



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

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(54) **CALIBRACHOA PLANT NAMED**
‘SUNBELRIKIST’

(50) Latin Name: ***Calibrachoa* sp.**
Varietal Denomination: **Sunbelrikist**

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
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 *Calibrachoa* plant named
‘Sunbelrikist’, characterized by its upright, outwardly
spreading and mounding plant habit; vigorous growth habit;
freely branching and flowering plant habit; long flowering
period; and red purple and yellow variegated flowers.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical designation: *Calibrachoa* sp.
Cultivar denomination: ‘Sunbelrikist’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

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

The new *Calibrachoa* is a product of a planned breeding
program conducted by the Inventor in Shiga, Japan. The
objective of the breeding program is to create new *Calibra-*
choa cultivars with attractive foliage and flower coloration.

The new *Calibrachoa* originated from a cross-pollination
made by the Inventor in April, 2002 in Shiga, Japan of a
proprietary selection of *Calibrachoa* sp. identified as code
number 20, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with
a proprietary selection of *Calibrachoa* sp. identified as code
number 28, not patented, as the male, or pollen, parent. The
new *Calibrachoa* was discovered and selected by the Inven-
tor as a single flowering plant within the progeny of the
stated cross-pollination in a controlled environment in Shiga,
Japan.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Calibrachoa* by terminal
cuttings in a controlled environment in Shiga, Japan since
September, 2004, has shown that the unique features of this
new *Calibrachoa* are stable and reproduced true to type in
successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The cultivar Sunbelrikist has not been observed under all
possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary
somewhat with variations in environment and cultural prac-
tices 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 ‘Sunbel-
rikist’. These characteristics in combination distinguish
‘Sunbelrikist’ as a new and distinct cultivar of *Calibrachoa*:

1. Upright, outwardly spreading and mounding plant
habit.
2. Vigorous growth habit.

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3. Freely branching and flowering plant habit.
4. Long flowering period.
5. Red purple and yellow variegated flowers.

Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* can be compared to plants
of the female parent selection. Plants of the new *Calibra-*
choa differ from plants of the female parent selection in the
following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* have larger flowers than
plants of the female parent selection.
2. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* and the female parent
selection differ in flower color as plants of the female
parent selection have red-colored flowers.

Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* can be compared to plants
of the male parent selection. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa*
differ primarily from plants of the male parent selection in
flower color as plants of the male parent selection have
white-colored flowers.

Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* can also be compared to
plants of the cultivar Sunbelfire, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat.
No. 16,684. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in
Shiga, Japan, plants of the new *Calibrachoa* and the cultivar
Sunbelfire differed in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* were more taller than
but not as broad as plants of the cultivar Sunbelfire.
2. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* had broader leaves than
plants of the cultivar Sunbelfire.
3. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* had larger flowers than
plants of the cultivar Sunbelfire.
4. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* and the cultivar Sun-
belfire differed in flower color as plants of the cultivar
Sunbelfire had yellow and red variegated flowers.
5. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* had shorter peduncles
than plants of the cultivar Sunbelfire.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying colored photographs illustrate the
overall appearance of the new *Calibrachoa*, 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 *Calibrachoa*.

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

The photograph at the bottom of the sheet comprises a close-up of a typical flower of 'Sunbelrikist'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The photographs and following observations, measurements and values describe plants grown in Shiga, Japan, under commercial practice during the spring in an outdoor nursery day temperatures averaging 21° C. and night temperatures averaging 14° C. Plants were grown for about four months with one plant per 13.5-cm container and pinched one time. 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.

Botanical classification: *Calibrachoa* sp. cultivar Sunbelrikist.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Calibrachoa* sp. identified as code number 20, not patented.

Male, or pollen, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Calibrachoa* sp. identified as code number 28, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—By terminal cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—About one week at temperatures of 20° C. to 25° C.

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

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

Rooting habit.—Freely branching.

Plant description:

Plant and growth habit.—Upright, outwardly spreading and mounding plant habit. Freely branching with lateral branches potentially forming at every node; pinching enhances lateral branch development. Vigorous growth habit.

Plant height.—About 21.6 cm.

Plant diameter.—About 33.2 cm.

Lateral branch description:

Length.—About 21.2 cm.

Diameter.—About 2.1 mm.

Internode length. About 8 mm.

Strength.—Strong.

Aspect.—Initially upright to outward.

Texture.—Pubescent.

Color.—144B.

Foliage description:

Arrangement.—Alternate, simple.

Length.—About 4.6 cm.

Width.—About 1.7 cm.

Shape.—Spatulate.

Apex.—Rounded to obtuse.

Base.—Lanceolate.

Margin.—Entire.

Texture, upper and lower surfaces.—Pubescent.

Venation pattern.—Pinnate; reticulate.

Color.—Developing foliage, upper and lower surfaces: 145B. Fully expanded foliage, upper surface: 137A;

venation, 137A. Fully expanded foliage, lower surface: 147B; venation, 147B.

Petiole.—Length: About 3 mm. Diameter: About 1 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent. Color, upper and lower surfaces: 145B.

Flower description:

Flower arrangement and habit.—Single salverform flowers arising from leaf axils. Freely flowering habit with usually about two open flowers per lateral branch. Flowers not persistent. Flowers face upright or outwardly. Flowers not fragrant.

Natural flowering season.—Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* initiate and develop flowers about three to four weeks after planting. Long flowering period; flowering commences naturally during the spring and plants flower continuously throughout the summer until the fall in Japan.

Flower longevity.—Individual flowers last about seven to ten days on the plant.

Flower diameter.—About 3.3 cm.

Flower length (depth).—About 2.3 cm.

Throat diameter.—About 7 mm.

Tube diameter.—About 2 mm.

Flower bud.—Shape: Cylindrical. Length: About 2.1 cm. Diameter: About 4.6 mm. Color: 186A.

Corolla.—Arrangement: Five petals fused at the base and opening into a flared trumpet. Petal length from throat: About 1.3 cm. Petal width: About 1.5 cm. Petal shape: Spatulate. Petal apex: Rounded, slightly emarginate. Petal margin: Entire. Petal texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; satiny. Color: Petal, when opening, upper surface: Random and irregular areas of N66B and 18B. Petal, when opening, lower surface: 186B. Petal, fully opened, upper surface: Random and irregular areas of N66B and 18B. Petal, fully opened, lower surface: 186B; venation, N199A. Throat: 12A; venation, N199A. Tube: 151D; venation, N199A.

Calyx.—Arrangement: One star-shaped calyx tube with five sepals fused at the base per flower. Sepal length: About 1.3 cm. Sepal width: About 3 mm. Sepal shape: Lanceolate. Sepal apex: Obtuse. Sepal margin: Entire. Sepal texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent. Color, upper surface: 137A. Color, lower surface: 137C.

Peduncles.—Length: About 1.7 cm. Diameter: About 0.8 mm. Angle: About 45° from vertical. Strength: Strong. Texture: Pubescent. Color: 144A.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: Quantity/arrangement: Five per flower. Anther shape: Ellipsoid. Anther size: About 1 mm by 1 mm. Anther color: 8B. Pollen amount: Moderate. Pollen color: 12A. Pistils: Quantity: One per flower. Pistil length: About 1 cm. Style color: 145B. Stigma shape: Transversely ellipsoidal. Stigma color: 144B. Ovary color: 144B. Seed/fruit: Seed and fruit development have not been observed on plants of the new *Calibrachoa*.

Temperature tolerance: Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* have been observed to tolerate temperatures from about 5° C. to about 35° C.

Pathogen/pest resistance: Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* have not been observed to be resistant to pests and pathogens common to *Calibrachoa*.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Calibrachoa* plant named 'Sunbelrikist' as illustrated and described.

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