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Hofmann

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(54) **NEW GUINEA *IMPATIENS* PLANT NAMED 'FISIMP SALM'**

(50) Latin Name: ***Impatiens hawkeri***
Varietal Denomination: **Fisimp Salm**

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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Impatiens* plant named 'Fisimp Salm', characterized by its upright and outwardly spreading growth habit; mounded plant habit; freely branching habit; moderately vigorous growth habit; medium green-colored leaves; freely flowering habit; large salmon pink-colored flowers; and good garden performance.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical designation: *Impatiens hawkeri.*
Cultivar denomination: 'FISIMP SALM'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of New Guinea *Impatiens,* botanically known as *Impatiens hawkeri* and hereinafter referred to by the name 'Fisimp Salm'.

The new *Impatiens* is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Hillscheid, Germany. The objective of the breeding program is to create new freely-branching and moderately vigorous New Guinea *Impatiens* cultivars with large and attractive flowers.

The new *Impatiens* originated from a cross-pollination made by the Inventor during the summer of 2002 in Hillscheid, Germany of a proprietary selection of *Impatiens hawkeri* identified as code number K02-0423-7, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with a proprietary selection of *Impatiens hawkeri* identified as code number K02-0304-1, not patented, as the male, or pollen, parent. The new *Impatiens* 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 Moncarapacho, Portugal in March, 2003.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Impatiens* by terminal cuttings in a controlled environment in Moncarapacho, Portugal since June, 2003, has shown that the unique features of this new *Impatiens* are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The cultivar Fisimp Salm has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in environment and cultural practices such as temperature 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 'Fisimp Salm'. These characteristics in combination distinguish 'Fisimp Salm' as a new and distinct cultivar of *Impatiens:*

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1. Upright and outwardly spreading growth habit; mounded plant habit.
2. Freely branching habit.
3. Moderately vigorous growth habit.
4. Medium green-colored leaves.
5. Freely flowering habit.
6. Large salmon pink-colored flowers.
7. Good garden performance.

Plants of the new *Impatiens* can be compared to plants of the female parent selection. Plants of the new *Impatiens* differ primarily from plants of the female parent selection in leaf and flower color as plants of the female parent selection have light green-colored leaves and bluish pink-colored flowers.

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

Plants of the new *Impatiens* can be compared to plants of the *Impatiens* cultivar Fisimp 149, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 13,711. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Hillsheid, Germany, plants of the new *Impatiens* differed from plants of the cultivar Fisimp 149 in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Impatiens* had lighter green-colored leaves than plants of the cultivar Fisimp 149.
2. Plants of the new *Impatiens* had larger flowers than plants of the cultivar Fisimp 149.
3. Plants of the new *Impatiens* and the cultivar Fisimp 149 differed in flower color.

Plants of the new *Impatiens* can be compared to plants of the *Impatiens* cultivar Fisupnic Salice, disclosed in U.S. Plant patent application Ser. No. 11/330,838, abandoned. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Hillscheid, Germany, plants of the new *Impatiens* differed from plants of the cultivar Fisupnic Salice in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Impatiens* were shorter than plants of the cultivar Fisupnic Salice.
2. Plants of the new *Impatiens* were less vigorous than plants of the cultivar Fisupnic Salice.
3. Plants of the new *Impatiens* and the cultivar Fisupnic Salice differed in flower color.

Plants of the new *Impatiens* can be compared to plants of the *Impatiens* cultivar Fisupnic Salm, disclosed in U.S. Plant patent application Ser. No. 11/330,836. In side-by-side comparison conducted in Hillscheid, Germany, plants of the new *Impatiens* differed from plants of the cultivar Fisupnic Salm in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Impatiens* were smaller than plants of the cultivar Fisupnic Salm.
2. Plants of the new *Impatiens* were less vigorous than plants of the cultivar Fisupnic Salm.
3. Plants of the new *Impatiens* were more freely branching than plants of the cultivar Fisupnic Salm.
4. Plants of the new *Impatiens* had smaller leaves than plants of the cultivar Fisupnic Salm.
5. Plants of the new *Impatiens* and the cultivar Fisupnic Salm differed in flower color.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

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

The photograph at the top of the sheet comprises a side perspective view of typical flowering plants of 'Fisimp Salm' grown in a container.

The photograph at the bottom of the sheet is a close-up view of a typical flower of 'Fisimp Salm'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photographs and following observations, measurements and values describe plants grown in Hillscheid, Germany, in containers and under commercial practice during the spring in a glass-covered greenhouse with day temperatures ranging from 16° C. to 22° C. and night temperatures averaging about 16° C. Rooted young plants had been growing for about ten to twelve weeks when the photograph and description were taken. 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: *Impatiens hawkeri* cultivar Fisimp Salm.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Impatiens hawkeri* identified as code number K02-0423-7, not patented.

Male, or pollen, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Impatiens hawkeri* identified as code number K02-0304-1, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—By terminal cuttings.

Time to initiate roots, summer.—About ten days at temperatures of 22° C. to 24° C.

Time to initiate roots, winter.—About 14 days at temperatures of 20° C. to 22° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, summer.—About 18 days at temperatures of 22° C. to 24° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, winter.—About 21 days at temperatures of 20° C. to 22° C.

Root description.—Fine, fibrous; dull to creamy white in color.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching; moderately dense.

Plant description:

Plant and growth habit.—Upright to outwardly spreading growth habit; mounded plan habit. Freely branching habit with about six lateral branches; pinching is typically not required. Moderately vigorous growth habit.

Plant height.—About 10.9 cm.

Plant diameter.—About 21.6 cm.

Lateral branch description:

Length.—About 6 cm to 9 cm.

Diameter.—About 6 mm to 8 mm.

Internode length.—About 1.5 cm to 2.5 cm.

Strength.—Strong.

Aspect.—Initially upright to outwardly spreading.

Texture.—Smooth, glabrous.

Color.—143B.

Foliage description:

Arrangement.—Typically in whorls; simple.

Length.—About 11.7 cm.

Width.—About 3.8 cm.

Shape.—Elliptical.

Apex.—Acuminate.

Base.—Attenuate.

Margin.—Serrulate with ciliation.

Texture, upper and lower surfaces.—Smooth, glabrous; leathery; slightly rugose.

Venation pattern.—Pinnate; arcuate.

Color.—Developing foliage, upper surface: 137D. Developing foliage, lower surface: 138B. Fully expanded foliage, upper surface: 137C; venation, close to 48B. Fully expanded foliage, lower surface: 138B; venation, 144C occasionally tinted with N170C.

Petiole length.—About 1.3 cm.

Petiole diameter.—About 3 mm to 4 mm.

Petiole texture, upper and lower surface.—Smooth, glabrous.

Petiole color, upper and lower surfaces.—145B.

Flower description:

Flower type and flowering habit.—Single rounded axillary flowers. Freely flowering habit; usually about five to seven open flowers and flower buds per lateral branch. Flowers positioned above the foliage and typically face upright or outward. Flowers last about one week under greenhouse conditions. Petals self-cleaning gynoecium persistent. Flowers not fragrant.

Natural flowering season.—Year-round under greenhouse conditions. In the garden, flowering from spring until fall in Germany. Plants begin flowering about nine to ten weeks after planting.

Flower size.—Length: About 9 cm. Diameter: About 8.9 cm. Depth: About 1.5 cm to 2 cm.

Flower buds.—Length: About 2.3 cm. Diameter: About 1.8 cm. Shape: Ovoid. Color: Between 52B and 43C.

Petals.—Quantity/arrangement: Five per flower in a single whorl. Length, banner petal: About 4.1 cm. Length, lateral petals: About 4.1 cm. Length, lower

petals: About 4.2 cm. Width, banner petal: About 6.5 cm. Width, lateral petals: About 4.5 cm. Width, lower petals: About 5.1 cm. Shape: Cordate. Apex: Emarginate; rounded. Base: Obtuse to attenuate. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color: When opening, upper surface: Between 43C and 52C. When opening, lower surface: 52C. Fully opened, upper surface: 52C; towards the base of the petals and at the center of the banner petal, 52C tinted with 40C; eye zone, close to between N57B to N57C. Color becoming closer to between 55A and 55B with development. Fully opened, lower surface: Between 52C and 52D.

Sepals.—Quantity/arrangement: Three; one modified into an elongated spur. Length: About 1 cm. Width: About 5 mm. Shape: Oval. Apex: Acute. Base: Obtuse. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 147C. Spur length: About 6.3 cm. Spur diameter: At flower, about 3 mm; at apex, less than 1 mm. Spur texture: Smooth, glabrous. Spur color: 47C; towards the apex, 47B.

Peduncles.—Length: About 5.3 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Angle: Upright to outward. Strength: Strong; flexible. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: 180C.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: Quantity: Five fused at anthers; filaments free Anther diameter: About 5 mm to 6 mm. Anther color: 4D tinted and with between N57B and N57C. Pollen amount: Moderate. Pollen color: Close to 11D. Pistils: Quantity per flower: One. Pistil length: About 6 mm. Stigma shape: Star-shaped. Stigma color: 9D. Style color: 9D. Ovary color: 146A; color becoming closer to 166A with development.

Seed/fruit.—Seed and fruit production have not been observed.

Disease/pest resistance: Plants of the new *Impatiens* have not been observed to be resistant to pathogens and pests common to New Guinea *Impatiens*.

Garden performance: Plants of the new *Impatiens* have been observed to have good garden performance and tolerate temperatures ranging from about 5° C. to about 35° C.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Impatiens* plant named 'Fisimp Salm' as illustrated and described.

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