



US00PP21042P2

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

(10) **Patent No.:** **US PP21,042 P2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Jun. 1, 2010**

(54) **GYP SOPHILA PLANT NAMED ‘ESM RENA’**

(50) Latin Name: *Gypsophila hybrida*
Varietal Denomination: **Esm Rena**

(75) Inventor: **Aloysius A. J. Hooijman**, Aalsmeer
(NL)

(73) Assignee: **Esmeralda Breeding B.V.**, Halsmeer
(NL)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
patent is extended or adjusted under 35
U.S.C. 154(b) by 393 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **11/903,792**

(22) Filed: **Sep. 25, 2007**

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

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./354**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** Plt./354
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Upov Plant Variety Database 2009/05 search for cultivar Esm Renap.
1.*

* cited by examiner

Primary Examiner—Annette H Para

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—C. A. Whealy

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Gypsophila* plant named ‘Esm
Rena’, characterized by its erect and strong flowering stems;
early, uniform and freely flowering habit; large luminous
white-colored flowers with numerous petals and petaloids;
and good postproduction longevity.

2 Drawing Sheets

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Botanical designation: *Gypsophila hybrida*.
Cultivar denomination: ‘ESM RENA’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of *Gypsophila* plant, botanically known as *Gypsophila*
hybrida, grown commercially as a cut flower, and hereinafter
referred to by the name ‘Esm Rena’.

The new *Gypsophila* is a product of a planned breeding
program conducted by the Inventor in El Quinche, Pichincha,
Ecuador. The objective of the breeding program is to create
new freely flowering *Gypsophila* cultivars with many petals
per flower and straight stems.

The new *Gypsophila* originated from a cross-pollination
made by the Inventor in El Quinche, Pichincha, Ecuador in
August, 2003 of a proprietary selection of *Gypsophila*
hybrida identified as Line 148, not patented, as the female, or
seed, parent with a proprietary selection of *Gypsophila*
hybrida identified as Line 31, not patented, as the male, or
pollen, parent. The cultivar Esm Rena was discovered and
selected by the Inventor as a flowering plant from within the
progeny of the stated cross-pollination in a controlled envi-
ronment in El Quinche, Pichincha, Ecuador.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Gypsophila* by cuttings in
a controlled environment in El Quinche, Pichincha, Ecuador
since June, 2004, has shown that the unique features of this
new *Gypsophila* are stable and reproduced true to type in
successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The cultivar Esm Rena has not been observed under all
possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary
somewhat with variations in environment such as tempera-
ture, daylength and light intensity, without, however, any
variance in genotype.

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The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are
determined to be the unique characteristics of ‘Esm Rena’.
These characteristics in combination distinguish ‘Esm Rena’
as a new and distinct cultivar of *Gypsophila*:

- 5 1. Erect and strong flowering stems.
2. Early, uniform and freely flowering habit.
3. Large luminous white-colored flowers with numerous
petals and petaloids.
4. Good postproduction longevity.

10 In side-by-side comparisons conducted in El Quinche,
Pichincha, Ecuador, plants of the new *Gypsophila* differed
from plants of the female parent selection in the following
characteristics:

- 15 1. Plants of the new *Gypsophila* had stronger flowering
stems than plants of the female parent selection.
2. Plants of the new *Gypsophila* had larger flowers than
plants of the female parent selection.

20 In side-by-side comparisons conducted in El Quinche,
Pichincha, Ecuador, plants of the new *Gypsophila* differed
from plants of the male parent selection in the following
characteristics:

- 25 1. Plants of the new *Gypsophila* were taller than plants of
the male parent selection.
2. Plants of the new *Gypsophila* were more freely flowering
than plants of the male parent selection.
3. Plants of the new *Gypsophila* had stronger peduncles
than plants of the male parent selection.

Plants of the new *Gypsophila* can also be compared to
30 plants of the *Gypsophila* cultivar Dangypflash, disclosed in
U.S. Plant Pat. No. 12,422. In side-by-side comparisons con-
ducted in El Quinche, Pichincha, Ecuador, plants of the new
Gypsophila differed from plants of the cultivar Dangypflash
in the following characteristics:

- 35 1. Plants of the new *Gypsophila* were taller and more
narrow than plants of the cultivar Dangypflash.
2. Plants of the new *Gypsophila* had shorter internodes than
plants of the cultivar Dangypflash.

3. Plants of the new *Gypsophila* had shorter leaves than plants of the cultivar Dangypflash.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying photographs illustrate the overall appearance of the new *Gypsophila*. These photographs show 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 *Gypsophila*.

The photograph on the first sheet comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering stem of 'Esm Rena'.

The photograph on the second sheet is a close-up view of typical flowers of 'Esm Rena'.

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. The following observations and measurements describe plants grown in El Quinche, Pichincha, Ecuador during the winter in ground beds in an outdoor nursery and under conditions and practices which approximate those generally used in commercial cut *Gypsophila* production. During the production of the plants, day temperatures ranged from 11° C. to 28° C. and night temperatures ranged from 5° C. to 11° C. Plants were pinched one time about five weeks after planting and were grown under long day/short day conditions. Measurements and numerical values represent averages for typical six-month old flowering plants.

Botanical classification: *Gypsophila hybrida* cultivar Esm Rena.

Commercial classification: Cut flower *Gypsophila*.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Gypsophila hybrida* identified as Line 148, not patented.

Male, or pollen, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Gypsophila hybrida* identified as Line 31, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—By cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—About 16 to 21 days at 17° C. to 25° C.

Time to produce a rooted cutting.—About five to six weeks at 17° C. to 25° C.

Root description.—Fine; 162B in color.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching.

Plant description:

Appearance.—Perennial cut flower. Erect and strong flowering stems; inverted triangle form. Freely flowering; large luminous white-colored flowers with numerous petals and petaloids arranged in symmetrical and moderately dense compound cymes. Vigorous growth habit.

Branching habit.—After pinching, about 16 flowering stems develop per year.

Plant height.—About 110 cm.

Plant diameter or spread.—About 75 cm.

Flowering stems.—Length: About 105 cm. Diameter: About 5 mm. Internode length: About 5.8 cm. Strength: Strong. Texture: Glabrescent. Color: 138B.

Foliage description:

Arrangement.—Opposite, decussate, simple; sessile.

Length.—About 5.7 cm.

Width.—About 1.9 cm.

Shape.—Lanceolate to oval.

Apex.—Acute.

Base.—Cuneate.

Margin.—Entire.

Texture, upper and lower surfaces.—Smooth, glabrous; waxy.

Venation pattern.—Parallel.

Color.—Developing foliage, upper and lower surfaces: 147A. Fully expanded foliage, upper surface: Between 147A and 137A; venation, 138A. Fully expanded foliage, lower surface: 137B; venation, 138A.

Flower description:

Flower arrangement and habit.—Symmetrical compound cymes with numerous large luminous white-colored flowers, flowers rotate. Very freely flowering, about 1,600 flowers per inflorescence. Flowers face mostly upright.

Flowering response.—In Ecuador, plants flower year round. Plants begin flowering about 14 weeks after planting.

Post-production longevity.—As a cut flower, flowers last for about eleven days. Flowers persistent.

Fragrance.—Slightly fragrant; pleasant.

Inflorescence height.—About 105 cm.

Inflorescence diameter.—About 50 cm.

Flower diameter.—About 1.1 cm.

Flower depth (height).—About 6 mm.

Flower buds.—Length: About 2 mm. Diameter: About 3 mm. Shape: Nearly globose. Color: 137C and 157B.

Petals/petaloids.—Quantity per flower: About 60 arranged in clusters. Length: About 5 mm. Width: About 2 mm. Shape: Oval to spatulate. Apex: Truncate, emarginate or obtuse. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; waxy. Color: When opening and fully opening, upper surface: Close to N155D; towards the base, close to 144A; color becoming closer to 155A with development. When opening and fully opening, lower surface: Close to N155D.

Sepals.—Quantity per flower: About six fused to form a cup-shaped calyx. Length: About 3.3 mm. Width: About 2.2 mm. Shape: Roughly linear. Apex: Acute. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color: When developing, upper surface: 139A. When developing, lower surface: 147A. Fully developed, upper surface: 137A. Fully developed, lower surface: 146A.

Peduncles.—Length: About 4 cm. Diameter: About 5 mm. Strength: Strong. Angle: About 38° from vertical. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: 146C.

Pedicels.—Length: About 6.3 mm. Diameter: About 0.5 mm. Strength: Strong. Angle: About 50° from vertical. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: 146A.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: Quantity per flower: Eleven. Anther shape: Reniform to globose. Anther length: Less than 1 mm. Anther color: 163C. Pollen amount: Scarce. Pollen color: Close to 163C. Pistils: Quantity per flower: One. Pistil length: About 5 mm. Style length: About 3.6 mm. Style color: Close to

N155D. Stigma shape: Curved apiculate. Stigma color: Close to N155D. Ovary color: 144B; occasionally towards the apex, 165A. Seed/fruit: Seed and fruit production has not been observed.

Disease/pest resistance: Plants of the new *Gypsophila* have not been shown to be resistant to pathogens and pests common to *Gypsophila*.

Temperature tolerance: Plants of the new *Gypsophila* have been observed to tolerate temperatures ranging from about 7° C. to about 30° C.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Gypsophila* plant named ‘Esm Rena’ as illustrated and described.

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