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(54) **NEMESIA PLANT NAMED ‘INUPRASP’**

(50) Latin Name: *Nemesia* hybrid
Varietal Denomination: **Inuprasp**

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(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./263**

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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Nemesia* plant named ‘Inuprasp’, characterized by its upright and somewhat outwardly spreading plant habit; freely branching habit; dense and bushy appearance; early and continuous flowering habit; numerous large red purple-colored flowers; and long flowering period.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical designation: *Nemesia* hybrid.
Cultivar denomination: ‘Inuprasp’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of *Nemesia* plant, botanically known as *Nemesia* hybrid and referred to by the name ‘Inuprasp’.

The new *Nemesia* is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventors in Gensingen, Germany. The objective of the program is to create new strong *Nemesia* cultivars with numerous flowers and unique flower colors.

The new *Nemesia* originated from a cross-pollination made by the Inventors of an unnamed *Nemesia fructicans* selection, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with an unnamed *Nemesia strumosa* selection, not patented during the summer of 2001. The cultivar Inuprasp was discovered and selected by the Inventors as a flowering plant within the progeny of the stated cross-pollination in a controlled environment in Gensingen, Germany during the summer of 2002.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Nemesia* by terminal cuttings in a controlled environment in Gensingen, Germany since June, 2002, has shown that the unique features of this new *Nemesia* are stable and are reproduced true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The new *Nemesia* has 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 following characteristics have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be basic characteristics of ‘Inuprasp’ and distinguish ‘Inuprasp’ as a new and distinct cultivar:

1. Upright to somewhat outwardly spreading plant habit.
2. Freely branching habit; dense and bushy appearance.
3. Early and continuous flowering habit.

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4. Numerous large red purple-colored flowers.
5. Long flowering period.

Plants of the new *Nemesia* differ primarily from plants of the female parent selection in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Nemesia* have larger flowers than plants of the female parent selection.
2. Plants of the new *Nemesia* and the female parent selection differ in flower color as plants of the female parent selection have white to soft pink-colored flowers.

Plants of the new *Nemesia* differ primarily from plants of the male parent selection in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Nemesia* are more vigorous than plants of the male parent selection.
2. Plants of the new *Nemesia* flower for a longer period of time than plants of the male parent selection.

Plants of the new *Nemesia* can be compared to plants of the cultivar Inupyel, disclosed in U.S. Plant patent application Ser. No. 11/174,976. In side-by-side comparisons plants of the new *Nemesia* differed primarily from plants of the cultivar Inupyel in flower color as plants of the cultivar Inupcream had bright yellow-colored flowers.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying colored photographs illustrate the overall appearance of the new *Nemesia*, showing the colors as true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored reproductions 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 *Nemesia*.

The photograph at the bottom of the sheet comprises a side perspective view of a typical plant of ‘Inuprasp’ grown in a container.

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

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photographs and following observations and averaged measurements describe plants grown in

Bonsall, Calif., in an outdoor nursery during the spring with day temperatures ranging from 18° C. to 35° C. and night temperatures ranging from 15° C. to 21° C. After rooting, plants were grown for ten weeks in 15-cm containers with one plant per container. 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: *Nemesia* hybrid cultivar Inuprasp.
Parentage:

Female parent.—Unnamed *Nemesia fruticans* selection, not patented.

Male parent.—Unnamed *Nemesia strumosa* selection, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—By vegetative cuttings.

Time to initiate roots, summer.—About 10 days at 20° C.

Time to initiate roots, winter.—About 14 days at 20° C.

Time to develop roots, summer.—About two weeks at 20° C.

Time to develop roots, winter.—About two to three weeks at 20° C.

Root description.—Fine; white in color.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching.

Plant description:

General appearance.—Upright to somewhat outwardly spreading; inverted triangle. Freely branching, typically about ten primary lateral branches; numerous secondary and tertiary lateral branches. Vigorous growth habit.

Plant height.—About 38 cm.

Plant diameter or spread.—About 47 cm.

Lateral branches.—Appearance: Square in cross-section with longitudinal ridges. Length: About 30 cm. Diameter: About 4 mm. Internode length: About 3 cm to 3.5 cm. Strength: Strong. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: 144A.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Opposite, simple. Shape: Lanceolate to elliptic. Apex: Acute. Base: Attenuate. Length: About 4.7 cm. Width: About 1.8 cm. Margin: Serrate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Venation pattern: Pinnate, arcuate. Petiole length: About 5 mm. Petiole diameter: About 4 mm. Petiole texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color: Developing and fully expanded leaves, upper surface: 146A; venation, 146B. Developing and fully expanded leaves, lower surface: 146B; venation, 146B. Petiole, upper surface: 146B. Petiole, lower surface: 146C.

Flowering description:

Arrangement/appearance.—Zygomorphic solitary flowers arranged on loose terminal racemes; flowering acropetally towards apex. Flowers bilabiate with nectar spur. Flowers face upright and outward. Flowers last about four to five days on the plant. Flowers not persistent.

Natural flowering season.—Long flowering period; natural flowering season is spring to fall; flowering continuous during this period.

Quantity of flowers.—Freely flowering with about 30 to 35 flower buds and open flowers per inflorescence.

Fragrance.—Sweet, spicy.

Inflorescence length.—About 12 cm to 13 cm.

Inflorescence diameter.—About 4.5 cm.

Flower diameter.—About 2 cm.

Flower depth.—About 1.8 cm.

Flower buds.—Shape: Ovoid with spur. Length including spur: About 1.2 cm. Diameter: About 7 mm. Color: 65C to 65D.

Petals.—Arrangement/shape: Five petals in a single whorl. Four upper petals are fused at base to form an upright lobed and arched banner lip; lower petal modified into a larger lip with nectar spur and central protuberance which serves as pollinator nectar guide and landing platform. Apex: Rounded. Margin: Entire. Length: Upper lip petals: About 8 mm. Lower lip petal: About 1.2 cm. Width: Upper lip petals: About 7 mm to 9 mm. Lower lip petal: About 2 cm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, velvety. Color: When opening, upper surface: 68D. When opening, lower surface: 69B. Fully opened, upper surface: 64B; towards the base, 79B; color becoming closer to 77C with development. Fully opened, lower surface: 70B; towards the base, 75B. Nectar guide: 28B. Nectar spur: 23C to 23D.

Sepals.—Quantity: Five-parted, star-shaped calyx. Shape: Elliptic to lanceolate. Apex: Acute. Base: Fused. Margin: Entire. Length: About 3 mm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent. Color, upper and lower surfaces: 147A.

Peduncle.—Length: About 7 cm. Diameter: About 2.5 mm. Texture: Smooth. Strength: Strong. Angle: Upright to about 45° from the stem axis. Color: 144A.

Pedicle.—Length: About 1.4 cm. Diameter: About 1 mm. Texture: Pubescent, minute. Strength: Strong. Angle: About 30° to 45° from the stem. Color: 145A.

Androecium.—Stamen number: Four per flower. Anther shape: Oval. Anther length: Less than 1 mm. Anther color: 15B. Amount of pollen: Scarce. Pollen color: 15A.

Gynoecium.—Pistil number: One per flower. Pistil length: About 3 mm. Style length: About 1 mm. Style color: 145D. Stigma shape: Rounded. Stigma color: 145D. Ovary color: 145C.

Seed/fruit.—Seed and fruit production has not been observed on plants of the new *Nemesia*.

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

Temperature tolerance: Plants of the new *Nemesia* have been observed to be tolerant to temperatures ranging from about 2° C. to about 35° C.

It is claimed:

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

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