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

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(54) **BEGONIA PLANT NAMED 'BBMIL'**

(56) **References Cited**

(50) Latin Name: *Begonia*×*hiemalis*
Varietal Denomination: **BBMIL**

PUBLICATIONS

(75) Inventor: **Tobias Gunter Dümmen**, Rheinberg
(DE)

UPOV ROM GTITM, Plant Variety Database Feb. 2008/02,
GTI Jouve Retrieval Software, Citation for *Begonia* 'Bbmil'
one page.*

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Rijsenhout (NL)

* cited by examiner

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
patent is extended or adjusted under 35
U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

(22) Filed: **Dec. 20, 2007**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Begonia* plant named 'Bbmil',
characterized by its compact, upright and mounded plant
habit; freely branching habit; numerous double flowers that
are bright yellow in color and held above the foliage; and
good postproduction longevity.

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

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./346**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** Plt./346
See application file for complete search history.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical designation: *Begonia*×*hiemalis*.
Cultivar denomination: 'BBMIL'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of *Begonia* plant, botanically known as *Begonia*×*hiemalis*,
commercially known as *Elatior Begonia*, and hereinafter
referred to by the name 'Bbmil'.

The new *Begonia* is a naturally-occurring whole plant
mutation of the *Begonia*×*hiemalis* cultivar Bbnes, disclosed
in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 15,789. The new *Begonia* was discov-
ered and selected by the Inventor from within a population of
plants of the cultivar Bbnes in a controlled greenhouse envi-
ronment in Rijsenhout, The Netherlands during the summer
of 2005.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Begonia* by cuttings in a
controlled environment in Rijsenhout, the Netherlands since
the summer of 2005, has shown that the unique features of
this new *Begonia* are stable and reproduced true to type in
successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The cultivar Bbmil has not been observed under all pos-
sible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary
somewhat with variations in environment such as
temperature, daylength 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 'Bbmil'.
These characteristics in combination distinguish 'Bbmil' as
a new and distinct cultivar of *Begonia*:

1. Compact, upright and mounded plant habit.
2. Freely branching habit.

3. Numerous double flowers that are bright yellow in color
and held above the foliage.
4. Good postproduction longevity.

Plants of the new *Begonia* differ primarily from plants of
the parent, the cultivar Bbnes, in flower form as plants of the
cultivar Bbnes have fewer tepals per flower. In addition,
plants of the new *Begonia* and the cultivar Bbnes differ in
leaf shape.

Plants of the new *Begonia* can also be compared to plants
of the cultivar Nadine, (U.S. Plant patent application Publi-
cation 2003/6093846 P1). In side-by-side comparisons con-
ducted in Rijsenhout, The Netherlands, plants of the new
Begonia differed from plants of the cultivar Nadine in the
following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Begonia* are more compact than plants
of the cultivar Nadine.
2. Plants of the new *Begonia* have smaller leaves than
plants of the cultivar Nadine.
3. Plants of the new *Begonia* and the cultivar Nadine dif-
fered in flower color as plants of the cultivar Nadine
had yellow orange-colored flowers.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying colored photograph illustrates the
overall appearance of the new *Begonia* showing the colors as
true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored repro-
ductions 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
Begonia. The photograph comprises a side perspective view
of a typical flowering plant of 'Bbmil' grown in a container.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

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. Plants used for the aforementioned photograph and following observations and measurements were grown in Rijsenhout, The Netherlands in 13-cm containers and under commercial practice in a glass-covered greenhouse during the spring and summer. During the production of the plants, day and night temperatures ranged from 15° C. to 20° C. and light levels were about 18,000 lux. Plants used for the photograph and the description were about three months from planting.

Botanical classification: *Begoniaxhiemalis* cultivar Bbmil.

Commercial classification: Elatior *Begonia*.

Parentage: Naturally-occurring whole plant mutation of the *Begoniaxhiemalis* cultivar Bbnes, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 15,789.

Propagation:

Type.—By terminal vegetative cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—About two weeks at temperatures of about 20° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant.—About three to five weeks at temperatures of about 20° C.

Root description.—Fine, fibrous; plants of the new *Begonia* have not been observed to form tubers.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching.

Plant description:

Plant form.—Compact, upright and mounded plant habit, inverted triangle; freely branching with good stem and stem base strength. Flowers are double and abundant. Moderate growth rate.

Plant height.—About 20 cm to 25 cm.

Plant width.—About 25 cm to 30 cm.

Basal branch description.—Quantity: Freely basal branching with about five to six basal branches developing per plant. Length: About 9 cm to 13 cm. Diameter: About 1 cm to 3 cm. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: 138B.

Leaf description.—Arrangement: Simple, alternate. Length: About 8 cm to 9 cm. Width: About 5 cm to 6 cm. Shape: Palmately lobed. Apex: Acute. Base: Cordate to oblique. Margin: Serrate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth; glabrous; velvety. Venation pattern: Palmate. Color: Developing and fully expanded leaves, upper surface: 135A; venation, 131C. Developing and fully expanded leaves, lower surface: 139A; venation, 131C, Petiole length: About 4 cm to 6 cm. Petiole diameter: About 4 mm. Petiole texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Petiole color, upper and lower surfaces: 131C.

Flower description:

Flowering habit.—Double flowers with numerous tepals arranged in axillary cymes. Usually five to six open flowers per cyme. Many cymes in flower simultaneously. Flowers positioned upright and outwardly above the foliage. Flowers not fragrant.

Natural flowering season.—Plants will flower continuously year round in the greenhouse, however plants flower earlier and more abundantly during the summer in The Netherlands. Good postproduction longevity, flowers last about four weeks on the plant. Flowers persistent.

Cyme height.—About 6 cm to 8 cm.

Cyme diameter.—About 6 cm to 7 cm.

Flowers.—Shape: Oval; rose-like. Diameter: About 4 cm to 5 cm. Depth (height): About 1 cm.

Flower buds.—Shape: Ovoid. Length: About 1 cm to 1.5 cm. Diameter: About 2 cm. Color: Close to 12A.

Tepals.—Arrangement: Rosette. Quantity per flower: Usually about 10 to 15 per flower. Length: About 2 cm to 3 cm. Width: About 3 cm to 4 cm. Shape: Obovate to rounded. Apex: Rounded, obtuse. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; satiny. Color: When opening, upper and lower surfaces: 12A. Fully opened, upper and lower surfaces: 12A.

Flower bracts.—Quantity/arrangement: Two, opposite. Shape: Broadly ovate. Apex: Obtuse. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Glabrous, smooth. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 144B overlain with close to 183A.

Peduncles.—Angle: Erect to about 30° to 45° from vertical. Length: About 4 cm to 5 cm. Diameter: About 3 mm to 4 mm. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: 144B.

Pedicels.—Angle: About 30° to 45° from the peduncle. Length: About 2 cm to 3 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm to 3 mm. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: Close to 144B overlain with close to 183A.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: None observed. Pistils: None observed.

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

Disease/pest resistance: Resistance to pathogens and pests common to *Begonia* has not been observed.

Temperature tolerance: Plants of the new *Begonia* have been observed to tolerate temperatures from about 10° C. to about 35° C.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Begonia* plant named 'Bbmil' as illustrated and described.

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