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

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- (54) **CALIBRACHOA PLANT NAMED 'KLECA06121'**
- (50) Latin Name: *Calibrachoa* sp.
Varietal Denomination: **KLECA06121**
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- (73) Assignee: **Klemm + Sohn GmbH + Co. KG**, Stuttgart (DE)
- (*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.
- (21) Appl. No.: **12/002,477**
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A01H 5/00 (2006.01)
- (52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./413**
- (58) **Field of Classification Search** **Plt./413**
See application file for complete search history.

- (56) **References Cited**
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS
PP15,817 P2 * 6/2005 Klemm Plt./413
PP17,679 P2 * 5/2007 Plt. Plt./413

OTHER PUBLICATIONS
UPOV ROM GTITM Computer Database, GTI Jouve Retrieval Software 2007/02 Citation for 'KLECA06121'.*

* cited by examiner
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(57) **ABSTRACT**
A new and distinct cultivar of *Calibrachoa* plant named 'KLECA06121', characterized by its compact and mounding growth habit; freely branching habit; freely flowering habit; relatively large deep purple-colored flowers; and good garden performance.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical designation: *Calibrachoa* sp.
Cultivar denomination: 'KLECA06121'.

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 'KLECA06121'.

The new *Calibrachoa* is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Stuttgart, Germany. The objective of the breeding program is to create new freely-branching *Calibrachoa* cultivars with compact and trailing plant habit, early and freely flowering habit, and unique and attractive flower color.

The new *Calibrachoa* originated from a cross-pollination made by the Inventor during the summer of 2003 in Stuttgart, Germany of a proprietary selection of *Calibrachoa* sp. identified as code number V 024, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with a proprietary selection of *Calibrachoa* sp. identified as code number V 052, not patented, as the male, or pollen, parent. The new *Calibrachoa* 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 Stuttgart, Germany in May, 2004.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Calibrachoa* by vegetative cuttings in a controlled environment in Stuttgart, Germany since May, 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 KLECA06121 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.

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The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be the unique characteristics of 'KLECA06121'. These characteristics in combination distinguish 'KLECA06121' as a new and distinct cultivar of *Calibrachoa*:

1. Compact and mounding growth habit.
2. Freely branching habit.
3. Freely flowering habit.
4. Relatively large deep purple-colored flowers.
5. Good garden performance.

Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* can be compared to plants of the female parent selection. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* differ primarily from plants of the female parent selection in flower color as plants of the female parent selection have violet-colored flowers. In addition, plants of the new *Calibrachoa* differ from plants of the female parent selection in growth habit as plants of the female parent selection are trailing.

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 blue-colored flowers. In addition, plants of the new *Calibrachoa* differ from plants of the male parent selection in growth habit as plants of the male parent are upright to trailing.

Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* can be compared to plants of the cultivar KLECA02059, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 15,817. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Stuttgart, Germany, plants of the new *Calibrachoa* differed from plants of the cultivar KLECA02059 in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* were more compact than and not as vigorous as plants of the cultivar KLECA02059.
2. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* were more mounding than and not as trailing as plants of the cultivar KLECA02059.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying colored photograph illustrates 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 photograph may differ slightly from the color values cited in the detailed botanical description which accurately describe the colors of the new *Calibrachoa*. The photograph comprises a close-up view of typical flowers and leaves of 'KLECA06121'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photograph and following observations, measurements and values describe plants grown in Stuttgart, Germany, under commercial practice during the spring in a glass-covered greenhouse with day and night temperatures ranging from 14° C. to 16° C. and light levels averaging 20,000 lux. Rooted young plants had been growing for about six months when the photograph and description were taken. Plants used for the description were grown in 12-cm containers and pinched one time one week after planting. 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: *Calibrachoa* sp. cultivar KLECA06121.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Calibrachoa* sp. identified as code number V 024, not patented.

Male, or pollen, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Calibrachoa* sp. identified as code number V 052, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—By vegetative cuttings.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, summer.—About three weeks at temperatures of 20° C. to 26° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, winter.—About four weeks at temperatures of 20° C.

Root description.—Fine, fibrous; white in color.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching; moderately dense.

Plant description:

Plant and growth habit.—Compact and mounding growth habit; moderately vigorous. Freely branching habit with about four to five primary lateral branches each with multiple secondary lateral branches; pinching is typically not required.

Plant height.—About 7 cm.

Plant diameter.—About 19 cm.

Lateral branch description:

Length.—About 9 cm.

Diameter.—About 2 mm.

Internode length.—About 0.5 cm to 1.8 cm.

Strength.—Strong.

Aspect.—Mostly upright.

Texture.—Smooth, glabrous.

Color.—145A.

Foliage description:

Arrangement.—Alternate, simple; sessile.

Length.—About 1.5 cm to 2.5 cm.

Width.—About 5 mm to 10 mm.

Shape.—Lanceolate to elliptical.

Apex.—Broadly acute.

Base.—Attenuate.

Margin.—Entire.

Texture, upper and lower surfaces.—Smooth, glabrous.

Venation pattern.—Pinnate; arcuate.

Color.—Developing and fully expanded foliage, upper surface: 137A; venation, 144A. Developing and fully expanded foliage, lower surface: 137C; venation, 144B.

Flower description:

Flower arrangement and habit.—Relatively large salverform flowers arranged singly arising from leaf axils. Freely flowering habit with usually about 43 open flowers and flower buds developing per lateral branch. Flowers not persistent. Flowers face mostly upright.

Fragrance.—None detected.

Natural flowering season.—Plants flower continuously throughout the summer in Germany. Plants begin flowering about twelve weeks after planting.

Flower longevity.—Individual flowers last about one week on the plant.

Flower diameter.—About 2.5 cm.

Flower length (habit).—About 2.5 cm.

Flower throat diameter.—About 8 mm.

Flower tube diameter, base.—About 2 mm.

Flower tube length.—About 1.5 cm.

Flower bud.—Shape: Elongated oblong. Length: About 2 cm. Diameter: About 6 mm. Color: 79A.

Corolla.—Arrangement: Five petals fused at the base and opening into a flared trumpet. Petal length from throat: About 1.4 cm. Petal lobe width: About 1.2 cm. Petal shape: Obverse. Petal apex: Obtuse. Petal margin: Entire. Petal texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; satiny. Throat and tube texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: Petal, when opening, upper surface: 83B; venation, 79A. Petal, when opening, lower surface: 83D; venation, 79C. Petal, fully opened, upper surface: 77A; venation, 79A. Petal, fully opened, lower surface: 83D; venation, 79C. Throat: 79A; venation, 79A. Tube: 3A; venation, 163B.

Calyx.—Arrangement: One star-shaped calyx tube with five sepals fused at base per flower. Sepal length: About 1.5 cm. Sepal width: About 3 mm. Sepal shape: Lanceolate to elliptical. Sepal apex: Acute. Sepal margin: Entire. Sepal texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, upper surface: 138A. Color, lower surface: 138B.

Peduncles.—Length: About 3 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Angle: Erect to about 75° from stem axis. Strength: Moderately strong. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: 144B.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: Quantity/arrangement: Five per flower. Anther shape: Elliptic. Anther length: About 1 mm. Anther color: 11A. Pollen amount: Moderate. Pollen color: 11A. Pistils: Quantity: One per flower. Pistil length: About 6 mm. Style length: About 5 mm. Style color: 150A. Stigma shape: Oval. Stigma color: 149A. Ovary color: 154A.

Seed/fruit.—Seed and fruit development have not been observed on plants of the *Calibrachoa*.

Garden performance: Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* have been observed to have good garden performance and tolerate wind, rain and temperatures ranging from about 1° C. to about 50° C.

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

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Calibrachoa* plant named 'KLECA06121' as illustrated and described.

