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

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(54) **POINSETTIA PLANT NAMED**
'BONPOIAKAICHI'

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

(50) Latin Name: *Euphorbia pulcherrima*
Varietal Denomination: **Bonpoiakaichi**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./307**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** **Plt./307**
See application file for complete search history.

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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.

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of Poinsettia plant named
'Bonpoiakaichi', characterized by its compact, upright and
mounding plant habit; freely branching habit; mid-season
flowering response; inflorescences with intense red-colored
flower bracts; and excellent post-production longevity.

(21) Appl. No.: **11/590,987**

1 Drawing Sheet

(22) Filed: **Nov. 1, 2006**

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Botanical designation: *Euphorbia pulcherrima*.
Cultivar denomination: 'Bonpoiakaichi'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of Poinsettia plant, botanically known as *Euphorbia pul-*
cherrima Willd., and hereinafter referred to by the name
'Bonpoiakaichi'.

The new Poinsettia a product of a planned breeding
program conducted by the Inventor in Cobbitty, New South
Wales, Australia. The objective of the breeding program is
to create new freely branching Poinsettia cultivars with
attractive floral bract coloration.

The new Poinsettia originated from a cross-pollination
made by the Inventor in January, 1998 of the *Euphorbia*
pulcherrima Willd. cultivar Gutbier V-10, disclosed in U.S.
Plant Pat. No. 4,235, as the female, or seed, parent, with a
proprietary selection of *Euphorbia pulcherrima* Willd. iden-
tified as code number 26, not patented, as the male, or
pollen, parent. The cultivar Bonpoiakaichi was discovered
and selected by the Inventor as a single flowering plant
within the progeny of the stated cross-pollination in a
controlled environment in Cobbitty, New South Wales,
Australia.

Asexual reproduction of the new Poinsettia by terminal
vegetative cuttings in a controlled environment in Cobbitty,
New South Wales, Australia since June, 1999, has shown
that the unique features of this new Poinsettia are stable and
reproduced true to type in successive generations of asexual
reproduction.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The cultivar Bonpoiakaichi 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 traits have been repeatedly observed and
are determined to be the unique characteristics of 'Bonpoia-
kaichi'. These characteristics in combination distinguish
'Bonpoiakaichi' as a new and distinct cultivar of Poinsettia:

1. Compact, upright and mounding plant habit.

2. Freely branching habit.
3. Mid-season flowering response.
4. Inflorescences with intense red-colored flower bracts.
5. Excellent post-production longevity.

In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Cobbitty, New
South Wales, Australia, plants of the new Poinsettia differed
primarily from plants of the female parent, the cultivar
Gutbier V-10, in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new Poinsettia were more compact than
plants of the cultivar Gutbier V-10.
2. Plants of the new Poinsettia had smaller leaves than
plants of the cultivar Gutbier V-10.
3. Plants of the new Poinsettia and the cultivar Gutbier
V-10 differed in the flower bract coloration.

In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Cobbitty, New
South Wales, Australia, plants of the new Poinsettia differed
from plants of the male parent selection in the following
characteristics:

1. Plants of the new Poinsettia were more compact than
plants of the male parent selection.
2. Plants of the new Poinsettia had lighter green-colored
leaves than plants of the male parent selection.
3. Plants of the new Poinsettia flowered slightly later than
plants of the male parent selection.
4. Plants of the new Poinsettia had lighter red-colored
flower bracts than plants of the male parent selection.

Plants of the new Poinsettia can be compared to plants of
the Poinsettia cultivar 490, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No.
7,825. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Cobbitty,
New South Wales, Australia, plants of the new Poinsettia
differed from plants of the cultivar 490 in the following
characteristics:

1. Plants of the new Poinsettia were more compact than
plants of the cultivar 490.
2. Plants of the new Poinsettia were less vigorous than
plants of the cultivar 490.
3. Plants of the new Poinsettia had smaller and lighter
green-colored leaves than plants of the cultivar 490.
4. Plants of the new Poinsettia had narrower flower bracts
than plants of the cultivar 490.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying photographs illustrate the overall appearance of the new Poinsettia. These photographs show 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 Poinsettia.

The photograph at the top of the sheet comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'Bonpoikaichi' grown in a container.

The photograph at the bottom of the sheet is a close-up view of a typical inflorescence of 'Bonpoikaichi'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

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. The aforementioned photograph and following observations and measurements describe plants grown in Yellow Rock, New South Wales, Australia during the winter in a polyethylene-covered greenhouse and under conditions and practices which approximate those generally used in commercial Poinsettia production. During the production of the plants, day temperatures averaged 28° C. and night temperatures averaged 18° C. Measurements and numerical values represent averages for typical flowering plants. Single plants were grown in 15-cm containers and pinched one time. Plants were about five months old when the photographs and the detailed description were taken.

Botanical classification: *Euphorbia pulcherrima* cultivar Bonpoikaichi.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—*Euphorbia pulcherrima* Willd. cultivar Gutbier V-10, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 4,235.

Male, or pollen, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Euphorbia pulcherrima* Willd. identified as code number 26, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—Terminal vegetative cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—About ten days at 20° C. to 25° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant.—About four weeks at 20° C. to 25° C.

Root description.—Fine, fibrous, fleshy; light brown to white in color.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching; dense.

Plant description:

Plant habit and form.—Compact, upright and mound-ing plant habit; inverted triangle. Inflorescences positioned above the foliar plane. Moderately vigorous growth habit.

Plant height.—About 21.6 cm.

Plant diameter or spread.—About 31.4 cm.

Lateral branch description.—Quantity: Freely branching habit, about eight lateral branches develop after pinching. Length: About 11.3 cm. Diameter: About 4.5 mm. Internode length: About 2 cm. Strength: Strong. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: 146A.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Alternate, simple. Length: About 12.3 cm. Width: About 6.9 cm. Shape: Ovate. Apex: Acute. Base: Obtuse. Margin: Irregular and shallow lobes; dentate. Venation pattern: Pin-

nate; reticulate. Texture, upper surface: Smooth, glabrous. Texture, lower surface: Pubescent. Color: Developing foliage, upper surface: 143C. Developing foliage, lower surface: 144A. Fully expanded foliage, upper surface: 147A; venation, 46A. Fully expanded foliage, lower surface: 138A; venation, 48A. Petiole: Length: About 3.7 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, upper and lower surfaces: 46A.

Inflorescence description:

Inflorescence type and habit.—Inflorescences are compound corymbs of cyathia with colored flower bracts subtending the cyathia. One inflorescence per lateral branch. Flowers are not fragrant. Flowers persistent. Inflorescences positioned above the foliage.

Natural flowering season.—Autumn/winter, inflorescence initiation and development is induced under long nyctoperiod conditions. Mid-season flowering, response time is about eight to nine weeks.

Post-production longevity.—Excellent post-production longevity; plants of the new Poinsettia maintain good substance and bract color for about two months under interior conditions.

Inflorescence size.—Diameter: About 22 cm. Height (depth): About 4 cm.

Flower bracts.—Quantity per inflorescence: About ten. Length, largest bracts: About 11.8 cm. Width, largest bracts: About 6.9 cm. Shape: Elliptic. Apex: Acuminate. Base: Truncate to obtuse. Margin: Entire or irregular and shallow lobes. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; velvety. Venation pattern: Pinnate. Color: Developing or transitional bracts, upper and lower surfaces: 46A. Fully developed bracts, upper and lower surfaces: 45B; venation, 46A. Bract petiole: Length: About 1.7 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 53A.

Cyathia.—Quantity per inflorescence: About 18. Diameter of cyathia cluster: About 3.8 cm. Length: About 9 mm. Width: About 7 mm. Shape: Globose. Color, immature: 143B. Color, mature: 143B to 143C. Nectaries: Quantity per cyathium: Typically one. Size: About 4 mm. Color: 3A.

Peduncles.—Length: About 3.7 cm. Diameter: About 1 mm. Strength: Strong to moderately strong. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: 145A.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: Quantity per cyathium: About ten. Anther shape: Oval. Anther length: About 0.2 mm. Anther color: 60A. Amount of pollen: Scarce. Pollen color: Close to 9A. Pistils: Quantity per cyathium: One. Pistil length: About 4 mm. Style color: 60A. Stigma shape: Three-parted. Stigma color: 60A. Ovary color: 145A. Seed/fruit: Seed and fruit production has not been observed.

Disease/pest resistance: Plants of the new Poinsettia have not been shown to be resistant to pathogens and pests common to Poinsettias.

Temperature tolerance: Plants of the new Poinsettia have been observed to tolerate temperatures ranging from about 12° C. to about 40° C.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct Poinsettia plant named 'Bonpoikaichi' as illustrated and described.

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