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Li

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(54) **VERBENA PLANT NAMED ‘KLEVE04342’**

(50) Latin Name: *Verbena hybrida*
Varietal Denomination: **KLEVE04342**

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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(51) **Int. Cl.**
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(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./308**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** Plt./308
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Verbena* plant named
‘KLEVE04342’, characterized by its outwardly spreading to
trailing and mounded plant habit; freely branching habit;
dense and bushy growth habit; large and numerous violet-
colored flowers with pale yellow-colored centers and with
flowers held above and beyond the foliage; and resistance to
Powdery Mildew.

1 Drawing Sheet

1

Botanical designation: *Verbena hybrida*.
Cultivar denomination: ‘KLEVE04342’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present Invention relates to a new and distinct culti-
var of *Verbena* plant, botanically known as *Verbena hybrida*,
and hereinafter referred to by the name ‘KLEVE04342’.

The new *Verbena* is a product of a planned breeding
program conducted by the Inventor in Camden, New South
Wales, Australia. The objective of the breeding program is to
develop new compact *Verbena* cultivars with large and
attractive flowers.

The new *Verbena* originated from a cross-pollination
made by the Inventor in 2001 of a proprietary *Verbena*
hybrida selection identified as 01.545.1, not patented, as the
female, or seed, parent with a proprietary selection of
Verbena hybrida identified as code number 01.515.1, not
patented, as the male, or pollen, parent. The cultivar
KLEVE04342 was discovered and selected by the Inventor
as a flowering plant within the progeny from this cross-
pollination in a controlled environment in Camden, New
South Wales, Australia in 2002.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal
cuttings in a controlled environment in Camden, New South
Wales, Australia since 2002, has shown that the unique
features of this new *Verbena* 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
‘KLEVE04342’. These characteristics in combination dis-
tinguish ‘KLEVE04342’ as a new and distinct cultivar:

1. Compact and trailing plant habit.
2. Freely branching habit; dense and bushy growth habit.
3. Large and numerous violet-colored flowers with pale
yellow-colored centers and with flowers held above and
beyond the foliage.
4. Resistance to Powdery Mildew.

2

Plants of the new *Verbena* differ primarily from plants of
the parent selections in flower size as plants of the parent
selections have smaller flowers. In addition, plants of the
new *Verbena* differ from plants of the parent selections in
flower color as plants of the female parent selection have
lavender-colored flowers and plants of the male parent
selection have purple-colored flowers.

Plants of the new *Verbena* can be compared to plants of
the cultivar Star Dream Blue Eye, not patented. In side-by-
side comparisons conducted in Camden, New South Wales,
Australia, plants of the new *Verbena* differed from plants of
the cultivar Star Dream Blue Eye in the following charac-
teristics:

1. Plants of the new *Verbena* and the cultivar Star Dream
Blue Eye differed in leaf shape.
2. Plants of the new *Verbena* had smaller flowers than
plants of the cultivar Star Dream Blue Eye.
3. Plants of the new *Verbena* and the cultivar Star Dream
Blue Eye differed in flower color.

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 repro-
ductions 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
Verbena. The photograph comprises a side perspective view
of typical flowering plants of ‘KLEVE04342’.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The cultivar KLEVE04342 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 vari-
ance in genotype. The aforementioned photograph and fol-
lowing observations and measurements describe plants
grown in Stuttgart, Germany, under commercial practice
during the spring in a glass-covered greenhouse with day

temperatures ranging from 18° C. to 20° C., night temperatures ranging from 15° C. to 18° C. and light levels ranging from 20,000 to 55,000 lux. Plants were about five months old when the photograph and description were taken. Plants were pinched one time. 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: *Verbena hybrida* cultivar KLEVE04342.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary *Verbena hybrida* selection identified as 01.545.1, not patented.

Male, or pollen, parent.—Proprietary *Verbena hybrida* selection identified as code number 01.515.1, not patented.

Propagation:

Type cutting.—Terminal cuttings.

Time to initiate roots, summer.—About 5 to 8 days at 20° C.

Time to initiate roots, winter.—About 8 to 10 days at 20° C.

Time to produce a rooted cutting or liner, summer.—About 14 to 20 days at 20° C.

Time to produce a rooted cutting or liner, winter.—About 21 days at 20° C.

Root description.—Fine, fibrous; pale white in color.

Rooting habit.—Medium branching; moderately dense.

Plant description:

Form.—Compact and trailing plant habit.

Growth and branching habit.—Moderately vigorous and freely-branching with lateral branches potentially developing at every node; dense and bushy growth habit.

Plant height.—About 20 cm to 25 cm.

Plant diameter or spread.—About 40 cm to 50 cm.

Lateral branches.—Length: About 20 cm to 30 cm. Diameter: About 2.5 mm. Internode length: About 3 cm to 7 cm. Texture: Slightly pubescent. Strength: Moderately strong. Color: 138B.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Opposite, simple. Length: About 2 cm to 3.5 cm. Width: About 2 cm to 2.5 cm. Shape: Deeply dissected. Apex: Acute. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Deeply dissected. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Slightly pubescent. Venation pattern: Pinnate. Color: Developing and fully expanded foliage, upper surface: 138A; venation, 138B. Developing and fully expanded foliage, lower surface: 138B; venation, 138B. Petiole length: About 5 mm to 10 mm. Petiole diameter: About 1 mm. Petiole texture, upper and lower surfaces: Slightly pubescent. Petiole color, upper and lower surfaces: 138B.

Flower description:

Flower type and habit.—Single upright salverform flowers arranged on compact terminal racemes; flowers sessile. Freely flowering with about 12 to 15 flowers per raceme. Inflorescences positioned above and beyond the foliage. Flowers last about one week under greenhouse conditions. Flowers not persistent.

Fragrance.—Faint.

Flowering season.—In the garden, flowering is continuous from spring through the fall.

Inflorescence height.—About 3 cm to 5 cm.

Inflorescence diameter.—About 5 cm.

Flower size.—Diameter: About 1.5 cm. Depth: About 5 mm.

Flower buds.—Length: About 2 mm to 15 mm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Shape: Tubular, columnar. Color: 138B.

Petals.—Quantity/arrangement: Five per flower fused at base. Lobe length: About 5 mm to 15 mm. Lobe width: About 5 mm. Shape: Obovate. Apex: Rounded. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; velvety. Color: When opening, upper surface: 77A; towards the base, 4B. When opening, lower surface: 77C. Fully opened, upper surface: 83A; towards the base, 4B; color becoming closer to 86A with development. Fully opened, lower surface: 83D.

Sepals.—Quantity/arrangement: Five, fused into a tube. Length: About 1 cm. Diameter: About 1 mm. Shape: Lanceolate. Apex: Acute. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Coarse, pubescent. Color, upper and lower surfaces: 138B.

Peduncles.—Length: About 5 cm. Diameter: About 1.5 mm. Strength: Strong. Color: Close to 138B.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: Quantity per flower: Four; adnate to pistil. Anther shape: Elliptic. Anther length: About 1 mm. Anther color: 1C. Pollen amount: Scarce. Pollen color: 1C. Pistils: Quantity per flower: One. Pistil length: About 1.5 cm. Stigma shape: Spherical. Stigma color: 139C. Style length: About 1.5 cm. Style color: 139D. Ovary color: 139C.

Fruit/seed.—Fruit and seed production has not been observed.

Disease/pest resistant: Plants of the new *Verbena* have been observed to be resistant to Powdery Mildew. Plants of the new *Verbena* have not been observed to be resistant to pests and other pathogens common to *Verbena*.

Temperature tolerance: Plants of the new *Verbena* have been observed to be tolerant to temperatures ranging from about 1° C. to about 35° C.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Verbena* plant named ‘KLEVE04342’, as illustrated and described.

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