US00PP21039P2

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

(10) **Patent No.: US PP21,039 P2**
(45) **Date of Patent: Jun. 1, 2010**

(54) ***PELARGONIUM* PLANT NAMED 'DUEVIPICH'**

(50) Latin Name: ***Pelargonium zonale***
Varietal Denomination: **Duevipich**

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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.

(21) Appl. No.: **12/319,339**

(22) Filed: **Jan. 6, 2009**

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

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./329**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** Plt./329, Plt./325
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

UPOV-ROM PBR 20071433, published Aug. 15, 2007.*

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of Zonal *Geranium* plant named 'Duevipich', characterized by its upright to outwardly spreading plant habit; freely basal branching habit; dark green-colored leaves; freely flowering habit; semi-double purple-colored flowers; and good garden performance.

1 Drawing Sheet

Botanical designation: *Pelargonium zonale.*
Cultivar denomination: 'DUEVIPICH'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of Zonal *Geranium* plant, botanically known as *Pelargonium zonale*, and hereinafter referred to by the name 'Duevipich'.

The new Zonal *Geranium* plant is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Rheinberg, Germany. The objective of the breeding program is to create new compact Zonal *Geranium* plants with dark green-colored leaves and attractive flowers.

The new Zonal *Geranium* plant originated from a cross-pollination made by the Inventor in August, 2005 in Rheinberg, Germany of a proprietary selection of *Pelargonium zonale* identified as code number F-03-01, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with a proprietary selection of *Pelargonium zonale* identified as code number F-12-01, not patented, as the male, or pollen, parent. The new Zonal *Geranium* plant was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a single flowering plant from within the progeny of the stated cross-pollination in a controlled greenhouse environment in Rheinberg, Germany in May, 2007.

Asexual reproduction of the new Zonal *Geranium* plant by vegetative terminal cuttings in a controlled greenhouse environment in Rheinberg, Germany since May, 2007, has shown that the unique features of this new Zonal *Geranium* plant are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Plants of the new Zonal *Geranium* 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 'Duevipich'. These characteristics in combination distinguish 'Duevipich' as a new and distinct cultivar of Zonal *Geranium:*

1. Upright to outwardly spreading plant habit.
2. Freely basal branching habit.
3. Dark green-colored leaves.
4. Freely flowering habit.
5. Semi-double purple-colored flowers.
6. Good garden performance.

Plants of the new Zonal *Geranium* differ primarily from plants of the female parent selection in flower size as plants of the new Zonal *Geranium* have smaller flowers than plants of the female parent selection. In addition, plants of the new Zonal *Geranium* and the female parent selection differ in flower color.

Plants of the new Zonal *Geranium* differ primarily from plants of the male parent selection in plant habit as plants of the new Zonal *Geranium* are more compact than plants of the male parent selection. In addition, plants of the new Zonal *Geranium* and the male parent selection differ in flower color.

Plants of the new Zonal *Geranium* can be compared to plants of *Pelargonium zonale* 'Caroline', not patented. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Rheinberg, Germany, plants of the new Zonal *Geranium* differed primarily from plants of 'Caroline' in flower size as plants of the new Zonal *Geranium* had smaller flowers than plants of 'Caroline' . In addition, plants of the new Zonal *Geranium* had larger leaves than plants of 'Caroline'.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying colored photograph illustrates the overall appearance of the new Zonal *Geranium* plant, 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 Zonal *Geranium* plant.

The photograph comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'Duevipich' grown in a 10.5-cm container.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photograph and following observations and measurements describe plants grown in Rheinberg, Germany in a glass-covered greenhouse during the summer and under conditions which closely approximate commercial production. During the production of the plants, day and night temperatures averaged 18° C. and light levels averaged 4,500 lux. Plants were pinched one time three weeks after planting. Plants had been growing for two months when the photograph and the description were taken. In the detailed 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: *Pelargonium zonale* 'Duevipich'.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Pelargonium zonale* identified as code number F-03-01, not patented.

Male or pollen parent.—Proprietary selection of *Pelargonium zonale* identified as code number F-12-01, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—By vegetative terminal cuttings.

Time to initiate roots, summer.—About five days at temperatures of 20° C.

Time to initiate roots, winter.—About seven days at temperatures of 20° C.

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

Plant description:

General appearance.—Upright to outwardly spreading plant habit; uniformly rounded; densely foliated.

Growth and branching habit.—Moderately vigorous growth habit; freely basal branching habit with about three basal branches developing per plant.

Plant height.—About 22 cm.

Plant width.—About 23 cm.

Lateral branches.—Length: About 6 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Internode length: About 3 cm. Texture: Slightly pubescent. Strength: Strong. Color: Close to 144A.

Foliage description:

Arrangement.—Alternate; simple.

Length.—About 9.3 cm.

Width.—About 11.2 cm.

Shape.—Reniform.

Apex.—Acute.

Base.—Cordate.

Margin.—Crenate.

Venation pattern.—Palmate.

Texture, upper and lower surfaces.—Pubescent.

Color.—Developing and fully expanded leaves, upper surface: Close to 137B; venation, close to 144A. Developing and fully expanded leaves, lower surface: Close to 138B; venation, close to 144A. Zonation pattern: Faint, close to 147A in color.

Petiole.—Length: About 12 cm. Diameter: About 3 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 144A.

Flower description:

Flower arrangement.—Semi-double rotate flowers arranged in rounded hemispherical umbels arising from apical leaf axils. Umbels displayed above the foliage on moderately strong peduncles. Flowers face upright to outward.

Fragrance.—Not detected.

Quantity of flowers.—Freely flowering habit; about 20 flowers per umbel.

Flowering season.—Year-round under greenhouse conditions. In outdoor nurseries and gardens in Germany flowering is continuous from spring throughout the summer.

Flower longevity.—Individual flowers last about five to seven days on the plant; flowers persistent.

Umbel height.—About 7 cm.

Umbel diameter.—About 12 cm.

Flower diameter.—About 4.5 cm.

Flower depth (*height*).—About 2 cm.

Flower buds.—Length: About 1.6 cm. Diameter: About 8.3 mm. Shape: Ovoid. Color: Close to 67A.

Petals.—Quantity per flower: About five or six. Length: About 3.1 cm. Width: About 2.8 cm. Shape: Obovate. Apex: Rounded. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Sinuate. Aspect: Mostly flat. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color: When opening, upper surface: Close to 74A. When opening, lower surface: Close to 74D. Fully opened, upper surface: Close to 74A to 74B; towards the base, close to 155D; venation, close to 74A to 74B; color becoming closer to 74B with development. Fully opened, lower surface: close to 74D; venation, close to 74D.

Petaloids.—Quantity per flower: About three. Length: About 2.4 cm. Width: About 1.9 cm. Shape: Obovate. Apex: Rounded. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Sinuate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color: When opening, upper surface: Close to 74A. When opening, lower surface: Close to 74D. Fully opened, upper surface: Close to 74A to 74B; towards the base, close to 155D; venation, close to 74A to 74B; color becoming closer to 74B with development. Fully opened, lower surface: close to 74D; venation close to 74D.

Sepals.—Quantity per flower: Five, arranged in a single whorl. Length: About 1.4 cm. Width: About 4 mm. Shape: Lanceolate. Apex: Apiculate. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 144A.

Peduncle (*umbel stem*).—Length: About 21 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm to 4 mm. Strength: Moderately strong. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: Close to 144A.

Pedicel (*individual flower stem*).—Length: About 3.6 cm. Diameter: About 1 mm to 2 mm. Strength: Moderately strong. Texture: Pubescent. Color: Close to 59B.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Stamen quantity per flower: About ten. Anther length: About 2 mm. Anther shape: Oval. Anther color: Close to 35A. Pol-

len amount: Moderate. Pollen color: Close to 28A. Gynoecium: Pistil quantity per flower: One. Pistil length: About 9 mm. Stigma shape: Parted. Stigma color: Close to 61B. Style length: About 2 mm. Style color: Close to 61B.

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

Disease/pest resistance: Plants of the new Zonal *Geranium* have not been observed to be resistant to pathogens and pests common to Zonal *Geraniums*.

Garden performance: Plants of the new Zonal *Geranium* have been observed to tolerate rain, wind, and temperatures ranging from about 5° C. to about 40° C. and have demonstrated good garden performance.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct Zonal *Geranium* plant named 'Duevipich' as illustrated and described.

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