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(54) CALIBRACHOA PLANT NAMED 'CAL SCAREDTWO'

(50) Latin Name: *Calibrachoa* sp. Varietal Denomination: Cal Scaredtwo

(75) Inventor: Robert Pierce, Watsonville, CA (US)

(73) Assignee: Goldsmith Seeds, Inc., Gilroy, CA

(US)

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Primary Examiner—Kent Bell

(74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Jondle & Associates P.C.

(57) ABSTRACT

A Calibrachoa cultivar particularly distinguished by its large scarlet flowers is disclosed.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Genus and species: *Calibrachoa* sp. Variety denomination: 'Cal Scaredtwo'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention comprises a new and distinct cultivar of *Calibracoa*, botanically known as *Calibrachoa* sp., and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name 'Cal Scaredtwo'. The new cultivar originated from a hybridization made in the year 2001 in Gilroy, Calif. The female parent was proprietary *Calibrachoa* breeding line 328-1 (unpatented) with coral-rose flowers. The male parent was proprietary *Calibrachoa* breeding line 399-1 (unpatented) with red flowers.

The new cultivar was created in 2001 in Gilroy, Calif. and 15 has been asexually reproduced over a two-year period by vegetative cuttings and tissue culture in Gilroy, Calif. and Andijk, The Netherlands. The plant has also been trialed at Gilroy, Calif., Litchfield, Mich. and Andijk, The Netherlands. 'Cal Scaredtwo' has been found to retain its distinctive characteristics through successive asexual propagations. 'Cal Scaredtwo' reproduces true to type through successive generations of asexual reproduction.

Description of the genus Calibrachoa Llave & Lex

The genus *Petunia* was originally established in 1803 by A. L. Jussieu, who described both *P. parviflora* and *P. nyctaginiflora* as type species. Using a non-horticultural system that selected the first mentioned species as the type species (lectotype), N. L. Britton and H. A. Brown declared *P. parviflora* as the type species for Petunia in 1913.

During the 1980's and 1990, H. J. Wijsman published a series of articles regarding the ancestry of *P. hybrida*, the Garden *Petunia*, and the inter-relationship of several species 35 classified as *Petunia*. These studies discovered that *P. hybrida* and its ancestrial species, *P. nyctaginiflora* (=*P. axillaris*) and *P. violacea* (=*P. integrifolia*), possessed 14 pairs of chromosomes while several other species, including *P. parviflora*, possessed 18 pairs of chromosomes. Since *P. 40 parviflora* was the lectotype species for the *Petunia* genus, Wijsman and J. H. de Jong proposed transferring the 14 chromosome species to the genus *Stimoryne*. Horticulturists opposed reclassifying the Garden *Petunia* and in 1986,

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Wijsman proposed the alternative of making *P. nyctagini-flora* the lectotype species for *Petunia* and transferring the 18 chromosome species to another genus. The I. N. G. Committee adopted this proposal. By 1990 Wijsman had transferred several species, including *P. parviflora* (=*C. parviflora*) to *Calibrachoa*, originally established by Llave and Lexarza in 1825. *Calibrachoa parviflora* (=*C. mexicana* Llave & Lexarza) is now the type species for the genus *Calibrachoa*.

Classification of the current *Petunia* and *Calibrachoa* species is still in progress. New species are also being identified. Consequently a proper description has not been written for the *Calibrachoa* genus. *Calibrachoa* can, however, be distinguished from *Petunia* based on the higher chromosome number, chromosome morphology, plant branching habit and type of flower bud aestivation. Whereas *Petunia* species bear a flower peduncle and one new stem from a node, *Calibrachoa* species bear a flower peduncle and three stems. *Petunia* species have a cochlear corolla bud, a single outermost petal which covers the other four, and radially folded and terminally contorted petals. *Calibrachoa* flower buds are flat with all five petals linearly folded with the two lower petals forming a cover around the three other petals and fused together.

DESCRIPTION OF PHOTOGRAPH

This new *Calibrachoa* plant is illustrated by the accompanying photograph which shows blooms, buds, and foliage of the plant; the colors shown are as true as can be reasonably obtained by conventional photographic procedures. The photograph is of a three-month-old plant grown in a lexancovered greenhouse.

FIG. 1. shows overall plant habit while the inset photograph show a closer view of the mature inflorescence.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW PLANT

The following detailed descriptions set forth the distinctive characteristics of 'Cal Scaredtwo'. The data which defines these characteristics were collected from asexual reproductions carried out in Gilroy, Calif. The plant history was taken on four-month-old plants grown in one-gallon

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pots in a poly-covered greenhouse during the summer season. Color references are primarily to The R.H.S. Colour Chart of The Royal Horticultural Society of London (R.H.S.) (2001). Texture description data were collected by viewing plant parts with a dissecting microscope.

Classification:

Family.—Solanaceae.

Species.—Calibrachoa sp.

Growth:

Form.—Semi upright and decumbent.

Growth and branching habit.—Good vigorous habit, well branched, full plant.

Height.—10–15 cm.

Width.—50–60 cm.

Time to produce a finished flowering plant.—8–10 weeks.

Outdoors plant performance.—Does well in full sun; free flowering through the summer; some heat tolerance, used as a hanging plant or in mixed containers.

Time to initiate and develop roots.—18–23 days.

Root description.—White, fibrous.

Stems:

Color.—RHS 144A.

Length.—40–50 cm.

Diameter.—0.15-0.2 cm.

Internode length.—2.0 cm.

Texture.—Glandular hairs of various sizes.

Anthocyanin.—None.

Peduncle.—Color: RHS 144A.

Length.—2.0 cm.

Diameter.—0.1 cm.

Texture.—Glandular hairs of various sizes.

Leaves:

Arrangement.—Alternate; upper leaves sub-opposite.

Leaf color.—Upper surface: RHS 137A. Lower surface: RHS 137D.

Length.—3.5–4.0 cm.

Width.—1.0–1.2 cm.

Shape.—Oblong/elliptic.

Margin.—Entire.

Apex.—Obtuse.

Base.—Acuminate.

Texture.—Glandular hairs.

Venation.—Pinnate.

Venation color.—RHS 144B.

Petiole.—Color: RHS 144B. Length: 0.2–0.3 cm. Width: 0.15 cm. Texture: Glandular hairs.

Flower bud:

Color at tight bud.—RHS 181C.

Bud shape.—Oblong.

Bud diameter.—0.3-0.5 cm.

Bud length.—1.5–1.7 cm.

Inflorescence:

Blooming habit.—Continuous throughout the growing season. Good floriferousness.

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Inflorescence type.—Flowers solitary in upper leaf axis. *Lastingness of individual blooms.*—5–8 days.

Fragrance.—None.

Floret type.—Funnel form, 5 lobed petals, fused at base.

Flower diameter.—3.0–3.3 cm.

Flower depth.—1.8 cm.

Flowers:

Immature flower.—Color, Upper surface: Shades of RHS 45B. Main veins: RHS 59A. Secondary veins: RHS 45A.

Diameter.—2.3-2.5 cm.

Mature flower color.—Upper surface: RHS 34A. Main veins: RHS 185A. Secondary veins: A little darker than RHS 34A.

Mature flower color.—Lower surface: RHS 51C. Veins: RHS 176B.

Corolla.—Tube color inside: RHS 6C; veins RHS 199D. Tube color outside: RHS 8B. Tube diameter at opening: 0.9 cm. Tube length: 2.0 cm. Texture: Glandular hairs of various sizes.

Petals.—Shape: Spathulate. Apex shape: Rounded, some are Mucronulate. Base: Fused. Margin: Entire. Waviness of petals: None. Length: 1.2 cm. Width: 1.3 cm. Lobation: Moderate. Texture: Papillose.

Sepals.—Number: 5. Color, Lower surface: RHS 138A. Length: 1.7–2.0 cm. Width: 0.35 cm. Shape: Linear. Apex: Obtuse. Margin: Entire. Texture: Glandular hairs of various sizes.

Reproductive organs:

Stamens.—5; 2 taller, 3 shorter.

Filament color.—RHS 154A.

Pollen color.—RHS 7B.

Pollen amount.—Moderate.

Pistil.—1.

Stigma color.—RHS N144C.

Style color.—RHS N144D.

Fruit/seed set.—Not observed.

Disease and Insect Resistance: Not observed.

COMPARISON WITH KNOWN CULTIVARS

'Cal Scaredtwo' differs from the female parent 328-1 (unpatented) by having larger, scarlet flowers and more basal branching than 328-1. 'Cal Scaredtwo' differs from the male parent 399-1 (unpatented) by having earlier bloom, scarlet flowers, and smaller leaves than 399-1.

'Cal Scaredtwo' differs from 'Superbells Red' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 14,847, designated 'Uscali28' in the patent) by having larger leaves and longer internodes on an overall larger plant. In addition, 'Cal Scaredtwo' has a scarlet red flower while 'Superbells Red' has red flowers.

What is claimed is:

1. A new and distinct *Calibrachoa* plant as shown and described herein.

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FIG 1