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

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(54) ***VERBENA* PLANT NAMED 'SCARLETTA'**

(50) Latin Name: ***Verbena×hybrida***
Varietal Denomination: **Scarletta**

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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.

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

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./308**

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

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

PP12,578 P2 * 4/2002 Stemkens Plt./308

* cited by examiner

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct variety of *Verbena* plant particularly distinguished by its scarlet red flower, early flowering, and a habit that is first upright and later strong and spreading.

1 Drawing Sheet

Latin name of the genus and species of the plant claimed: *Verbena×hybrida.*

Varietal denomination: 'Scarletta'.

BACKGROUND OF THE NEW PLANT

The present invention comprises a new distinct cultivar of *Verbena,* botanically known as *Verbena×hybrida.*

The new cultivar is propagated from cuttings resulting from a mutation found in 'Scarlena.' 'Scarlena' is patented as U.S. Plant Pat. No. 12,578. As a result of this finding, the present cultivar was created in 2002 in Enkhuizen, Netherlands and has been repeatedly asexually reproduced by cuttings in Enkhuizen, Netherlands and Sarrians, France over a two year period. The new variety is stable and reproduces true to type in successive generations of asexual reproduction.

This new *Verbena* plant is an annual in most climatical zones in the US, only in zones 9 and 10 it is a perennial plant.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

This new *Verbena* plant is illustrated by the accompanying photographic drawing which shows blooms, buds and foliage of the plant in full color, the color shown being as true as can be reasonably obtained by conventional photographic procedures.

DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW CULTIVAR

The following detailed descriptions set forth the distinctive characteristics of this new *Verbena.* The data that define these characteristics were collected from asexual reproductions carried out in Enkhuizen, Netherlands. The plant history was taken on 14 week old plants, blossomed under natural light in a greenhouse and grown in a 10.5 cm container.

Color readings were taken in the greenhouse under ambient light. Color references are primarily to the R.H.S. Colour Chart of The Royal Horticultural Society of London.

TABLE 1

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE NEW CULTIVAR 'SCARLETTA' AND ITS PARENT

	'Scarletta'	'Scarlena' (U.S. Plant Patent No. 12,578)
Flower size	Bigger	Smaller
Flower color	Scarlet red	Scarlet
Seed set	Little	No

The plant:

Classification.—Botanical: *Verbena×hybrida.*
Parentage.—Mutation of 'Scarlena'.
Growth habit.—Vigorous, later spreading, decumbent.
Plant height.—15-22 cm.
Spreading area of plant.—50-80 cm.
Branching character.—Freely branching and lateral branching at every node.
Number of branches per plant.—36-58.
Blooming period.—From March until November.

The stem:

Diameter.—2-2.5 mm.
Length.—12-20 cm.
Shape.—Tetragonal.
Anthocyanin pigmentation.—Absent.
Color of the stem.—143B.
Length of internode.—10-40 mm.
Pubescence.—Slightly pubescent.
Length lateral branches.—11-18 cm.

The foliage:

Phyllotaxis.—Opposite.
Shape of blade.—Broadly ovate.
Texture.—Upper side: Smooth. Lower side: Smooth.
Venation.—Pinnate.
Leaf margin.—Dentate.
Leaf base.—Attenuate.
Leaf apex.—Acute.
Length.—15-30 mm.
Width.—12-25 mm.

Depth of incision.—1-3 mm.
Number of incisions.—6-12 per leaf.
Color.—Upper side: 137A. Lower side: 137D.
Pubescence.—Some pubescence is present.
Length of petiole.—3-5 mm.
Petiole surface structure.—Slightly pubescent.
Petiole diameter.—1 mm.
Petiole coloration.—143C.

The bud:

Peduncle length.—18-35 mm.
Peduncle diameter.—1-2 mm.
Peduncle color.—143A.
Bud size.—Diameter: 2 mm. Length: 8-12 mm.
Bud shape.—Elongated and ovate.
Bud color.—137C.
Sepals.—Color (upper side): 137C. Color (lower side): 137C. Form: Upright. Number: 5, fused. Length: 7-9 mm. Width: 2 mm. Shape: Elongated. Apex: Emarginate. Base: Fused. Margin: Entire.

The flower:

Flower diameter.—19-22 mm.
Flower height.—16-18 mm.
Flower tube length.—13-17 mm.
Flower throat diameter.—2-3 mm.
Flower throat color.—155C.
Inflorescence.—Corymb.
Flower-form.—Single, salverform; sessile on terminal corymbs.
Petal colour.—Upper side: From 45B on the edge to 46A close to the eye. Lower side: 46B.
Eye.—No eye.
Overlapping of petals.—Separate.
No. of petals.—Gamopetalous, 5 lobed.
Petal apex.—Obcordate.
Petal base.—Fused.
Petal margin.—Entire.
Petal surface texture.—Smooth.

Size of the petal.—Length: 7-9 mm. Width: 5-7 mm.
Inflorescence.—Length: 18-35 mm. Diameter: 18-35 mm.
Calyx length.—12-14 mm.
Calyx diameter.—3 mm.
Anthocyanin pigmentation of calyx limb.—Absent.
Color of the calyx.—137C.
No. of flowers per inflorescence.—25-40.
No. of corymbs per plant.—120-200.
Fragrance.—No fragrance occurs.
Bloom time of one inflorescence.—New florets continue to open in one corymb over a period of 16 days.
Lastingness of one flower.—3-4 days.

Reproductive organs:

Androecium.—Stamens quantity: 4. Anther shape: Ovoid. Anther length: 1 mm. Anther color: 144C. Pollen amount: No pollen.
Gynoecium.—Pistils quantity: 1. Pistil length: 2.0-2.4 cm. Stigma shape: Bi-lobed. Stigma color: 144B. Style length: 1.9 cm. Style color: 144C. Ovary color: 144C.

Fruits and seeds:

Fruit.—Length: 4-8 mm. Diameter: 1 mm. Color: 164C. Shape: Elongated.
Seed.—Seeds per gram: 750. Length: 2-4 mm. Diameter: 1 mm. Color: 165B.

Roots:

Type of roots.—Fibrous, color 155C. Roots start to grow on every part of the stem that contacts the soil, so not only at the nodes.

Physiological and ecological characteristics: Tolerates temperatures ranging from 2 to 38 degrees.

What is claimed is:

1. A new and distinct variety of *Verbena* plant named 'Scarletta,' substantially as herein illustrated and described.

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