



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

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(54) **GERANIUM PLANT NAMED ‘KLEP03111’**

(50) Latin Name: *Pelargonium×hortorum*
Varietal Denomination: **KLEP03111**

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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A01H 5/00 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./330**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** **Plt./330**
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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2002/0073469 P1 * 6/2002 Michalik Plt./330

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of Zonal *Geranium* plant named
‘KLEP03111’, characterized by its upright and uniform
plant habit; freely branching; early and freely flowering
habit; bright red-colored flowers arranged in rounded
umbels held above the foliage on upright and strong
peduncles; and good garden performance.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical designation: *Pelargonium×hortorum*.
Cultivar denomination: ‘KLEP03111’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of Zonal *Geranium* plant, botanically known as
Pelargonium×hortorum, and hereinafter referred to by the
name ‘KLEP03111’.

The new Zonal *Geranium* is a product of a planned
breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Stuttgart,
Germany. The objective of the breeding program was to
develop new freely branching Zonal *Geraniums* with upright
and uniform plant habit and interesting flower and foliage
colors.

The new Zonal *Geranium* originated from a cross-
pollination made by the Inventor in August, 2000 of a
proprietary selection of *Pelargonium×hortorum* identified as
code number Z98 151, not patented, as the female, or seed,
parent with a proprietary selection of *Pelargonium×*
hortorum identified as code number G 015, not patented, as
the male, or pollen, parent. The cultivar KLEP03111 was
discovered and selected by the Inventor as a flowering plant
within the progeny from this cross-pollination in a controlled
environment in Stuttgart, Germany, in June, 2001.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal
cuttings in a controlled environment in Stuttgart, Germany
since 2001 has shown that the unique features of this new
Zonal *Geranium* are stable and reproduced true to type in
successive generations of asexual reproduction.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and
are determined to be the unique characteristics of
‘KLEP03111’. These characteristics in combination distin-

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guish ‘KLEP03111’ as a new cultivar and distinguish it from
other known Zonal *Geranium* cultivars:

1. Upright and uniform plant habit.
2. Freely branching habit.
3. Early and freely flowering habit.
4. Bright red-colored flowers arranged in rounded umbels
held above the foliage on upright and strong peduncles.
5. Good garden performance.

Plants of the new Zonal *Geranium* differ from plants of
the female parent selection primarily in leaf color as plants
of the female parent selection have lighter green-colored
foliage. In addition, plants of the new Zonal *Geranium* are
more vigorous than plants of the female parent selection.

Plants of the new Zonal *Geranium* differ from plants of the
male parent selection primarily in leaf color as plants of the
male parent have a more distinct leaf zonation pattern than
plants of the new Zonal *Geranium*. In addition, plants of the
new Zonal *Geranium* are more vigorous than plants of the
male parent selection.

Plants of the new Zonal *Geranium* can be compared to
plants of the cultivar Klesectra, disclosed in U.S. Plant
patent application Ser. No. 09/250,008, now abandoned. In
side-by-side comparisons conducted in Stuttgart, Germany,
plants of the new Zonal *Geranium* differed from plants of the
cultivar Klesectra in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new Zonal *Geranium* were larger and
more vigorous than plants of the cultivar Klesectra.
2. Flower color of plants of the new Zonal *Geranium* was
brighter red than flower color of plants of the cultivar
Klesectra.

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. Flower and foliage 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 *Zonal Geranium*. The photograph comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'KLEP03111' grown in a container.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

Plants of the cultivar KLEP03111 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 variance in genotype.

The aforementioned photograph and following observations and averaged measurements describe plants that were planted in January in 12-cm pots in Stuttgart, Germany, and grown under commercial practice in a glass-covered greenhouse with day temperatures ranging from 16° C. to 22° C., night temperatures ranging from 12° C. to 16° C. and light levels ranging from 25,000 to 60,000 lux. The photograph and information for the detailed botanical description were taken about 13 weeks after planting rooted young plants. 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: *Pelargonium×hortorum* cultivar KLEP03111.

Parentage:

Female parent.—Proprietary selection of *Pelargonium×hortorum* identified as code number Z98 151, not patented.

Male parent.—Proprietary selection of *Pelargonium×hortorum* identified as code number G 015, not patented.

Propagation:

Type cutting.—Terminal cuttings.

Time to initiate roots, summer.—About 6 to 7 days at 22° C.

Time to initiate roots, winter.—About 9 days at 20° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, summer.—About 15 days at 22° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, winter.—About 17 days at 20° C.

Root description.—Fine to thick, fibrous; white in color.

Rooting habit.—Moderately dense; freely branching.

Plant description:

General appearance.—Upright and uniform plant habit; densely foliated.

Growth and branching habit.—Moderately vigorous. Freely branching, about five lateral branches develop without pinching, that is, without the removal of terminal apices.

Plant height (to top of flower umbels).—About 27 cm to 33 cm.

Plant height (to top of foliar plane).—About 21 cm to 25 cm.

Plant width.—About 23 cm to 25 cm.

Lateral branches.—Length: About 6 cm. Internode length: About 2 cm. Texture: Slightly pubescent. Color: 177A.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Alternate, simple. Length: About 6 cm to 7 cm. Width: About 8 cm.

Shape: Rounded to reniform. Apex: Rounded. Base: Lobed, not overlapping. Margin: Crenate, lobed. Venation pattern: Palmate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Glabrous; rough. Color: Developing and fully expanded foliage, upper surface: 137A; venation, 137B. Developing and fully expanded foliage, lower surface: 137B; venation, 137D. Zonation pattern: Slight. Location from margin: About 1 cm. Width: About 8 mm. Color: 139A. Petiole: Length: About 5 cm. Diameter: About 3 mm. Color, upper and lower surfaces: 147B.

Flower description:

Flower arrangement.—Bright red-colored flowers arranged in rounded hemispherical umbels arising from apical leaf axils. Umbels displayed above the foliage on upright and strong peduncles. Flowers double in form; rounded and cupped. Umbels persistent, flowers not persistent. Flowers not fragrant.

Quantity of flowers.—Freely flowering habit; at full flower, plants have about eight developing and open umbels each with about 39 flower buds and flowers.

Flowering season.—Year-round under greenhouse conditions. In the garden, flowering is continuous throughout the summer.

Time to flower.—Early flowering; plants start flowering about 79 days after planting rooted young plants.

Flower longevity.—Flowers last about six to eight days on the plant.

Umbel size.—Height: About 6 cm to 8 cm. Diameter: About 9 cm.

Flower size.—Diameter: About 5 cm. Depth (height): About 1.5 cm.

Flower buds.—Length: About 7 mm to 10 mm. Diameter: About 6 mm to 8 mm. Shape: Elliptical. Color: 139C to 137D overlain with 177A.

Petals.—Quantity per flower: About six to seven. Length: About 2 cm to 2.2 cm. Width: About 1.8 cm. Shape: Ovate. Apex: Rounded. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, velvety. Color: When opening and fully opened, upper surface: 34A; color does not fade with development; venation, 34A. When opening and fully opened, lower surface: 40A; towards the base, 39D; venation, 34A.

Petaloids.—Quantity per flower: About two to six. Length: About 2 mm to 8 mm; irregular in size. Width: About 2 mm to 5 mm; irregular in size. Shape: Variable, irregular. Apex: Mostly rounded. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Mostly entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, velvety. Color: When opening and fully opened, upper surface: 34A; towards the base, 40A; color does not fade with development; venation, 34A. When opening and fully opened, lower surface: 40A; towards the base, 39D; venation, 34A.

Sepals.—Quantity per flower: Five, arranged in a single whorl. Length: About 5 mm to 8 mm. Width: About 3 mm to 5 mm. Shape: Elliptical. Apex: Acute. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent, rough. Color, upper surface: 139D. Color, lower surface: 139D overlain with 177A.

Peduncles (umbel stems).—Length: About 16 cm. Diameter: About 4 mm. Angle: Erect. Strength: Moderately strong to strong. Texture: Slightly pubescent. Color: 177A.

Pedicels (individual flower stems).—Length: About 2 cm to 3 cm. Diameter: About 1.5 mm to 2 mm.

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Angle: Erect. Strength: Strong. Texture: Slightly pubescent. Color: 177A.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Anther quantity per flower: Five. Anther length: About 3 mm. Anther shape: Ovate. Anther color: 63C. Pollen amount: Moderate. Pollen color: 49B. Gynoecium: Pistil quantity per flower: One. Pistil length: About 5 mm. Stigma shape: Five-parted, star-shaped. Stigma color: 57C. Style length: About 3 mm. Style color: 65D. Ovary color: 140D.

Seeds.—Seed development has not been observed.

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

Garden performance: Plants of the new *Zonal Geranium* have been observed to tolerate rain, wind, and temperatures from about 8° C. to about 30° C. and have good garden performance.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Zonal Geranium* plant named 'KLEP03111', as herein illustrated and described.

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