

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

(10) **Patent No.:** **US PP16,870 P2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Jul. 25, 2006**

(54) **POINSETTIA PLANT NAMED ‘NPCW04097’**

(50) Latin Name: *Euphorbia pulcherrima*
Varietal Denomination: **NPCW04097**

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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 6 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **11/141,562**

(22) Filed: **May 31, 2005**

(51) **Int. Cl.**
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.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of Poinsettia plant named
‘NPCW04097’, characterized by its uniform and upright
plant habit; dark green-colored leaves; dark red-colored
flower bracts; large and numerous cyathia; early flowering
habit; and good post-production longevity.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical denomination: *Euphorbia pulcherrima* Willd.
Cultivar designation: ‘NPCW04097’.

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 cul-
tivar name ‘NPCW04097’.

The new Poinsettia is a product of a planned breeding
program conducted by the Inventor in Stuttgart, Germany.
The objective of the breeding program is to create new freely
branching Poinsettia cultivars with upright and uniform
plant habit, attractive flower bract shape and coloration and
good postproduction longevity.

The new Poinsettia originated from a chance cross-
pollination in 1999 of two unknown proprietary selections of
Euphorbia pulcherrima Willd. The cultivar NPCW04097
was discovered and selected by the Inventor in 2001 as a
flowering plant within the progeny of the stated chance
cross-pollination in a controlled environment in Stuttgart,
Germany. The selection of this plant was based on its
attractive leaf and flower bract coloration and uniform plant
habit.

Asexual reproduction of the new Poinsettia by vegetative
terminal cuttings in a controlled environment in Stuttgart,
Germany since 2002, has shown that the unique features of
this new Poinsettia are stable and reproduced true to type in
successive 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
‘NPCW04097’. These characteristics in combination distin-
guish ‘NPCW04097’ as a new and distinct Poinsettia culti-
var:

1. Upright and uniform plant habit.
2. Dark green-colored leaves.
3. Dark red-colored flower bracts.
4. Large and numerous cyathia.

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5. Early flowering habit; response time, about 7.5 weeks.
6. Good post-production longevity.

Plants of the new Poinsettia can be compared to plants of
the cultivar Fismars, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 14,977.
In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Stuttgart,
Germany, plants of the new Poinsettia differed from plants
of the cultivar Fismars in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new Poinsettia were less vigorous than
plants of the cultivar Fismars.
2. Flower bract color of plants of the new Poinsettia was
darker red than flower bract color of plants of the
cultivar Fismars.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The 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 may
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 top per-
spective view of a single flowering plant of ‘NPCW04097’
grown in a container.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

Plants of the new Poinsettia have 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 measurements describe plants grown in Stuttgart, Ger-
many during the fall under commercial practice in a glass-
covered greenhouse with day temperatures ranging from 17
to 2820 C., night temperatures ranging from 15 to 22° C.,
and a maximum light level of about 60 kilolux. Cuttings
were planted into 13-cm containers when rooted and
pinched once. Plants were flowered under natural season
short day/long night conditions. Plants were about 17 weeks
from unrooted cuttings when the photograph 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 NPCW04097.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Unknown selection of *Euphorbia pulcherrima* Willd., not patented.

Male, or pollen, parent.—Unknown selection of *Euphorbia pulcherrima* Willd., not patented.

Propagation:

Type cutting.—Vegetative terminal cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—Summer: About 12 days at 22° C. Winter: About 15 days at 22° C.

Time to produce a rooted cutting.—Summer: About 20 days at 22° C. Winter: About 23 days at 22° C.

Root description.—Fibrous; freely-branching; white in color.

Plant description:

Growth habit.—Upright and uniform plant habit; inverted triangle; top of plant rounded; moderately vigorous.

Plant height.—About 25 to 30 cm.

Plant diameter or spread.—About 28 to 35 cm.

Lateral branch description.—Quantity per plant: About five to eight lateral branches develop after pinching. Length: About 23 cm. Diameter: About 5 to 10 mm. Internode length: About 2 to 5 cm. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Strength: Very strong; stems resist breakage. Color: 143A overlain with 183A.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Alternate, single. Quantity of leaves: About 8 to 15 per lateral branch. Length: About 4 to 12 cm. Width: About 3 to 6 cm. Shape: Ovate. Apex: Acute. Base: Obtuse. Margin: Entire or irregularly and slightly lobed. Venation pattern: Pinnate; reticulate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Glabrous, smooth. Color: Developing foliage, upper surface: 144B. Developing foliage, lower surface: 143C. Fully expanded foliage, upper surface: 137B. Fully expanded foliage, lower surface: 138B. Venation, upper and lower surfaces: 138B. Petiole: Length: About 3 to 5 cm. Diameter: About 2 to 3 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Glabrous, smooth. Color, upper and lower surfaces: 183B.

Inflorescence description:

Inflorescence type and habit.—Inflorescences are compound corymbs of cyathia with colored flower bracts subtending the cyathia. Inflorescences not persistent.

Fragrance.—None detected.

Natural flowering season.—Autumn/winter; flower initiation and development is induced under short day/long night conditions.

Response time.—Early flowering, about 7.5 weeks.

Post-production longevity.—Plants of the new Poinsettia maintain good substance and bract color for about three to four weeks under interior conditions and about four to five weeks under greenhouse conditions.

Quantity of inflorescences.—One per lateral branch; about five to eight per plant.

Inflorescence size.—Diameter: About 15 to 20 cm. Height (depth): About 2 to 5 cm.

Flower bracts.—Quantity of fully developed flower bracts: About six to eight per inflorescence. Length: About 6 to 9 cm. Width: About 4 to 6 cm. Shape: Ovate. Apex: Acute. Base: Obtuse. Margin: Mostly entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Glabrous, smooth. Color: Developing and fully expanded bracts, upper surface: 46A to 46B. Developing and fully expanded bracts, lower surface: 46A to 46B. Venation, upper and lower surfaces: Same as lamina. Bract petiole: Length: About 1 to 3 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Glabrous, smooth. Color, upper and lower surfaces: 187B.

Cyathia.—Quantity of cyathia: About five to ten per corymb. Diameter of cyathia cluster: About 1.5 to 2.5 cm. Length: About 4 to 7 mm. Diameter: About 3 to 5 mm. Shape: Ovate. Color, immature and mature: 143C.

Nectaries.—Quantity of nectaries: One to two per cyathium. Diameter: About 2 to 3 mm. Color, immature: 13A to 14B. Color, mature: 24A.

Peduncle.—Length: About 1 to 2 mm. Diameter: About 1 mm. Aspect: Erect. Strength: Moderately strong. Texture: Glabrous, smooth. Color: 145A.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: Quantity of stamens: About five to ten per cyathium. Anther shape: Ovate. Anther length: About 1 mm. Anther color: 9A to 12A. Amount of pollen: Moderate. Pollen color: 9A to 12A. Pistils: Quantity of pistils: One per cyathium. Pistil length: About 3 to 5 mm. Style length: About 2 to 3 mm. Stigma shape: Bi-parted. Stigma color: 185A.

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 14 to 38° C. It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of Poinsettia plant named 'NPCW04097', as illustrated and described.

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