

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

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(54) **VERBENA PLANT NAMED ‘KLEVP05344’**

(50) Latin Name: *Verbena hybrida*  
Varietal Denomination: **KLEVP05344**

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35  
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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Verbena* plant named  
‘KLEVP05344’, characterized by its mounding to cascading  
and compact plant habit; freely branching habit; freely  
flowering habit; intense red purple-colored flowers that are  
held above and beyond the foliage; and resistance to Pow-  
dery Mildew.

**1 Drawing Sheet**

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Botanical designation: *Verbena hybrida*.  
Cultivar denomination: ‘KLEVP05344’.

#### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar  
of *Verbena*, botanically known as *Verbena hybrida*, and  
hereinafter referred to by the name ‘KLEVEP05344’.

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  
create new disease-resistant *Verbena* cultivars with compact  
plant habit and attractive flower coloration.

The new *Verbena* originated from a cross-pollination  
made by the Inventor in 2002 in Camden, New South Wales,  
Australia of a proprietary seedling selection of *Verbena*  
*hybrida* identified as code number 00.17.3, not patented, as  
the female, or seed, parent with a proprietary seedling  
selection of *Verbena hybrida* identified as code number  
00.8.1, not patented, as the male, or pollen, parent. The new  
*Verbena* 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 Camden,  
New South Wales, Australia in 2002.

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

#### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The cultivar KLEVEP05344 has not been observed under  
all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may  
vary somewhat with variations in environment and cultural  
practices 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  
‘KLEVEP05344’. These characteristics in combination dis-

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tinguish ‘KLEVEP05344’ as a new and distinct cultivar of  
*Verbena*:

1. Mounding to cascading and compact plant habit.
2. Freely branching habit.
3. Freely flowering habit.
4. Intense red purple-colored flowers that are held above  
and beyond the foliage.
5. Resistant to Powdery Mildew.

Plants of the new *Verbena* can be compared to plants of  
the parent selections. Plants of the new *Verbena* differ  
primarily from plants of the parent selections in flower color  
as plants of the parent selections were dark purple in color.

Plants of the new *Verbena* can be compared to plants of  
the *Verbena* cultivar KLEVE03321, disclosed in U.S. Plant  
Pat. No. 16,434. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in  
Stuttgart, Germany, plants of the new *Verbena* differed  
primarily from plants of the cultivar KLEVE03321 in flower  
color.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying colored photograph illustrates the  
overall appearance of the new *Verbena*, showing the colors  
as true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored  
reproductions 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 close-up view  
of typical flowering plants of ‘KLEVEP05344’.

#### DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The photograph and following observations, measure-  
ments and values describe plants grown in Stuttgart, Ger-  
many in a glass-covered greenhouse during the spring and  
summer and under conditions which closely approximate  
commercial production. During the production of the plants,  
day temperatures ranged from 18° C. to 22° C., night  
temperatures ranged from 15° C. to 18° C. and maximum  
light levels ranged from 20,000 lux to 55,000 lux. Plants



were pinched one time and were about four to five months old when the photograph and the description were taken. In the 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 KLEVEP05344.

Parentage:

*Female, or seed, parent.*—Proprietary seedling selection of *Verbena hybrida* identified as code number 00.17.3, not patented.

*Male, or pollen, parent.*—Proprietary seedling selection of *Verbena hybrida* identified as code number 00.8.1, not patented.

Propagation:

*Type.*—Terminal cuttings.

*Time to initiate roots, summer.*—About 14 days at 20° C. to 22° C.

*Time to initiate roots, winter.*—About 20 days at 20° C. to 22° C.

*Time to produce a rooted cutting, summer.*—About 60 days at 20° C. to 22° C.

*Time to produce a rooted cutting, winter.*—About 70 days at 20° C. to 22° C.

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

*Rooting habit.*—Moderate branching; moderately dense.

Plant description:

*Plant habit.*—Initially upright, then mounding to cascading plant habit; compact growth habit. Freely branching habit with about five primary lateral branches per plant each with numerous secondary branches; pinching enhances lateral branch development; dense and bushy growth habit. Moderately vigorous growth habit.

*Plant height.*—About 10 cm.

*Plant diameter.*—About 40 cm.

Lateral branch description:

*Length.*—About 20 cm.

*Diameter.*—About 2.5 mm.

*Internode length.*—About 3 cm to 5 cm.

*Strength.*—Weak.

*Texture.*—Pubescent.

*Color.*—141D.

Foliage description:

*Arrangement.*—Opposite, simple.

*Length.*—About 3 cm.

*Width.*—About 3 cm.

*Shape.*—Deeply dissected.

*Apex.*—Cuspidate.

*Base.*—Obtuse.

*Margin.*—Deeply dissected.

*Texture, upper and lower surfaces.*—Smooth, glabrous.

*Venation pattern.*—Pinnate.

*Color.*—Developing foliage, upper and lower surfaces: 141C. Fully expanded foliage, upper and lower surfaces: 141C; venation, 141C.

*Petiole.*—Length: About 2 cm. Diameter: About 0.2 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, upper and lower surfaces: 141C.

Flower description:

*Flower arrangement and habit.*—Salverform flowers arranged in hemispherical terminal umbels; flowers face upward or outward. Freely flowering habit with about 20 flowers per inflorescence.

*Natural flowering season.*—Plants flower continuously from the spring through the fall in Germany.

*Flower longevity.*—Flowers last about two weeks on the plant. Flowers not persistent.

*Fragrance.*—None detected.

*Flowers.*—Appearance: Flared trumpet, corolla fused, five-parted. Diameter: About 2 cm. Depth (height): About 2 cm. Tube length: About 2 cm. Throat diameter: About 1 mm. Tube diameter, base: About 0.5 mm.

*Flower buds.*—Length: About 2 cm. Diameter: About 3 mm. Shape: Elongate, oblong. Color: 67D.

*Corolla.*—Arrangement: Single whorl of five fused petals. Petal lobe length: About 1 cm. Petal lobe width: About 1 cm. Petal lobe shape: Roughly cordate. Petal lobe apex: Emarginate to cordate. Petal margin: Entire. Petal texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color: Petal, when opening, upper surface: 67C. Petal, when opening, lower surface: 68D. Petal, fully opened, upper surface: 67C to 67D; color becoming closer to 68D with development. Petal, fully opened, lower surface: 68B. Throat: 65D. Tube: 67D.

*Calyx.*—Arrangement: One single narrow calyx tube per flower with five fused sepals. Sepal length: About 1.5 cm. Sepal width: About 2 mm. Sepal shape: Lanceolate. Sepal apex: Acute. Sepal base: Obtuse. Sepal margin: Serrate. Sepal texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent; rough. Sepal color, upper surface: 67D. Sepal color, lower surface: 68D.

*Peduncles.*—Length: About 1.5 cm. Diameter: About 0.1 mm. Strength: Moderately strong. Texture: Pubescent; rough. Color: 141C.

*Pedicels.*—Flowers are sessile.

*Reproductive organs.*—Stamens: Quantity/arrangement: Four per flower, adnate to corolla tube. Anther shape: Elliptic. Anther length: Less than 1 mm. Anther color: 142D. Pollen amount: None observed. Pistils: Minute. Quantity: One per flower. Stigma shape: Lanceolate. Stigma color: 142D. Style color: 142D. Ovary color: 142D.

*Fruits/seed.*—Fruit and seed development have not been observed.

Temperature tolerance: Plants of the new *Verbena* have been observed to tolerate temperatures from about 1° C. to about 40° C.

Pathogen/pest resistance: 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 *Verbenas*.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Verbena* plant named 'KLEVEP05344', as illustrated and described.

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