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(54) **PETUNIA-CALIBRACHOA PLANT NAMED**
'KAKEGAWA S88'

(50) Latin Name: *Petunia-Calibrachoa* hybrid
Varietal Denomination: **Kakegawa S88**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

'Kakegawa S88' is a new *Petunia-Calibrachoa* cultivar particularly distinguished by having a burgundy flower color and a mounding growth habit.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Genus and species: *Petunia-Calibrachoa* Hybrid.
Variety denomination: 'Kakegawa S88'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention comprises a new and distinct cultivar of *Petunia-Calibrachoa* and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name 'Kakegawa S88.' It is characterized by having a burgundy flower color and mounding growth habit. The new cultivar originated from a hybridization in Kakegawa, Japan in May of 2003. The male parent was a proprietary hybrid *Calibrachoa* line named '04-44', having a burgundy flower color, medium flower size and a semi-creeping plant habit. The female parent was a proprietary hybrid *Petunia* line named '04H-54', having a pinkish-red flower color, medium flower size and mounding plant habit.

In May 2003, the new *Petunia-Calibrachoa* variety was developed using an intergeneric cross between a *Petunia* hybrid and a *Calibrachoa* hybrid species. After crossing the parent lines, 1,980 ovules were removed from flowers on the female parent and cultured by standard ovule culture techniques. In December 2003, 15 intergeneric hybrid plantlets were transplanted to soilless media for greenhouse culture and acclimatization.

In March 2004, 12 plants out of 15 hybrid lines were vegetatively propagated to produce rooted cuttings. In April 2004, the 12 plants were transplanted to an open field and evaluated for flower color and plant growth habit through July. In August 2004, 'Kakegawa S88' which has a bright burgundy flower color and a mounding plant growth habit was selected and vegetatively propagated. In September 2004, 10 cuttings were evaluated in an open field through November 2004. The selection subsequently was named 'Kakegawa S88' and found to retain its distinctive characteristics through successive asexual propagations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following are the most outstanding and distinguishing characteristics of this new cultivar when grown under normal horticultural practices in Kakegawa, Japan.

1. Burgundy flower color; and
2. Mounding plant growth habit.

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DESCRIPTION OF PHOTOGRAPHS

This new *Petunia-Calibrachoa* plant is illustrated by the accompanying photographs which show the plant's form, foliage and flowers. The colors shown are as true as can be reasonably obtained by conventional photographic procedures. The age of the plants at the time of the photograph is 8 months.

FIG. 1. shows overall plant habit.

FIG. 2. shows the mature flowers.

DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW CULTIVAR

The following detailed description sets forth the distinctive characteristics of 'Kakegawa S88'. The data which define these characteristics were collected from asexual reproductions carried out in Salinas, Calif. The detailed description was taken from plants grown under greenhouse conditions for approximately 8 months from transplanting of rooted cuttings. Color references are to the R.H.S. Colour Chart of The Royal Horticultural Society of London (R.H.S.), 4th Edition.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

Classification:

Family.—Solanaceae.

Species.—*Petunia-Calibrachoa* hybrid.

Common name.—*Petunia-Calibrachoa*.

Parentage:

Male.—Hybrid proprietary *Calibrachoa* breeding line '04-44'.

Female.—Hybrid proprietary *Petunia* breeding line '04H-54'.

Plant description:

Life cycle.—Tender Perennial.

Form.—Decumbent, branching.

Habit.—Spreading.

Height.—18.0 cm to 22.0 cm.

Spread.—70.0 cm to 80.0 cm.

Propagation:

Type cuttings.—Vegetative cuttings.

Time to produce a rooted cutting.—4 weeks.

Time to bloom from propagation.—8 to 10 weeks.

Environmental conditions for plant growth: The terminal 1.0 to 1.5 inches of an actively growing stem was excised. The vegetative cuttings were propagated in four weeks. The base of the cuttings were dipped for 1 to 2 seconds in a 1:9 solution of DIP 'N GROW (1 solution: 9 water) root inducing solution immediately prior to sticking into the cell trays. Cuttings were stuck into plastic cell trays having 98 cells, and containing a moistened peat moss-based growing medium. For the first week, the cuttings were misted with water from overhead for 20 seconds, one time per hour. For the second week, the cuttings were misted one time every 2 hours for 10 seconds. After that time, the cuttings were misted occasionally until sufficient roots were formed. Rooted cuttings were transplanted and grown in 20 cm diameter plastic pots in a glass greenhouse located in Salinas, Calif. Pots contained a peat moss-based growing medium. Soluble fertilizer containing 20% nitrogen, 10% phosphorus and 20% potassium was applied once a day or every other day by overhead irrigation. Pots were top-dressed with a dry, slow release fertilizer containing 20% nitrogen, 10% phosphorus and 18% potassium. The typical average air temperature was 24° C.

Stems:

Stem color.—RHS 144B (Yellow-green).
Anthocyanin color.—Slightly present on stems, RHS N77C (Purple).
Pubescence.—Medium.
Pubescence color.—RHS N155A (White).
Stem description.—Round.
Stem diameter.—2.0 cm to 3.0 cm.
Stem length.—Approximately 2.0 cm from soil line to first node.
Internode length.—3.0 cm to 5.0 cm.

Leaves:

Arrangement.—Alternate.
Shape.—Elliptical.
Apex.—Obtuse.
Base.—Attenuate.
Margin.—Entire.
Surface.—Dull.
Surface pubescence.—Slight.
Pubescence color.—RHS N155A (White).
Venation.—Pinnate.
Length.—3.0 cm to 5.0 cm.
Width.—1.0 cm to 1.5 cm.
Color.—Upper surface: RHS 137B (Green). Lower surface: RHS 138B (Green).
Fragrance.—Absent.

Flower:

Flowering habit.—Indeterminate.
Flower type.—Solitary.
Flowering requirements.—Will flower so long as day length is greater than 12 hours and temperature exceeds 13° C.
Duration of flowers.—5 days.
Corolla.—5 petals, fused.
Corolla shape.—The flowers are funnel shaped with five fissures and a shallow, yet slight, indentation of the petal tip at the midvein.
Fragrance.—Absent.
Pedicel.—Color: RHS 144B (Yellow-green) with RHS N79B (Purple) at flower base.

Flower buds:

Surface.—Pubescent.
Length.—2.5 cm.

Diameter.—0.5 cm.

Shape.—Ovate.

Color.—RHS 149C (Yellow-green).

Peduncle.—Length: 2.0 cm. Diameter: 1.0 cm.

Flower description:

Flower depth.—3.0 cm to 3.5 cm. Flower tube length.—2.5 cm.

Flower tube diameter.—1.0 cm.

Flower diameter.—4.5 cm to 5.5 cm.

Calyx.—5 petals fused below the middle.

Sepals.—Shape: Elliptical. Apex: Obtuse. Margin: Entire. Color: RHS 137B (Green).

Petal.—Shape: Spatulate. Length: 1.5 cm to 2.0 cm. Width: 1.0 cm. Apex: Truncate. Margin: Entire. Texture: Glabrous. Color: Limb color: Upper surface: RHS N66A (Red-purple) with RHS N77A (Purple) veins. Lower surface: RHS N61C (Red-purple) with RHS N77A (Purple) veins.

Corolla tube color.—Inner: RHS N77A (Purple) throat, inner tube is RHS 17C (Yellow-orange) with RHS N77A (Purple) veins. Outer: RHS N78C (Purple) with RHS N77A (Purple) veins.

Fragrance.—Absent.

Reproductive organs:

Stamen number.—5, free.

Stamen color.—Anther color is RHS 4C (Yellow). Filament color: RHS 4C (Yellow).

Pollen color.—RHS 4B (Yellow).

Ovary.—Superior.

Placenta arrangement.—Central.

Pistil number.—1.

Pistil length.—1.5 cm.

Stigma color.—RHS 86A (Violet).

Style length.—1.4 cm.

Style color.—RHS 149C (Yellow-green).

Fruit/seed set: No fruit or seeds produced.

Disease and Insect Resistance: 'Kakegawa S88' has excellent resistance to rain, heat and drought. A temperature below 10° C. is not optimal. Plants are susceptible to *Botrytis*, powdery mildew, various stem and root rots, and certain viruses, like Tobacco Mosaic Virus and Impatiens Necrotic Spotted Virus. Plants can be infested with aphids, leafminer, whitefly and various *Lepitoptera*.

COMPARISON WITH PARENTAL LINES AND KNOWN CULTIVARS

Calibrachoa 'Kakegawa S88' is a distinct variety of *Calibrachoa* due to its white flower color and creeping growth habit. 'Kakegawa S88' is distinguished from its parents mainly by flower color and plant growth habit as shown in Table 1 below.

TABLE 1

Characteristic	'Kakegawa S88'	Female Parent: '04H-54'	Male Parent: '04-44'
Flower color	Burgundy	Pinkish-red	Burgundy
Plant growth habit	Mounding	Mounding	Semi-upright

‘Kakegawa S88’ is most similar to the variety ‘Dancalipet’ (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 16,063) however, there are differences in petal color and growth habit as described in Table 2 below.

TABLE 2

Characteristic	‘Kakegawa S88’	‘Dancalipet’
Limb color, upper surface	RHS N66A (Red-purple) with RHS N77A (Purple) veins	RHS 74A (Red-purple)
Limb color, lower surface	RHS N61C (Red-purple) with RHS N77A (Purple) veins	RHS 75A (Purple)

TABLE 2-continued

Characteristic	‘Kakegawa S88’	‘Dancalipet’
Plant growth habit	Mounding	Compact

We claim:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Petunia-Calibrachoa* intergeneric hybrid plant as shown and described herein.

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Fig. 1



Fig. 2