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**Heffron et al.**

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(54) **IMPATIENS PLANT NAMED**  
**'BALFAFBRICOL'**

(50) Latin Name: *Impatiens*×*hybrida*  
Varietal Denomination: **Balfafbricol**

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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 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **11/296,803**

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

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **Plt./317**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** ..... **Plt./317**  
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

**PUBLICATIONS**

European Plant Breeders' Rights application No. 2005/2005  
filed Oct. 25, 2005.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Impatiens* plant named  
'Balfafbricol' characterized by its bright coral-colored  
flowers, medium green-colored foliage, and vigorous, trail-  
ing growth habit.

**1 Drawing Sheet**

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Latin name of genus and species of plant claimed: *Impa-*  
*tiens*×*hybrida*.

Variety denomination: 'Balfafbricol'.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar  
of *Impatiens* plant botanically known as *Impatiens*×*hybrida*  
and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name 'Balfafbri-  
col'.

The new cultivar originated in a controlled breeding  
program in Illinois during November 2002. The objective of  
the breeding program was the development of *Impatiens*  
cultivars with numerous large flowers, attractive flower  
colors and freely basal branching, trailing growth habit.

The new cultivar is an irradiation induced sport of  
'Balfafusia', U.S. Plant Pat. No. 12,588, characterized by its  
bright purple-colored flowers, dark green-colored foliage,  
and semi-trailing growth habit. The irradiation occurred on  
Nov. 5, 2002. The new cultivar was discovered and selected  
on May 27, 2003 in a controlled environment at Arroyo  
Grande, Calif.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal stem  
cuttings since May 2003 at Arroyo Grande, Calif. and West  
Chicago, Ill. has demonstrated that the new cultivar repro-  
duces true to type with all characteristics, as herein  
described, firmly fixed and retained through successive  
generations of such asexual propagation.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

The following characteristics of the new cultivar have  
been repeatedly observed and can be used to distinguish  
'Balfafbricol' as a new and distinct cultivar of *Impatiens*  
plant:

1. Bright coral-colored flowers;
2. Medium green-colored foliage; and
3. Vigorous, trailing growth habit.

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Plants of the new cultivar differ from plants of the parent  
primarily in flower color.

Of the many commercially available *Impatiens* cultivars  
known to the inventors, the most similar in comparison to  
the new cultivar is 'Balfafusia', U.S. Plant Pat. No. 12,588.  
However, in side by side comparisons, plants of the new  
cultivar differ from plants of 'Balfafusia' in the following  
characteristic: Plants of the new cultivar have a different  
flower color from plants of 'Balfafusia'.

In addition, the new cultivar is similar in comparison to  
'Balfafpinsar', co-pending U.S. Plant patent application Ser.  
No. 11/296,818. However, in side by side comparisons,  
plants of the new cultivar differ from plants of 'Balfafpinsar'  
in mature foliage color and fully-open petal color.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS**

The accompanying photographs show, as nearly true as it  
is reasonably possible to make the same in color illustrations  
of this type, typical flower and foliage characteristics of the  
new cultivar. Colors in the photographs differ slightly from  
the color values cited in the detailed description, which  
accurately describes the colors of 'Balfafbricol'. The plants  
were grown in 10 cm pots for 9 weeks in a greenhouse at  
West Chicago, Ill.

FIG. 1 illustrates a side view of the overall growth and  
flowering habit of 'Balfafbricol'.

FIG. 2 illustrates a close-up view of an individual flower  
of 'Balfafbricol'.

**DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION**

The new cultivar has not been observed under all possible  
environmental conditions to date. Accordingly, it is possible  
that the phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in the  
environment, such as temperature, light intensity, and day  
length, without, however, any variance in genotype.

The chart used in the identification of colors described  
herein is The R.H.S. Colour Chart of The Royal Horticul-

tural Society, London, England, 2001 edition, except where general color terms of ordinary significance are used. The color values were determined on Jul. 31, 2005 between 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. under natural light conditions, in West Chicago, Ill.

The following descriptions and measurements describe plants produced from cuttings taken from stock plants and grown in a double polycarbonate-covered greenhouse under conditions comparable to those used in commercial practice. The plants were grown at West Chicago, Ill. in 10 cm pots for 9 weeks utilizing a soilless growth medium. Greenhouse temperatures were maintained at approximately 68° F. to 80° F. (20° C. to 26° C.) during the day and approximately 60° F. to 65° F. (15° C. to 18° C.) during the night. Greenhouse light levels of 4,000 to 7,000 footcandles were maintained during the day.

Botanical classification: *Impatiens* × *hybrida* cultivar Balfabricol.

Parentage:

*Parent.*—‘Balfafusia’, U.S. Plant Pat. No. 12,588.

Propagation:

*Type cutting.*—Terminal stem.

*Time to initiate roots.*—Approximately 7 to 8 days.

*Time to produce a rooted cutting.*—Approximately 21 to 28 days.

*Root description.*—Fine and fibrous.

*Rooting habit.*—Freely branching.

Plant description:

*Crop time.*—Approximately 6 to 8 weeks from a rooted cutting.

*Growth habit and general appearance.*—Vigorous, trailing.

*Size.*—Height from soil level to top of plant plane: Approximately 18.9 cm. Width: Approximately 53.3 cm.

*Branching habit.*—Freely basal branching. Approximately 6 branches per plant.

*Branch.*—Strength: Strong. Length: Approximately 16.8 cm. Diameter: Approximately 8.8 mm. Texture: Glabrous. Color: 144A with overlay of 187B. Internode length at center of branch: Approximately 3.5 cm.

*Foliage.*—Number of leaves per main branch: Approximately 14. Fragrance: None. Form: Simple. Arrangement: Alternate. Aspect: At acute angle to stem. Shape: Elliptic. Margin: Serrate, ciliate. Apex: Acuminate. Base: Attenuate. Venation pattern: Pinnate. Length of leaf at center of stem: Approximately 6.9 cm. Width of leaf at center of stem: Approximately 2.4 cm. Texture of upper and lower surfaces: Glabrous. Color of upper surface of mature foliage: Closest to 137A with venation of 145B. Color of lower surface of mature foliage: Closest to 138B with venation of 143B. Petiole length: Approximately 1.4 cm. Petiole diameter: Approximately 2.1 mm. Petiole texture: Glabrous. Petiole color: Lighter than 145B.

Flowering description:

*Flowering habit.*—‘Balfabricol’ is freely flowering under outdoor growing conditions with substantially continuous blooming from spring through autumn and year round in greenhouse environment.

*Time to first flower.*—Approximately 12 weeks from sticking of unrooted cutting.

*Lastingness of individual bloom.*—Approximately 4 to 6 days.

Flower description:

*Type.*—Single. Borne: Above foliage. Quantity per plant at nine weeks: Approximately 39. Fragrance: None.

*Bud rate of opening.*—Generally takes 2 to 3 days for bud to progress from first color to fully open flower.

*Bud just before opening.*—Shape: Oval. Quantity showing color at nine weeks: Approximately 22. Length: Approximately 1.5 cm. Diameter: Approximately 8.1 mm. Color: 51A.

*Corolla.*—Shape: Round, slightly cupped when first open, petals become flattened with age. Diameter: Approximately 4.8 cm. Depth: Approximately 1.1 cm.

*Petals.*—Quantity: 5. Shape: Obovate. Aspect: Flat. Appearance: Iridescent. Margin: Entire. Apex: Emarginate. Base of upper petal: Truncate. Base of lateral and lower petals: Attenuate with each lateral petal fused with a lower petal at base. Texture: Glabrous. Length of upper petal: Approximately 2.3 cm. Width of upper petal: Approximately 2.9 cm. Length of lateral petal: Approximately 2.6 cm. Width of lateral petal: Approximately 2 cm. Length of lower petal: Approximately 2.9 cm. Width of lower petal: Approximately 2.2 cm. Color of upper surface of all petals when first open: Closest to 50A with base of 71C. Color of lower surface of all petals when first open: 52B. Color of upper surface of upper petal when fully open: Closest to 52A with venation and base of 71C. Color of upper surface of lateral petals when fully open: Closest to 52A with venation of 71C. Color of upper surface of lower petals when fully open: Closest to 52A with midrib of 71B, and area of 71A just above base of 71C. Color of lower surface of all petals when fully open: 52C with midvein and base of 71C.

*Spur.*—Quantity: One per flower. Length: Approximately 5.3 cm. Diameter at tip: Approximately 0.7 mm. Diameter at base: Approximately 2.0 mm. Texture: Glabrous. Color: 144C with overlay of 64C and tip of 144A.

*Peduncle.*—Strength: Strong. Aspect: Acute angle to stem. Length: Approximately 4.6 cm. Diameter: Approximately 1.0 mm. Texture: Glabrous. Color: 145C.

*Calyx.*—Quantity of sepals per flower: 4. Upper sepal is fused to lower surface of upper petal. Apex: Acuminate. Texture of upper and lower surfaces: Glabrous with sparse pubescence along midvein. Shape of lateral sepal: Ovate. Length of lateral sepal: Approximately 1.3 cm. Width of lateral sepal: Approximately 5.0 mm. Color of lateral sepal: 3C with overlay of 45A and 56D at base. Shape of lower sepal: Ovate. Length of lower sepal: Approximately 1.4 cm. Width of lower sepal: Approximately 9.4 mm. Color of lower sepal: 55B with tip of 144A.

*Reproductive organs.*—Androecium: Stamen quantity: 5, fused around pistil at apex. Anther shape: Hooded. Anther length: Approximately 1.2 mm. Anther color: 11C. Pollen amount: Sparse. Pollen color: 11D. Gynoecium: Pistil quantity: One per flower. Pistil length: Approximately 5.0 mm. Stigma shape: Five pointed star. Stigma length: Approximately 0.1 mm. Stigma color: Colorless, translucent. Style length: Approximately 0.9 mm. Style color: Colorless, trans-

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lucent. Ovary length: Approximately 4.0 mm. Ovary diameter: Approximately 1.6 mm. Ovary texture: Glabrous. Ovary color: 143B.

Seed and fruit production: Neither seed nor fruit production has been observed.

Disease and pest resistance: Resistance to pathogens and pests common to *Impatiens* has not been observed.

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What is claimed is:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Impatiens* plant named 'Balfabricol', substantially as herein shown and described.

\* \* \* \* \*

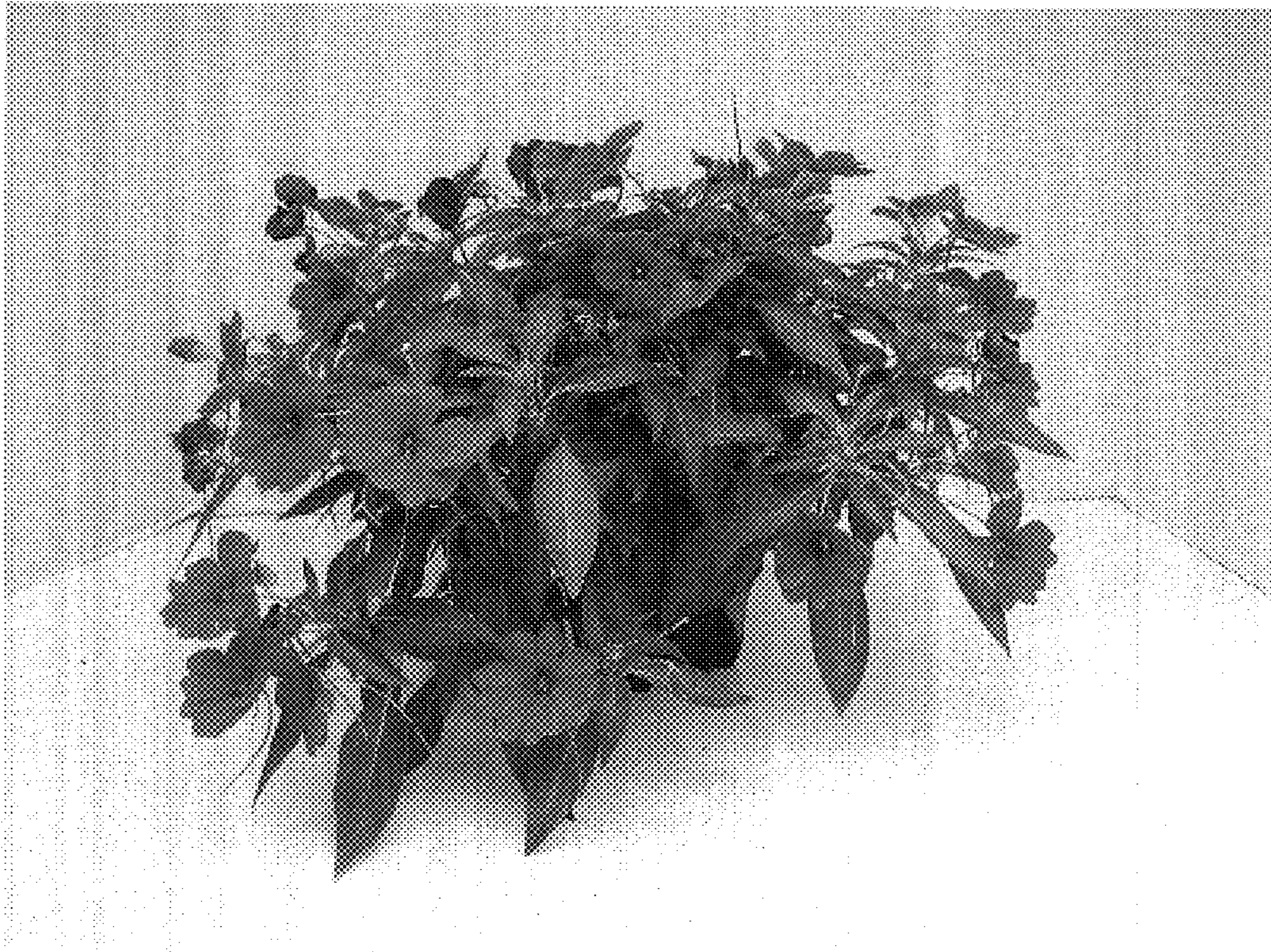


FIG. 1

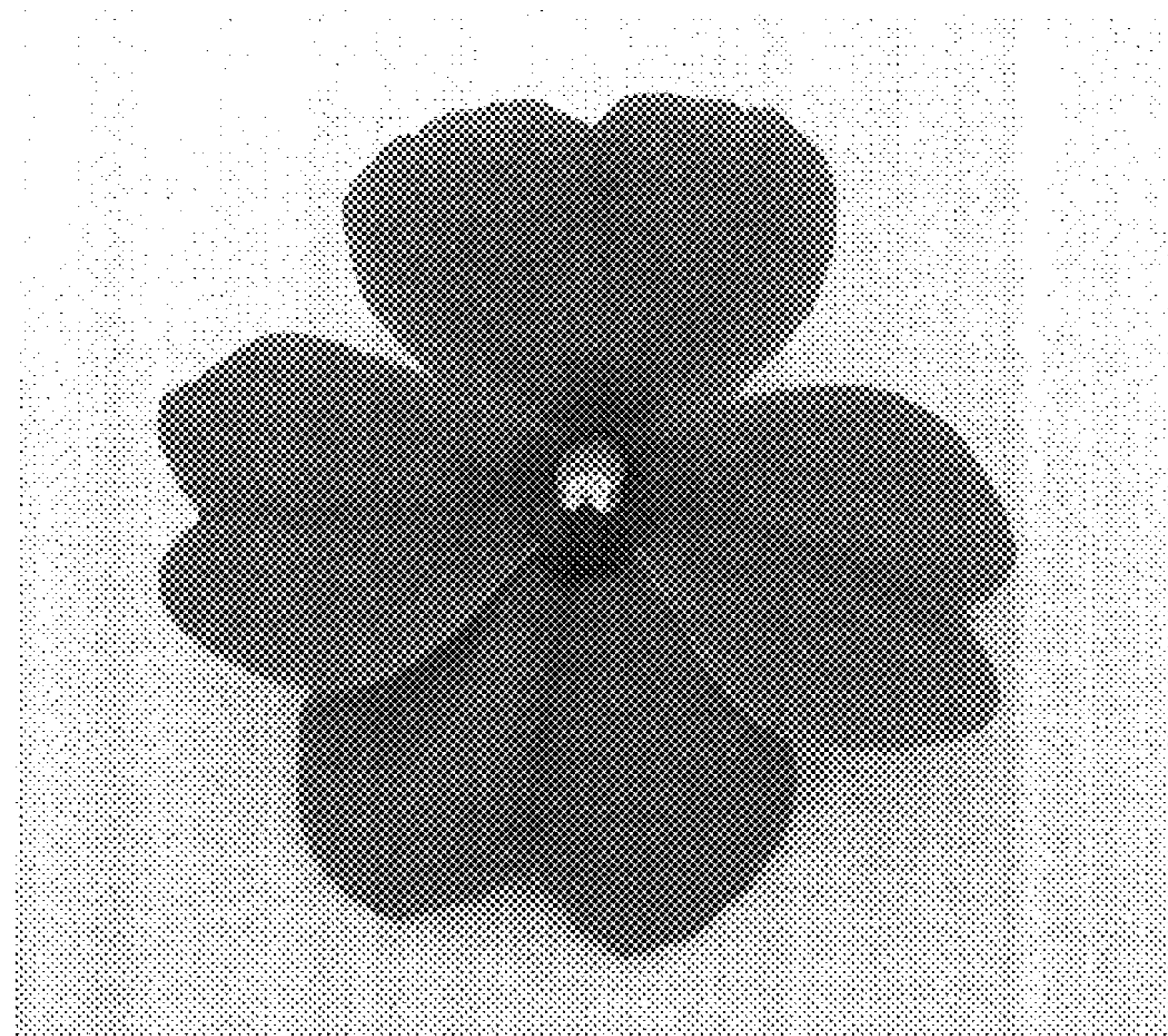


FIG. 2