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

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(54) **PETUNIA PLANT NAMED ‘MP205’**

(50) Latin Name: *Petunia*×*hybrida*  
Varietal Denomination: **MP205**

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35  
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(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **Plt./356**

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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Petunia* plant named  
‘MP205’, characterized by its compact, low mounding and  
outwardly spreading plant habit; freely branching and vig-  
orous growth habit; numerous small dark red purple-colored  
flowers; and good garden performance.

**1 Drawing Sheet**

**1**

Botanical designation: *Petunia*×*hybrida* .  
Cultivar denomination: ‘MP205’.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

The present Invention relates to a new and distinct culti-  
var of *Petunia* plant, botanically known as *Petunia*  
×*hybrida*, and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name  
MP205 .

The new *Petunia* is a product of a planned breeding  
program conducted by the Inventor in Cobbitty, New South  
Wales, Australia. The objective of the breeding program is to  
create outwardly spreading *Petunias* with numerous small  
flowers with attractive flower colors.

The new *Petunia* originated from a cross-pollination  
made by the Inventor in December, 2001 of a proprietary  
*Petunia*×*hybrida* selection identified as X01.559.1, not  
patented, as the female, or seed parent, with a proprietary  
*Petunia*×*hybrida* selection identified as X01.81.1, not  
patented, as the male, or pollen parent. The new *Petunia* was  
selected as a single plant from the resulting progeny of the  
cross-pollination by the Inventor in a controlled environ-  
ment in Cobbitty, New South Wales, Australia in October,  
2002 .

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by vegetative  
cuttings in Cobbitty, New South Wales, Australia since  
October, 2002, 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 MP205 have not been observed  
under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype  
may vary somewhat with variations in environment such as  
temperature and light intensity without, however, any vari-  
ance in genotype.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and  
are determined to be the unique characteristics of ‘MP205’ .  
These characteristics in combination distinguish ‘MP205’ as  
a new and distinct cultivar:

**2**

1. Compact, low mounding and outwardly spreading plant habit.
2. Freely branching and vigorous growth habit.
3. Numerous small dark red purple-colored flowers.
4. Good garden performance.

Plants of the new *Petunia* differ primarily from plants of  
the parents selections in petal coloration as plants of the  
female parent selection have pink-colored petals and plants  
of the male parent selection have red-colored flowers.

Plants of the new *Petunia* can be compared to plants of the  
cultivar Red MP101, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 14,998.  
In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Cobbitty, New  
South Wales, Australia, plants of the new *Petunia* differed  
primarily from plants of the cultivar Red MP101 in petal  
coloration as plants of the cultivar Red MP101 had red-  
colored petals.

**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 repro-  
ductions 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 bottom of the sheet comprises a  
side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of  
‘MP205’ grown in a container.

The photograph at the top of the sheet comprises a  
close-up view of typical leaves and flowers of ‘MP205’.

**DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION**

The aforementioned photographs and following observa-  
tions and measurements describe plants grown in Lompoc,  
Calif., under commercial practice during the winter and  
early spring in a polycarbonate-covered greenhouse with  
day temperatures ranging from 21 to 24° C., night tempera-  
tures ranging from 16 to 18° C., and light levels ranging  
from 5,000 to 9,000 foot candles. Plants were grown for  
about 14 weeks with one plant per 14-cm container. Plants



were pinched once about three weeks after planting. 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: *Petunia* × *hybrida* cultivar MP205 .  
Parentage:

*Female parent.*—Proprietary *Petunia* selection identified as X01.559.1, not patented.

*Male parent.*—Proprietary *Petunia* selection identified as X01.81.1, not patented.

Propagation:

*Type cutting.*—Vegetative cuttings.

*Time to initiate roots.*—About two weeks at 22° C.

*Time to produce a rooted young plant.*—About three to four weeks at 22° C.

*Root description.*—Fine, fibrous; white in color.

*Rooting habit.*—Freely branching, dense.

Plant description:

*Form.*—Annual flowering plant; indeterminate; initially upright, then low mounding and outwardly spreading; compact. Vigorous growth habit. Freely basal branching habit with about five main lateral branches per plant with lateral branches potentially forming at every node.

*Usage.*—Appropriate for hanging baskets, window boxes, patio containers and landscape applications.

*Plant height.*—About 13 cm.

*Plant diameter.*—About 38 cm.

*Lateral branches.*—Length: About 24 cm. Diameter: About 2.5 mm. Internode length: About 1.4 cm. Texture: Pubescent. Color: 144A.

*Foliage description.*—Arrangement, before flowering: Alternate, simple. Arrangement, when flowering: Opposite, simple. Length: About 3.2 cm. Width: About 1.5 cm. Shape: Elliptical. Apex: Broadly acute. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Slightly glandular, viscid; pubescent. Venation pattern: Pinnate, arcuate. Color: Developing foliage, upper and lower surfaces: 146A. Fully expanded foliage, upper and lower surfaces: 147A. Venation, upper and lower surfaces: 147C. Petiole length: About 4 mm. Petiole diameter: About 3 mm. Petiole texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Petiole color, upper and lower surfaces: 144B.

Flower description:

*Flower type and habit.*—Small salverform flowers; flowers face upward or outward; single, axillary. Freely flowering, typically about six to eight open flowers per lateral stem.

*Natural flowering season.*—Long day responsive; spring until frost in the autumn; flowering continuous during the flowering period.

*Flower longevity on the plant.*—About four to five days; flowers persistent.

*Fragrance.*—Floral, sweet.

*Flower size.*—Diameter: About 3.8 cm. Tube length: About 2.4 cm. Throat diameter, distal end: About 8 mm. Tube diameter, proximal end: About 3 mm.

*Flower buds.*—Length: About 2.8 cm. Diameter: About 6 mm. Shape: Elongated oblong with ruffled apices. Color: 197B tinted with 77C.

*Corolla.*—Arrangement/appearance: Single whorl of five petals, fused into flared trumpet with distinct clefts between petal lobes. Petal lobe length: About 1.7 cm. Petal lobe width: About 1.8 cm. Petal shape: Obtusate. Petal apex: Emarginate. Petal margin: Entire; slightly sinuate. Petal texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, satiny. Color: Petal, when opening, upper surface: Slightly brighter and darker than 77A. Petal, when opening, lower surface: 77A. Petal, fully opened, upper surface: 71A; color becoming closer to 77B to 77C with development. Petal, fully opened, lower surface: More gray than 75A. Flower throat (inside): 195B. Flower tube (outside): 194A. Venation, upper petal surface: 77A. Venation, lower petal surface: 194A. Venation, throat: 195A. Venation, tube: 195A.

*Sepals.*—Arrangement/appearance: Single whorl of five sepals fused at base, star-shaped; slightly recurved. Length: About 9 mm. Width: About 2.5 mm. Shape: Linear. Apex: Rounded. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent. Color, upper and lower surfaces: 146A.

*Peduncles.*—Length: About 2.2 cm. Width: About 1.25 mm. Angle: Almost 90° to the stem. Strength: Strong. Texture: Pubescent. Color: 144A.

*Reproductive organs.*—Stamens: Quantity/arrangement: Five per flower; stamens adnate to corolla tube. Anther shape: Ovoid. Anther length: About 2 mm. Anther color: 158A. Pollen amount: Scarce. Pollen color: 155A. Pistils: Quantity: One per flower. Pistil length: About 1.7 cm. Stigma shape: Rounded. Stigma color: 144A. Style length: About 1.4 cm. Style color: 145D. Ovary color: 145A.

*Fruit/seed.*—Fruit and seed production has not been observed.

Disease/pest resistance: Plants of the new *Petunia* have not been noted to be resistant to pathogens and pests common to *Petunia*.

Garden performance: Plants of the new *Petunia* have been observed to have good garden performance and to be tolerant to rain, wind and temperatures ranging from—5 to 40° C.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Petunia* plant named 'MP205', as illustrated and described.

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