to large sized inflorescence, ovate bracts;
3. uniform dark-green foliage, ovate leaves almost with-  
out lobes;
4. medium sized, rounded plant habit; and
5. very early flowering response.

Plants of the new Poinsettia cultivar ‘Fismillerl’ differ  
from plants of the parental cultivar, ‘Fismille’ in the follow-  
ing characteristics:

1. ‘Fismillerl’ has a shorter flowering response time and  
can be marketed 7–10 days earlier than ‘Fismille’ due  
to earlier coloring of the bracts.
2. Colored bracts of ‘Fismillerl’ begin developing along  
the upper part of the branch, whereas color bracts of  
‘Fismille’ only begin developing along the end of the  
branch.
3. Young bracts of ‘Fismillerl’ are medium red in color,  
RHS 46B, whereas young bracts of ‘Fismille’ are dark  
red in color, RHS 46A.
4. There is practically no difference with respect to  
maturing of the cyathia. However, as a consequence of



earlier flowering, plants of 'Fismillerl' may remain somewhat smaller in size than plants of 'Fismille' grown under the same cultivation regime.

5. 'Fismillerl' develops stronger branches than 'Fismille'.

Of the many commercial cultivars known to the inventor, the most similar in comparison to 'Fismillerl' is the parental cultivar 'Fismille'.

'Fismillerl' has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary significantly with variations in environment such as temperature, light intensity, and day-length.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The accompanying color photographic drawing shows typical inflorescence and foliage of 'Fismillerl', with colors being as true as possible with illustrations of this type. The photograph shows a mature potted plant of 'Fismillerl' in its entirety featuring the uniform red bract color and dark-green foliage.

#### DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The following observations, measurements and comparisons describe plants grown in a greenhouse in Langley, British Columbia, Canada, in the fall of 2003. Rooted cuttings were planted into 6 inch (15 cm) pots on July 14, and were pinched on August 5, leaving 7–8 leaves. Short-day conditions were created by applying black cloth beginning September 19. The minimum temperature was initially about 20° C., from October through November only 18–19° C.

Observations and measurements were mainly taken on November 17, when the plants were in full flower and about 18 weeks old. In the following description color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart (R.H.S.). The color values were determined indoors in a North light.

Plant:

Form: Shrub, self-branching.

Growth habit: About medium to tall sized, upright, not very wide plant habit.

Height (above soil line): 32.6 cm.

Width: 47.2 cm.

Average number of branches: 7.6.

Internode length: 20–25 mm.

Length of branches: 25–27 cm.

Diameter of branches: 7 mm.

Stem color: Lower part light green, RHS 141 C, upper parts of stems are partly reddish infused, the resulting color is approximately RHS 176 C.

Rooting: Medium, sufficiently rooted for transplanting after about 20–24 days in a greenhouse at a temperature of 22–24° C.

Blooming habit: Begin under natural short day conditions in fall: botanically (cyathia open): around November 20, commercially (bracts colored, marketable): about November 10–15.

Flowering response time: About 7 weeks.

Foliage:

Shape: Ovate, most often with truncate base, with very weak lobes and acuminate tip, entire margin.

*Texture*.—Upper surface: smooth and flat, only weakly veined, color of veins: mainly light green, RHS 139 D, at the base red, RHS 45 A.

Lower surface: Flat and smooth, except for the slightly protruding midrib and finer side veins in a pinnate pattern, the vein color is brownish-pink near the base, approxi-

mately RHS 179 C, the finer side veins are practically colorless.

Leaf blade size: Length: 13.8 cm; width 9.4 cm.

Petiole: Length: 6.5 cm on average, diameter 0.3 cm.

Quantity: About 35 leaves per plant.

Color: Generally dark green, uniform.

Mature foliage: Upper surface, RHS 139 A; under surface, RHS 139 B.

New foliage: Upper side: RHS 143 A; under side RHS 137 D.

Leaf petiole: Upper side: red-purple, RHS 53 A to 53 B; lower side: RHS 182 B.

Aspect: Petioles are horizontally directed, while the leaf blades slant downwards.

Flowering description: Whole inflorescence with surrounding bracts: medium to large in size, with the bracts mostly horizontally directed or reflexed and slanting downwards; small center with relatively few cyathia.

Average number of inflorescence per plant: 6.9.

Diameter: About 25 cm.

Height of inflorescence: About 3–4 cm.

*Number of bracts per inflorescence*.—9–11 (with a size over 2 cm).

Keeping quality: Good lasting quality will be maintained for about 4 weeks, no dropping of bracts.

Bracts:

Shape: Ovate, with truncate to weakly rounded bases, without or only very weak lobes, and acute to acuminate tips; the bract blade is not flat, but folded along the midrib.

Size of the largest fully colored bract: 13.8 cm long, 8.4 cm wide.

Texture: Moderately rugose or rippled.

Vein color: Upper side corresponds closely to bract color; lower side dull pink, near RHS 51 A.

Color: Generally deep red, uniform; upper surface RHS 46 B; lower surface RHS 46 B to 46 C.

Petiole: 12–16 mm long, color: upper side near RHS 145 A, lower side 147 C.

Cyme: 15–20 mm in diameter, about 10 cyathia borne in a tight cluster.

Cyathium: Ovate, about 6 mm in diameter, medium to light green colored, RHS 143 B, top red, RHS 46 B; total length (with peduncle and female flower): 25 mm.

Peduncle: Light green, RHS 143 C; about 4–5 mm long; 2–3 mm in diameter smooth, glabrous texture; average strength.

Nectar cups: Usually one per cyathium, about 5–6 mm wide, golden yellow to orange colored, RHS 23 A to 25 A, near margin reddish infused: RHS 40 A.

Reproductive organs:

*Stamens*.—About 20 in a cluster, filaments 4 mm, red RHS 46 B; moderate pollen, yellow, RHS 12 A.

*Anthers*.—Shape: capitate at the upper end of the filament; Width: 1.5 mm; Color (before dehiscence): light yellow, RHS 12C.

*Pistil*.—One per cyathium, pistil length: 11 to 12 mm; style length: about 5 mm; color of style and stigma: dark red, RHS 46 A, stigma trifurcate, 6-lobed.

*Ovaries*.—Light to medium green, RHS 143 C, initially obovate, later triangular, diameter 3–4 mm, 5–6 mm long, 3 ovules.

*Fruit/seed set*.—No seed set observed.

Disease/pest resistance/susceptibility: No observations made.

I claim:

1. A new and distinct Poinsettia plant named 'Fismillerl' as described and illustrated herein.



