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**Kubota**

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(54) **NEMESIA PLANT NAMED ‘GG BLUE’**

(50) Latin Name: *Nemesia hybrida*  
Varietal Denomination: **GG Blue**

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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.

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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Nemesia* plant named ‘GG Blue’, characterized by its compact, upright and mounded growth habit; freely branching habit; freely flowering habit; long flowering period; violet-colored flowers; and good garden performance.

**1 Drawing Sheet**

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Botanical designation: *Nemesia hybrida*.  
Cultivar denomination: ‘GG Blue’.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of *Nemesia*, botanically known as *Nemesia hybrida* and hereinafter referred to by the name ‘GG Blue’.

The new *Nemesia* plant is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Hiratuka, Kanagawa, Japan. The objective of the breeding program is to create new compact, mounding and freely-branching *Nemesia* cultivars with attractive flower coloration.

The new *Nemesia* plant originated from a cross-pollination made by the Inventor in November, 2005 in Hiratuka, Kanagawa, Japan of *Nemesia hybrida* ‘Blue Bird’, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with a proprietary selection of *Nemesia hybrida* identified as code number TNB-1, not patented, as the male, or pollen, parent. The new *Nemesia* was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a single flowering plant within the progeny of the stated cross-pollination in a controlled greenhouse environment in Hiratuka, Kanagawa, Japan in April, 2006.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Nemesia* plant by vegetative cuttings in a controlled environment in Hiratuka, Kanagawa, Japan since May, 2006, has shown that the unique features of this new *Nemesia* are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

Plants of the new *Nemesia* have 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 ‘GG Blue’. These characteristics in combination distinguish ‘GG Blue’ as a new and distinct cultivar of *Nemesia*:

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

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3. Freely flowering habit.
4. Long flowering period.
5. Violet-colored flowers.
6. Good garden performance.

Plants of the new *Nemesia* can be compared to plants of the female parent, ‘Blue Bird’. Plants of the new *Nemesia* differ from plants of ‘Blue Bird’ in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Nemesia* are more compact and mounding than plants of ‘Blue Bird’.
2. Plants of the new *Nemesia* are more freely branching than plants of ‘Blue Bird’.

Plants of the new *Nemesia* can be compared to plants of the male parent selection. Plants of the new *Nemesia* differ from plants of the male parent selection primarily in flower color as plants of the new *Nemesia* have darker violet-colored flowers than plants of the male parent selection.

Plants of the new *Nemesia* can also be compared to plants of ‘Hubbird’, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 12,014. In side-by-side comparisons conducted by the Inventor in Hiratuka, Kanagawa, Japan, plants of the new *Nemesia* differed from plants of ‘Hubbird’ in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Nemesia* were more compact and mounding than plants of ‘Hubbird’.
2. Plants of the new *Nemesia* were more freely branching than plants of ‘Hubbird’.
3. Plants of the new *Nemesia* had smaller leaves than plants of ‘Hubbird’.
4. Plants of the new *Nemesia* were more freely flowering than plants of ‘Hubbird’.
5. Plants of the new *Nemesia* had darker violet-colored flowers than plants of ‘Hubbird’.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS**

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

The photograph at the top of the sheet comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'GG Blue' grown in a container.

The photograph at the bottom of the sheet is a close-up view of typical flowers of 'GG Blue'.

#### DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photographs and following observations, measurements and values describe plants grown in Hiratuka, Kanagawa, Japan, under commercial practice during the winter and early spring in a glass-covered greenhouse with day temperatures ranging from 12° C. to 20° C. and night temperatures ranging from 5° C. to 8° C. Plants had been growing for four months when the photographs 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: *Nemesia hybrida* 'GG Blue'.

Parentage:

*Female, or seed, parent.*—*Nemesia hybrida* 'Blue Bird', not patented.

*Male, or pollen, parent.*—Proprietary selection of *Nemesia hybrida* identified as code number TNB-1, not patented.

Propagation:

*Type.*—By vegetative cuttings.

*Time to initiate roots.*—About one week at temperatures of 20° C. to 25° C.

*Time to produce a rooted young plant.*—About 20 days at temperatures of 15° C. to 20° C.

*Root description.*—Fibrous; white in color.

*Rooting habit.*—Freely branching; moderately dense.

Plant description:

*Plant and growth habit.*—Compact, upright and mounded growth habit. Freely branching with two lateral branches potentially forming at every node. Vigorous growth habit.

*Plant height.*—About 15 cm.

*Plant diameter.*—About 24.8 cm.

Lateral branch description:

*Length.*—About 7 cm.

*Diameter.*—About 1.1 mm.

*Internode length.*—About 1.3 cm.

*Strength.*—Strong; flexible.

*Aspect.*—Upright to somewhat outwardly spreading.

*Texture.*—Smooth, glabrous.

*Color.*—Close to 144A.

Foliage description:

*Arrangement.*—Opposite, simple.

*Length.*—About 1.4 cm.

*Width.*—About 8 mm.

*Shape.*—Lanceolate.

*Apex.*—Acute.

*Base.*—Obtuse.

*Margin.*—Serrate.

*Texture, upper and lower surfaces.*—Pubescent.

*Venation pattern.*—Pinnate, reticulate.

*Color.*—Developing and fully expanded leaves, upper surface: Close to 137C; venation, close to 144D.

Developing and fully expanded leaves, lower surface: Close to 146B; venation, close to 144D.

*Petioles.*—Length: About 1 mm. Diameter: About 1.7 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 145B.

Flower description:

*Flower arrangement and habit.*—Bilabiate solitary flowers arranged on terminal racemes; flowering acropetally towards the apex; flowers facing upright to outwardly. Freely flowering habit with about eight flowers per raceme and about 36 racemes per plant.

*Fragrance.*—None detected.

*Natural flowering season.*—In Japan, plants flower from late summer to early autumn; flowering continuous during this period. Flowers begin flowering about three months after planting.

*Flower longevity.*—Flowers last about five to seven days on the plant; flowers not persistent.

*Inflorescence height.*—About 7.6 cm.

*Inflorescence diameter.*—About 3.3 cm.

*Flower diameter.*—About 1.3 cm by 1.8 cm.

*Flower depth.*—About 1.3 cm.

*Tube length.*—About 2 mm.

*Tube diameter.*—About 2 mm.

*Flower buds.*—Shape: Obovate. Length: About 6.6 mm. Diameter: About 4.2 mm. Color: Close to N82B.

*Petals.*—Arrangement: Five modified petals; four upper petals fused forming an upright lobed and arched banner lip; lower petal modified into a larger lip with convex oval protuberance serving as a nectar guide and insect landing platform. Shape, upper lip: Elliptic. Shape, lower lip: Cordate. Apex, upper lip: Rounded. Apex, lower lip: Cordate. Margin, upper lip: Entire. Margin, lower lip: Entire; slightly undulate. Length, upper lip: About 9.8 mm. Length, lower lip: About 9.6 mm. Width, upper lip: About 3 mm to 5 mm. Width, lower lip: About 1.1 cm. Texture, upper and lower lips, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, upper lip: When opening, upper surface: Close to N87A; towards the throat, close to 91B. When opening, lower surface: Close to 85A. Fully opened, upper surface: Close to N88C; towards the throat, close to 91B. Fully opened, lower surface: Close to 85B. Color, lower lip: When opening, upper surface: Close to N87A; nectar guide, close to 155B. When opening, lower surface: Close to 85A. Fully opened, upper surface: Close to N88C; nectar guide, close to 155B. Fully opened, lower surface: Close to 91B. Color, throat and tube: Close to 145B.

*Spur.*—Length: About 4 mm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Color: Close to 157B.

*Sepals.*—Arrangement: Calyx star-shaped with five sepals fused at the base. Shape: Lanceolate. Apex: Acute. Margin: Entire. Length: About 2.5 mm. Width: About 1.3 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 138A.

*Peduncles.*—Length: About 2.2 cm. Diameter: About 1.1 mm. Strength: Moderately strong; flexible. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: Close to 144A.

*Pedicels.*—Length: About 9 mm. Diameter: About 0.5 mm. Strength: Moderately strong; flexible. Texture: Pubescent. Color: Close to 144A.

*Reproductive organs.*—Stamens: Quantity/arrangement: Four per flower. Stamen length: About 1.5 mm to 2.5 mm. Anther shape: Narrowly elliptic. Anther size: About 0.9 mm by 0.4 mm. Anther color: Close to 5C. Pollen amount: Moderate. Pollen color: Close to 5B. Pistils: Quantity: One per flower. Pistil length: About 2.5 mm. Style color: Close to 149D. Stigma shape: Ovate. Stigma color: Close to 149D. Ovary color: Close to 144A. Seed/fruit: Seed and fruit development have not been observed on plants of the new *Nemesia*.

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

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

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Nemesia* plant named 'GG Blue' as illustrated and described.

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