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(54) **NEW GUINEA *IMPATIENS* PLANT NAMED 'TAMAR DARK RED'**

(50) Latin Name: ***Impatiens hawkeri***
Varietal Denomination: **Tamar Dark Red**

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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 'Tamar Dark Red', characterized by its upright and outwardly spreading growth habit; mounded plant form; freely branching habit; dark green-colored leaves; freely flowering habit; large dark red-colored flowers; and good garden performance.

1 Drawing Sheet

Botanical designation: *Impatiens hawkeri.*
Cultivar denomination: 'TAMAR DARK RED'.

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 'Tamar Dark Red'.

The new *Impatiens* is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in De Lier, The Netherlands. The objective of the breeding programs is to create new freely-branching New Guinea *Impatiens* cultivars with freely flowering habit and large attractive flowers.

The new *Impatiens* originated from a cross-pollination made by the Inventor in De Lier, The Netherlands of a proprietary selection of *Impatiens hawkeri* identified as code number AMI 071020, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with a proprietary selection of *Impatiens hawkeri* identified as code number AMI 071030, 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 De Lier, The Netherlands in 2003.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Impatiens* by terminal cuttings in a controlled environment in De Lier, The Netherlands since 2004, 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 Tamar Dark Red 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 'Tamar Dark Red'. These characteristics in combination distinguish

'Tamar Dark Red' as a new and distinct cultivar of *Impatiens:*

1. Upright and outwardly spreading growth habit; mounded plant form.
2. Freely branching habit.
3. Dark green-colored leaves.
4. Freely flowering habit.
5. Large dark red-colored flowers.
6. Good garden performance.

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

1. Plants of the new *Impatiens* are more vigorous than plants of the female parent selection.
2. Plants of the new *Impatiens* have larger leaves than plants of the female parent selection.

Plants of the new *Impatiens* can be compared to plants of the male parent selection. Plants of the new *Impatiens* differ from plants of the male parent selection in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Impatiens* are less vigorous than plants of the male parent selection.
2. Plants of the new *Impatiens* have larger flowers than plants of the male parent selection.

Plants of the new *Impatiens* can be compared to plants of the *Impatiens* cultivar Tamar Scarlet Red, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 17,965. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in De Lier, The Netherlands, plants of the new *Impatiens* differed from plants of the cultivar Tamar Scarlet Red in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Impatiens* had more rounded flowers than plants of the cultivar Tamar Scarlet Red.
2. Plants of the new *Impatiens* had darker-colored flowers than plants of the cultivar Tamar Scarlet Red.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying colored photograph illustrates 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 photograph may differ slightly from the color values cited in the detailed botanical description which accurately describe the colors of the new *Impatiens*.

The photograph comprises a top perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'Tamar Dark Red' grown in a container.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photographs and following observations, measurements and values describe plants grown in De Lier, The Netherlands, in 12-cm containers and under commercial practice during the autumn in a glass-covered greenhouse with day and night temperatures averaging 18° C. Rooted young plants had been growing for about three months when the photograph and description were taken. In the following 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: *Impatiens hawkeri* cultivar Tamar Dark Red.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Impatiens hawkeri* identified as code number AMI 071020, not patented.

Male, or pollen, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Impatiens hawkeri* identified as code number AMI 071030, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—By terminal cuttings.

Time to initiate roots, summer.—About five to seven days at temperatures of 19° C. to 20° C.

Time to initiate roots, winter.—About six to eight days at temperatures of 19° C. to 20° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, summer.—About 14 to 19 days at temperatures of 19° C. to 20° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, winter.—About 14 to 21 days at temperatures of 19° C. to 20° C.

Root description.—Fine; white to brown in color.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching.

Plant description:

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

Plant height.—About 17 cm.

Plant diameter.—About 30 cm.

Lateral branch description:

Length.—About 14 cm.

Diameter.—About 8 mm.

Internode length.—About 3.5 cm.

Strength.—Moderately strong.

Aspect.—Initially upright to outwardly spreading.

Texture.—Smooth, glabrous; slightly glossy in luster.

Color.—146C tinted with 178A.

Foliage description:

Arrangement.—Opposite or in whorls of about five; simple.

Length.—About 11 cm.

Width.—About 4.5 cm.

Shape.—Elliptic.

Apex.—Acute.

Base.—Cuneate.

Margin.—Serrate with ciliation.

Texture, upper and lower surfaces.—Smooth, glabrous; leathery; moderately glossy in luster.

Venation pattern.—Pinnate; arcuate.

Color.—Developing foliage, upper surface: 147A to 147B. Developing foliage, lower surface: 138B. Fully expanded foliage, upper surface: 147A; venation, 182C. Fully expanded foliage, lower surface: 138B; midvein, 146C; lateral veins, 182A.

Petiole.—Length: About 3 cm. Diameter: About 4 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, upper surface: 182C. Color, lower surface: 195B.

Flower description:

Flower type and flowering habit.—Single rounded axillary flowers. Freely flowering habit; usually about twenty flowers develop per lateral branch. Flowers positioned above the foliage and typically face upright or outward. Flowers last about ten days on the plant 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 through summer in The Netherlands. Plants begin flowering about nine weeks after planting.

Flower size.—Diameter: About 7.2 cm. Depth: About 8 mm.

Flower buds.—Length: About 2 cm. Diameter: About 1.1 cm. Shape: Ovoid; pointed. Color: 46A.

Petals.—Quantity/arrangement: Five per flower in a single whorl. Length, banner petal: About 2.8 cm. Length, lateral and lower petals: About 3.5 cm. Width, banner petal: About 6.2 cm. Width, lateral and lower petals: About 4.7 cm. Shape, all petals: Broadly cordate. Apex, all petals: Emarginate. Base, all petals: Acute. Margin, all petals: Entire. Texture, all petals, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, banner petal: When opening, upper surface: 46A. When opening, lower surface: 46A; towards the margins, 46B; center, 144B. Fully opened, upper surface: 46A to 46B. Fully opened, lower surface: 47B; central stripe, 144B. Color, lateral and lower petals: When opening, upper surface: 46A. When opening, lower surface: 46A to 46B; towards the center, 46D. Fully opened, upper surface: 46A to 46B. Fully opened, lower surface: 47B; center, center, 47D.

Sepals.—Quantity/arrangement: Three; one modified into an elongated spur. Length, spurred sepal: About 1.6 cm. Length, lateral sepals: About 1.2 cm. Width, spurred sepal: About 1.9 cm. Width, lateral sepals: About 6 mm. Shape, spurred sepal: Broadly ovate. Shape, lateral sepals: Ovate. Apex, all sepals: Apiculate. Base, all sepals: Cuneate. Margin, all sepals; Entire. Texture, all sepals, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, spurred sepal: Immature, upper surface: Between 51A and 51C; towards the apex, 144A; towards the center, 145C. Immature, lower surface: 51B; towards the apex, 144B. Mature, upper surface: Between 51A and 51C; towards the center, 145C. Mature, lower surface: 51A; towards the apex, 144B. Color, lateral sepals: Immature, upper surface: Between 51A and 51C; towards the apex, 144A; towards the center, 145C. Immature, lower surface: 51B; towards the apex, 144B. Mature,

upper surface: 51B; towards the margins, 145B. Mature, lower surface: 144B; towards the apex, 50A. Spur length: About 5.3 cm. Spur diameter: At flower, about 2 mm; at apex, less than 1 mm. Spur texture: Smooth, glabrous. Spur color: Between 182A and 182C.

Peduncles.—Length: About 4.6 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Angle: About 45° from vertical. Strength: Moderately strong. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: 145C to 145D.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: Quantity: Five fused at anthers; filaments free. Anther length: About 2 mm. Anther color: 46C. Pollen amount: Scarce. Pollen color: 158D. Pistils: Quantity per flower: One. Pistil length: About 1 mm. Stigma shape: Rounded. Stigma color: 158C. Ovary color: 144C.

Seed/fruit.—Seed and fruit production have 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 wind, rain and temperatures ranging from about 4° C. to about 35° C.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Impatiens* plant named 'Tamar Dark Red' as illustrated and described.

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