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Jacobs

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(54) **ALSTROEMERIA PLANT NAMED**
'ZALSACHIC'

(50) Latin Name: *Alstroemeria hybrida*
Varietal Denomination: **Zalsachic**

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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 389 days.

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(58) **Field of Classification Search** **Plt./309**
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Alstroemeria* plant named
'Zalsachic', characterized by its erect and strong flowering
stems; vigorous growth habit; intense red-colored flowers;
and excellent postproduction longevity.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical designation: *Alstroemeria hybrida*.
Cultivar denomination: 'Zalsachic'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of *Alstroemeria* plant, botanically known as *Alstroemeria*
hybrida, commercially used as a cut flower *Alstroemeria*, and
hereinafter referred to by the name 'Zalsachic'.

The new *Alstroemeria* is a product of a planned breeding
program conducted by the Inventor in Hillegom, The Neth-
erlands. The objective of the breeding program is to create
new cut flower *Alstroemeria* cultivars with desirable flower
and plant qualities, attractive foliage and flower coloration
and excellent postproduction longevity.

The new *Alstroemeria* originated from a cross-pollination
made by the Inventor in Hillegom, The Netherlands in May,
2000, of a proprietary *Alstroemeria hybrida* selection identi-
fied as code number 98426-2, not patented, as the female, or
seed, parent with a proprietary *Alstroemeria hybrida* selec-
tion identified as code number 98557-3, not patented, as the
male, or pollen, parent. The cultivar Zalsachic was discovered
and selected by the Inventor as a flowering plant from within
the progeny of the stated cross-pollination in a controlled
environment in Hillegom, The Netherlands in June, 2001.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Alstroemeria* by root divi-
sions in a controlled environment in Hillegom, The Nether-
lands since September, 2001, has shown that the unique fea-
tures of this new *Alstroemeria* are stable and reproduced true
to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The cultivar Zalsachic has not been observed under all
possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary
somewhat with variations in environment and cultural prac-
tices such as temperature and light intensity without, how-
ever, any variance in genotype.

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

1. Erect and strong flowering stems.
2. Vigorous growth habit.

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3. Intense red-colored flowers.

4. Excellent postproduction longevity.

Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* can be compared to plants
of the parent selections. Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* differ
from plants of the parent selections primarily in flower color
and stem length.

Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* can be compared to plants
of the *Alstroemeria hybrida* cultivar Zalsacrea, disclosed in
U.S. Plant Pat. No. 16,041. In side-by-side comparisons con-
ducted in Hillegom, The Netherlands, plants of the new
Alstroemeria differed from plants of the cultivar Zalsacrea
primarily in flower color as plants of the cultivar Zalsacrea
had a yellow-colored band on the inner lateral segments.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying colored photograph illustrates the over-
all appearance of the new *Alstroemeria*, showing the colors as
true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored reproduc-
tions of this type. Colors in the photograph may differ slightly
from the color values cited in the detailed botanical descrip-
tion which accurately describe the colors of the new *Alstro-*
emeria. The photograph comprises a side perspective view of
a typical flowering stem of 'Zalsachic'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photograph and following observa-
tions and measurements describe plants of the new *Alstro-*
emeria grown in Rijnsenhout, The Netherlands in a glass-
covered greenhouse in ground beds. During the production of
the plants, day temperatures ranged from 15° C. to 20° C.,
night temperatures ranged from 10° C. to 15° C. and light
levels averaged 5,000 lux. Plants used for the photograph and
description were about one year-old. The photograph and the
description were taken in the spring. 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: *Alstroemeria hybrida* cultivar Zalsa-
chic.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary *Alstroemeria hybrida* selection identified as code number 98426-2, not patented.

Male or pollen parent.—Proprietary *Alstroemeria hybrida* selection identified as code number 98557-3, not patented. 5

Propagation:

Type.—By root divisions.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, summer.—About 40 days. 10

Time to produce a rooted young plant, winter.—About 60 days.

Root description.—Fibrous, fleshy, thick; close to 155D, in color. 15

Rooting habit.—Freely branching; moderately dense.

Rhizomes.—Shape: Elongate; rounded. Length: About 10 cm to 30 cm. Diameter: About 3 cm to 10 cm.

Texture: Smooth. Color: Close to 155D.

Plant description: 20

Plant habit.—Upright; freely branching, bushy appearance. Vigorous growth habit.

Time from planting to harvest of cut flowers.—About 80 to 90 days.

Number of flowering stems produced per year.—About 200 to 240. 25

Plant height.—About 100 cm to 140 cm.

Plant diameter (spread).—About 25 cm to 30 cm.

Flowering stem description:

Aspect.—Erect. 30

Length.—About 1.25 meters.

Diameter.—About 6 mm to 12 mm.

Internode length.—About 2.5 cm to 5 cm.

Strength.—Strong.

Texture.—Glabrous. 35

Color.—Close to 146A.

Foliage description:

Appearance.—Leaves asymmetrical; sessile.

Length.—About 15.5 cm to 22 cm.

Width.—About 2.8 cm to 4.6 cm. 40

Shape.—Lanceolate.

Apex.—Acute.

Base.—Attenuate.

Margin.—Entire; slightly undulate.

Texture, upper and lower surfaces.—Smooth, glabrous. 45

Venation pattern.—Parallel.

Color.—Developing and fully developed foliage, upper surface: Close to 147A; venation, similar to lamina. Developing and fully developed foliage, lower surface: Close to 147B; venation, similar to lamina. 50

Flower description:

Flower type and habit.—Single cup-shaped flowers arranged in compound umbels. Flowers face mostly outwardly. Perianth segments separate. Freely and continuously flowering. Flowers not persistent. 55

Natural flowering season.—Flowering continuous during the spring in The Netherlands.

Fragrance.—None detected.

Flower longevity on the plant.—About four weeks.

Flower longevity as a cut flower.—About 12 to 16 days. 60

Flower buds (showing color).—Length: About 4 cm to 4.5 cm. Diameter: About 1.5 cm to 2 cm. Shape: Roughly ovoid. Color: Close to 60A.

Umbel height.—About 15 cm to 18 cm.

Umbel diameter.—About 17 cm to 20 cm.

Number of flowers per umbel.—About 15 to 40.

Flower diameter.—About 5 cm to 6 cm.

Flower length (height).—About 5.5 cm to 6.5 cm.

Flower depth.—About 5 cm to 6 cm.

Perianth.—Arrangement: Six arranged in two whorls, each whorl with two lateral and one median segments.

Size, outer perianth: Length, lateral segments: About

5.4 cm to 5.8 cm. Width, lateral segments: About 2.9

cm to 3.3 cm. Length, median segment: About 5.5 cm

to 6.5 cm. Width, median segment: About 3 cm to 3.5

cm. Size, inner perianth: Length, lateral segments:

About 6.5 cm to 7 cm. Width, lateral segments: About

1.2 cm to 1.7 cm. Length, median segment: About 5

cm to 5.5 cm. Width, median segment: About 1.5 cm

to 2 cm. Shape, outer perianth, lateral and median

segments: Oblanceolate. Apex, outer perianth, lateral

and median segments: Embedded pointed. Apex, inner perianth, lateral and median seg-

ments: Acute. Base, outer and inner perianths, lateral

and median segments: Attenuate. Margin, outer and

inner perianths, lateral and median segments: Entire;

weakly undulate. Texture, outer and inner perianths,

lateral and median segments: Smooth, glabrous.

Color, outer perianth: When opening and fully

opened, lateral and median segments, upper surface:

Close to 45B; apex, greenish overtones. When open-

ing and fully opened, lateral and median segments,

lower surface: Close to 45B; apex and venation,

greenish overtones. Color, inner perianth: When

opening and fully opened, lateral and median seg-

ments, upper surface: Close to 45B; stripes, close to

59A. When opening and fully opened, lateral and

median segments, lower surface: Close to 45B.

Peduncles.—Length: About 7 cm to 15 cm. Diameter:

About 2 mm to 3 mm. Strength: Strong. Angle: Erect

to about 20° C. from vertical. Texture: Smooth, gla-

brous. Color: Close to 146A.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: Quantity per flower:

Six. Filament length: About 4.1 cm. Filament color:

Close to 47A. Anther shape: Elliptical. Anther length:

About 8 mm. Anther diameter: About 3 mm. Anther

color: Close to 183A. Pollen amount: Abundant. Pol-

len color: Close to 202B. Pistils: Quantity per flower:

One. Style length: About 4 cm to 4.5 cm. Style color:

Close to 47A. Stigma color: Close to 47A. Ovary

color: Close to 146A.

Fruit/seed.—Fruit and seed development has not been

observed.

Disease/pest resistance: Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* have

not been observed to be resistant to pathogens and pests

common to *Alstroemeria*.

Temperature tolerance: Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* have

been observed to tolerate temperatures from about -5° C.

to about 40° C.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Alstroemeria* plant named 'Zalsachic'

as illustrated and described.

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