



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

(10) **Patent No.:** **US PP17,382 P2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Jan. 23, 2007**

(54) **NEW GUINEA *IMPATIENS* PLANT NAMED
'FISCO FIRE'**

(50) Latin Name: ***Impatiens hawkeri***
Varietal Denomination: **Fisco Fire**

(76) Inventor: **Birgit Christa Hofmann**, Gassenweg
29, 56170 Bendorf (DE)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
patent is extended or adjusted under 35
U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **11/241,372**

(22) Filed: **Sep. 30, 2005**

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

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./318**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** Plt./318
See application file for complete search history.

Primary Examiner—Kent Bell

Assistant Examiner—Annette H Para

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—C. A. Whealy

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of New Guinea *Impatiens* plant
named 'Fisco Fire', characterized by its relatively compact,
outwardly spreading and uniformly mounded plant habit;
rounded growth habit; freely branching and freely flowering
habit; dark green-colored foliage; large bright red-colored
flowers; and flowers that are positioned above or beyond the
foliage.

1 Drawing Sheet

1

Botanical designation: *Impatiens hawkeri*.
Cultivar denomination: 'Fisco Fire'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present Invention relates to a new and distinct culti-
var of New Guinea *Impatiens* plant, botanically known as
Impatiens hawkeri, and hereinafter referred to by the name
'Fisco Fire'.

The new *Impatiens* is a product of a planned breeding
program conducted by the Inventor in Hillscheid, Germany
and Galdar, Canary Islands, Spain. The objective of the
breeding program is to develop new compact *Impatiens*
cultivars that flower relatively early and have attractive
flower coloration.

The new *Impatiens* originated from a cross-pollination
made by the Inventor during the summer of 2001 in
Hillscheid, Germany of the *Impatiens hawkeri* cultivar Fis-
nics Scarlet, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 14,672, as the
female, or seed, parent with a proprietary selection of
Impatiens hawkeri identified as code number K01-8773-1,
not patented, as the male, or pollen, parent. The cultivar
Fisco Fire was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a
flowering plant within the progeny of the stated cross-
pollination in a controlled environment in Galdar, Canary
Islands, Spain in April, 2002.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal
cuttings in Galdar, Canary Islands, Spain since September,
2002, has shown that the unique features of this new
Impatiens are stable and reproduced true to type in succes-
sive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and
are determined to be the unique characteristics of 'Fisco
Fire'. These characteristics in combination distinguish
'Fisco Fire' as a new and distinct *Impatiens* cultivar:

1. Relatively compact, outwardly spreading and uni-
formly mounded plant habit; rounded growth habit.
2. Freely branching and freely flowering habit.
3. Dark green-colored foliage.

2

4. Large bright red-colored flowers.

5. Flowers that are positioned above or beyond the
foliage.

Plants of the new *Impatiens* can be compared to plants of
the female parent, the cultivar Fisnics Scarlet. In side-by-
side comparisons conducted by the Inventor in Hillscheid,
Germany, plants of the new *Impatiens* differed from plants
of the cultivar Fisnics Scarlet in the following characteris-
tics:

1. Plants of the new *Impatiens* were smaller than plants of
the cultivar Fisnics Scarlet.

2. Plants of the new *Impatiens* had smaller and darker
green-colored leaves than plants of the cultivar Fisnics
Scarlet.

3. Plants of the new *Impatiens* flowered earlier than plants
of the cultivar Fisnics Scarlet.

4. Plants of the new *Impatiens* had smaller flowers than
plants of the cultivar Fisnics Scarlet.

5. Plants of the new *Impatiens* had shorter peduncles than
plants of the cultivar Fisnics Scarlet.

Plants of the new *Impatiens* can be compared to plants of
the male parent selection. In side-by-side comparisons con-
ducted by the Inventor in Hillscheid, Germany, plants of the
new *Impatiens* differed from plants of the male parent
selection in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Impatiens* were shorter than plants of
the male parent selection.

2. Plants of the new *Impatiens* flowered earlier than plants
of the male parent selection.

3. Plants of the new *Impatiens* and the male parent
selection differed in flower color.

Plants of the new *Impatiens* can also be compared to
plants of the cultivar Visinfscar, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat.
No. 16,109. In side-by-side comparisons conducted by the
Inventor in Hillscheid, Germany, plants of the new *Impa-
tiens* differed from plants of the cultivar Visinfscar in the
following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Impatiens* were smaller than plants of
the cultivar Visinfscar.

2. Plants of the new *Impatiens* were denser than plants of
the cultivar Visinfscar.

3. Plants of the new *Impatiens* had lighter-colored leaf veins than plants of the cultivar Visinfscar.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying colored photograph illustrates the overall appearance of the new cultivar, 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 *Impatiens*. The photograph comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'Fisco Fire' grown in a container.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The cultivar Fisco Fire has 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 variance in genotype.

The aforementioned photograph, following observations and measurements describe plants grown in Hillscheid, Germany, under commercial production practice in a glass-covered greenhouse. Rooted young plants were planted in 12-cm containers and the aforementioned photograph and following observations and measurements were taken about three months later. During the production of the plants, day temperatures were about 16° C. to 20° C. and night temperatures were about 16° C. In the following description, 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: *Impatiens hawkeri* cultivar Fisco Fire.

Parentage:

Female parent.—*Impatiens hawkeri* cultivar Fisnics Scarlet, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 14,672.

Male parent.—Proprietary selection of *Impatiens hawkeri* identified as code number K01-8773-1, not patented.

Propagation:

Type cutting.—Terminal tip cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—Summer: About 10 days at 24° C. Winter: About 12 to 15 days at 21° C.

Time to produce a rooted cutting.—Summer: About 15 days at 24° C. Winter: About 18 to 20 days at 21° C.

Root description.—Fine, fibrous, 158D in color.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching.

Plant description:

General appearance.—Relatively compact, outwardly spreading and uniformly mounded plant growth habit; low and rounded growth habit; freely branching habit; bushy appearance; freely flowering. Low to moderate vigor.

Crop time.—From a rooted cutting, about nine weeks are required to produce finished flowering plants in 12-cm containers.

Plant height.—About 11.3 cm.

Plant diameter or spread.—About 21.8 cm.

Lateral branches.—Quantity per plant: About six. Length: About 5 cm to 6 cm. Diameter: About 5 mm to 6 mm. Internode length: About 1 cm to 2 cm. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: 144B; near the nodes, overlain with 181A.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Primarily in whorls. Length: About 9.8 cm. Width: About 4 cm.

Shape: Elliptic. Apex: Acuminate. Base: Acute. Margin: Serrulate with ciliation. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, slightly rugose; glabrous. Color: Developing foliage, upper surface: 137C to 143A. Developing foliage, lower surface: 138B. Fully expanded foliage, upper surface: 137A. Fully expanded foliage, lower surface: 138B. Venation, upper surface: 47A. Venation, lower surface: 184B. Petiole: Length: About 1.2 cm. Diameter: About 3 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, upper surface: 184C. Color, lower surface: 184B.

Flower description:

Flower type and flowering habit.—Single, large and rounded flowers. Freely and continuously flowering; usually about six to nine flowers and flower buds per lateral branch. Flowers positioned above or beyond the foliage; flowers typically face parallel to the leaf canopy. Petals not persistent; gynoecium persistent. Flowers not fragrant.

Flower longevity.—Flowers last about one week on the plant.

Flowering season.—Year-round under greenhouse conditions. Early flowering habit; plants begin flowering about nine weeks after planting.

Flower buds.—Length: About 2.2 cm. Diameter: About 1.6 cm. Shape: Ovoid. Color: 44A.

Flower length.—About 6.3 cm.

Flower width.—About 6.3 cm.

Flower depth.—About 1.5 cm.

Petals.—Quantity: Five per flower, imbricate. Length: Banner petals: About 2.8 cm. Lateral and base petals: About 3 cm to 3.2 cm. Width: Banner petal: About 4.5 cm. Lateral petals: About 3 cm. Base petals: About 3.8 cm. Shape: Cordate. Apex: Moderately lobed; emarginate. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire. Aspect: Nearly flat to slightly concave. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, satiny. Color: When opening, upper surface: 44A. When opening, lower surface: 44B to 44C. Fully opened, upper surface: 44B; towards the base, 45D. Fully opened, lower surface: 44C.

Spur.—Quantity: One per flower. Length: About 5.5 cm. Diameter: At apex: About 0.5 mm. At flower: About 3 mm. Aspect: Curved. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: N34A.

Peduncles.—Length: About 6.5 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Strength: Strong, flexible. Color: N34C.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Stamen number: Five fused at anthers, hooded; filaments free. Anther length: About 6 mm. Anther shape: Obovate. Anther color: 45C. Pollen amount: Moderate. Pollen color: 8D. Gynoecium: Pistil quantity: One per flower. Pistil length: About 5 mm to 6 mm. Stigma color: 12D. Style color: 12D. Ovary: Five-celled. Ovary color: 143A.

Seed/fruit.—Seed and fruit development has not been observed.

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

Low temperature tolerance: Plants of the new *Impatiens* have been observed to tolerate night temperatures of 5° C. with 10° C. day temperatures.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of New Guinea *Impatiens* plant named 'Fisco Fire', as illustrated and described.

* * * * *

