



US00PP19880P2

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

(10) **Patent No.:** **US PP19,880 P2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Mar. 31, 2009**

(54) ***NIEREMBERGIA* PLANT NAMED**
‘KLENC07344’

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

(50) Latin Name: *Nierembergia caerulea*
Varietal Denomination: **KLENC07344**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./459**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** **Plt./459**
See application file for complete search history.

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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.

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new cultivar of *Nierembergia* particularly characterized
by blue flowers, a compact growth habit and very early
flowering, is disclosed.

(21) Appl. No.: **12/077,980**

(22) Filed: **Mar. 24, 2008**

1 Drawing Sheet

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Genus and species: *Nierembergia caerulea*.
Variety denomination: ‘KLENC07344’.

BACKGROUND OF THE NEW PLANT

The present invention comprises a new and distinct culti-
var of *Nierembergia*, botanically known as *Nierembergia*
caerulea, and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name
‘KLENC07344’. ‘KLENC07344’ was discovered as a seed-
ling resulting from a cross conducted between May to Sep-
tember 2004 in Stuttgart, Germany between the proprietary
female *Nierembergia* parent, ‘X 008’ (unpatented) and the
proprietary male *Nierembergia* parent, ‘X 010’ (unpatented).
A single plant selection was subsequently chosen for further
evaluation and for asexual propagation.

The new cultivar was created in 2004 in Stuttgart, Ger-
many and has been asexually reproduced repeatedly by veg-
etative cuttings and in-vitro shoot tip culture in Stuttgart,
Germany over a three and one-half-year period (more than
30 generations). ‘KLENC07344’ has been found to retain its
distinctive characteristics through successive asexual propa-
gations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following are the most outstanding and distinguishing
characteristics of this new cultivar when grown under nor-
mal commercial practices in a greenhouse in Stuttgart, Ger-
many.

1. Blue flowers;
2. A compact growth habit; and
3. Very early flowering.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

This new *Nierembergia* plant is illustrated by the accom-
panying photograph which shows the whole plant habit of
the variety, as well as blooms, buds and foliage; the colors
shown are as true as can be reasonably obtained by conven-
tional photographic procedures. The photograph is of a plant
about 5-months old and grown from rooted cuttings in a
11-cm pot under greenhouse (glasshouse) in Stuttgart, Ger-
many under conditions which approximate those generally
used in commercial practice.

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DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW CULTIVAR

The following detailed descriptions set forth the distinc-
tive characteristics of ‘KLENC07344’. The data which
define these characteristics were collected from asexual
reproductions carried out in Stuttgart, Germany. The plant
history was taken on 5-month old plants in 11-cm pots that
were pinched once approximately one week after planting
and grown in a greenhouse in the spring. The color readings
were determined under natural light. Color references are to
the R.H.S. Colour Chart of The Royal Horticultural Society
of London (R.H.S.) (2001).

DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW PLANT

Classification:

Family.—Solanaceae.

Genus and species.—*Nierembergia caerulea*.

Common name.—Nightshade plant, cupflower.

Parentage:

Female parent.—The proprietary *Nierembergia* parent,
‘X 008’ (unpatented).

Male parent.—The proprietary *Nierembergia* parent,
‘X 010’ (unpatented).

Plant:

Growth habit.—Compact.

Height.—6.0 cm.

Spread.—19.0 cm.

Branches:

Length.—10.0 cm.

Diameter.—1.0 cm to 3.0 cm.

Color.—RHS 146B.

Amount of branching (number of lateral branches).—6.

Pubescence.—Absent.

Internode length.—1.0 cm to 1.5 cm.

Leaves:

Arrangement.—Alternate.

Shape.—Lanceolate.

Apex.—Acute.

Base.—Open.

Margin.—Entire.

Length.—0.5 cm to 1.0 cm.

Width.—0.2 cm.

Color (for both immature and mature leaves).—Upper surface: RHS 146A. Lower surface: RHS 146B.

Pubescence.—Absent.

Petiole.—Absent.

Petals:

Quantity.—5.

Shape.—V-shaped.

Apex.—Obtuse.

Base.—Broad.

Margin.—Entire.

Color.—Upper surface: RHS 86B. Lower surface: RHS 86D.

Corolla.—Absent.

Reproductive organs:

Pistil quantity.—1.

Stigma color.—RHS 144A.

Stamen, quantity.—Few.

Type.—Epigynocious.

Anther color.—RHS 5A.

Pollen amount.—Abundant.

Pollen color.—RHS 5A.

Fruit and seed set: None observed.

Disease and Insect Resistance: Not observed.

COMPARISON WITH PARENTAL AND COMMERCIAL CULTIVARS

‘KLENC07344’ differs from the female parent, the proprietary *Nierembergia* ‘X 008’ (unpatented) in that ‘KLENC07344’ has a compact growth habit and blue flowers, while ‘X 008’ has a very compact growth habit and light blue flowers.

‘KLENC07344’ differs from the male parent, the proprietary *Nierembergia* ‘X 010’ (unpatented) in that ‘KLENC07344’ has a compact growth habit and very early flowering, while ‘X 010’ has a very upright growth habit and late flowering.

‘KLENC07344’ differs from the commercial comparison variety ‘BeBop Blue’ (unpatented) in that ‘KLENC07344’ has a compact growth habit while ‘BeBop Blue’ has an upright growth habit. Additionally, ‘KLENC07344’ has earlier flowering than ‘BeBop Blue’.

I claim:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Nierembergia* plant as shown and described herein.

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