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Ui et al.

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(54) **PETUNIA-CALIBRACHOA PLANT NAMED**
‘SAKPXC006’

(50) Latin Name: *Petunia-Calibrachoa hybrida*
Varietal Denomination: **SAKPXC006**

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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

‘SAKPXC006’ is a new *Petunia-Calibrachoa* hybrid particu-
larly distinguished by having a violet flower color, medium to
large flower size and a semi-creeping growth habit.

1 Drawing Sheet

1

Genus and species: *Petunia-Calibrachoa hybrida*.
Variety denomination: ‘SAKPXC006’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention comprises a new and distinct cultivar
of *Petunia-Calibrachoa* (Petchoa) referred to by the variety
name ‘SAKPXC006’. Variety ‘SAKPXC006’ originated
from a selection of a hybridization in Takegawa, Japan in
May of 2003. The male parent of the hybridization was a
proprietary hybrid *Calibrachoa* line named ‘04-62’, which
had a deep-blue flower color, medium-large flower size and a
creeping plant habit. The female parent of the hybridization
was a proprietary hybrid *Petunia* line named ‘04H-64’, which
had a light purple flower color, medium flower size and
mounding plant habit.

In May 2003, the new *Petunia-Calibrachoa* variety was
developed using an intergeneric cross between *Petunia*
hybrida and a *Calibrachoa hybrida* species. After crossing
the parent lines, 1,530 ovules were removed from flowers on
the female parent and cultured by standard ovule culture
techniques. In December 2003, ten intergeneric hybrid plant-
lets were transplanted to soilless media for greenhouse cul-
ture and acclimatization.

In March 2004, ten plants out of ten hybrid lines were
vegetatively propagated to produce rooted cuttings. In April
2004, the ten plants were transplanted to an open field and
evaluated for flower color and plant growth habit through
July. In July 2004, one plant which had a purple flower color,
medium-large size flowers and a semi-creeping plant habit
was selected and vegetatively propagated. In January 2007, a
naturally-occurring, whole plant mutation line was obtained
from the selected plant, which had a violet flower color. From
January to October 2007, the new plant was propagated and
transplanted. In November 2007, the selection was named
‘SAKPXC006’ and was found to reproduce true to type in
successive generations of asexual propagation.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following are the most outstanding and distinguishing
characteristics of this new cultivar when grown under normal
horticultural practices in Takegawa, Japan.

2

1. Violet flower color;
2. Medium to large flower size; and
3. A semi-creeping plant growth habit.

DESCRIPTION OF PHOTOGRAPHS

This new *Petunia-Calibrachoa* plant is illustrated by the
accompanying photographs which show the plant’s form,
foliage and flowers. The photographs are of a plant ten
months old grown in Salinas, Calif. in the Spring of 2009. The
colors shown are as true as can be reasonably obtained by
conventional photographic procedures.

FIG. 1. shows overall plant habit.

FIG. 2. shows the mature flowers.

DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW CULTIVAR

The following detailed description sets forth the distinctive
characteristics of ‘SAKPXC006’. The data which define
these characteristics were collected from asexual reproduc-
tions carried out in Salinas, Calif. The detailed description
was taken from plants grown under greenhouse conditions for
approximately ten months from transplanting of rooted cut-
tings. Color references are to the R.H.S. Colour Chart of The
Royal Horticultural Society of London (R.H.S.), 4th Edition.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

Classification:

Family.—Solanaceae.

Species.—*Petunia-Calibrachoa* intergeneric hybrid.

Common name.—Petchoa.

Parentage:

Male.—Hybrid proprietary *Calibrachoa* plant line ‘04-
62’.

Female.—Hybrid proprietary *Petunia* plant line ‘04H-
64’.

Plant description:

Life cycle.—Tender perennial.

Form.—Decumbent, branching.

Habit.—Semi-creeping.

Height.—16.0 cm to 18.0 cm (from soil line to top of foliage).

Spread.—60.0 cm to 62.0 cm.

Propagation:

Type cuttings.—Vegetative cuttings.

Time to produce a rooted cutting.—4 weeks.

Time to bloom from propagation.—8 to 10 weeks.

Environmental conditions for plant growth: The terminal 1.0 to 1.5 inches of an actively growing stem was excised. The vegetative cuttings were propagated in four weeks. The base of the cuttings were dipped for 1 to 2 seconds in a 1:9 solution of DIP 'N GROW (1 solution:9 water) root inducing solution immediately prior to sticking into the cell trays. Cuttings were stuck into plastic cell trays having 98 cells, and containing a moistened peat moss-based growing medium. For the first week, the cuttings were misted with water from overhead for 20 seconds, one time per hour. For the second week, the cuttings were misted one time every 2 hours for 10 seconds. After that time, the cuttings were misted occasionally until sufficient roots were formed. Rooted cuttings were transplanted and grown in 20 cm diameter plastic pots in a glass greenhouse located in Salinas, Calif. Pots contained a peat moss-based growing medium. Soluble fertilizer containing 20% nitrogen, 10% phosphorus and 20% potassium was applied once a day or every other day by overhead irrigation. Pots were top-dressed with a dry, slow release fertilizer containing 20% nitrogen, 10% phosphorus and 18% potassium. The typical average air temperature was 24° C.

Stems:

Stem color.—RHS 143B (Green).

Pubescence.—Heavy.

Pubescence color.—RHS N155A (White).

Stem description.—Circular, cross-section.

Stem diameter.—0.2 cm.

Stem length.—2.0 cm from soil line to first node, 22.0 cm total length.

Internode length.—2.0 cm.

Leaves:

Arrangement.—Alternate.

Shape.—Elliptical.

Apex.—Obtuse.

Base.—Attenuate.

Margin.—Entire.

Surface.—Dull.

Surface pubescence.—Slight.

Pubescence color.—RHS N155A (White).

Venation.—Pinnate.

Venation color.—Upper surface: RHS 137A (Green).

Lower surface: RHS 137B (Green).

Length.—4.5 cm.

Width.—1.5 cm.

Color.—Upper surface: RHS 137A (Green). Lower surface: RHS 137B (Green).

Fragrance.—Absent.

Flowers:

Flowering habit.—Indeterminate.

Flower type.—Solitary.

Flowering requirements.—Will flower so long as day length is greater than 12 hours and temperature exceeds 13° C.

Duration of flowers.—5 days.

Corolla.—5 petals, fused.

Shape.—The flowers are funnel shaped with five fissures and a shallow, yet slight, indentation of the petal tip at the midvein.

Fragrance.—Absent.

5 Flower buds:

Surface.—Pubescent.

Length.—2.7 cm.

Diameter.—1.0 cm.

Shape.—Ovate.

10 *Color*.—RHS 79A (Purple) with RHS 79A (Purple) veins.

Peduncle.—Length: 3.0 cm. Diameter: 0.15 cm. Color: RHS 143B (Green) with RHS N79A (Purple) toward sepals. Texture: Dull, moderate pubescence. Anthocyanin color: RHS N79A (Purple).

Flower description:

Flower depth.—0.5 cm.

Flower tube length.—3.0 cm.

20 *Flower tube diameter*.—1.0 cm.

Flower diameter.—5.0 cm.

Pedicel color.—RHS 143B (Green) with RHS N79A (Purple).

Calyx.—5 sepals, fused below the middle.

25 *Sepals*.—Shape: Elliptical. Apex: Obtuse. Margin: Entire. Length: 2.0 cm. Diameter: 0.2 cm. Sepal color: Upper surface: RHS 137A (Green). Lower surface: RHS 137B (Green).

30 *Petal*.—Shape: The flowers are funnel shaped with five fissures and a shallow, yet prominent, indentation of the petal tip at the midvein. Length: 2.0 cm. Apex: Truncate. Margin: Entire. Base: Fused. Pubescence: Glabrous. Lobe length: 2.0 cm. Lobe width: 3.0 cm. Color: Lobe color: Upper surface: Closest to RHS 83B (Violet). Lower surface: RHS 83D (Violet) with RHS N79A (Purple) veins.

Corolla tube color.—Inner: RHS 150B (Yellow-green) with RHS N79A (Purple) veins. Outer: RHS 145A (Yellow-green) with N79A (Purple) veins.

40 *Fragrance*.—Absent.

Reproductive organs:

Stamen number.—5, free.

Stamen color.—Anther color: RHS 154A (Yellow-green). Filament color: RHS 8A (Yellow).

45 *Pollen color*.—RHS 6D (Yellow).

Ovary.—Superior.

Placenta arrangement.—Central.

Pistil number.—1 per inflorescence.

Pistil length.—1.2 cm.

50 *Stigma color*.—RHS 145A (Yellow-green).

Style length.—1.0 cm.

Style color.—RHS 145B (Yellow-green).

Fruit/seed set: No fruit or seeds produced.

55 Disease and insect resistance: 'SAKPXC006' has excellent resistance to rain, heat and drought. A temperature below 10° C. is not optimal. Plants are susceptible to *Botrytis*, powdery mildew, various stem and root rots, and certain viruses, like Tobacco Mosaic Virus and Impatiens Necrotic Spotted Virus. Plants can be infested with aphids, leaf-miner, whitefly and various *Lepitoptera*.

COMPARISON WITH PARENTAL LINES AND
KNOWN CULTIVARS

65 'SAKPXC006' is a distinct variety of *Petunia-Calibrachoa* due to its violet flower color and semi-creeping growth habit.

‘SAKPXC006’ is distinguished from its parents mainly by flower color and plant growth habit as shown in Table 1 below.

TABLE 1

Characteristic	‘SAKPXC006’	Male Parent: ‘04-62’	Female Parent: ‘04H-64’
Flower color	Violet	Deep blue	Light purple
Plant growth habit	Semi-creeping	Creeping	Mounding

‘SAKPXC006’ is a distinct variety of *Petunia-Calibrachoa* due to its violet flower color and semi-creeping growth habit. ‘SAKPXC006’ is most similar to the variety ‘Kakegawa S90’ (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 19,129); however, there are differences in the petal color and plant growth habit as described in the table below (color references are to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 4th edition):

TABLE 2

Characteristic	‘SAICPXC006’	‘Kakegawa S90’
Petal color, upper surface	Closest to RHS 83B (Violet)	RHS N74A (Red-purple) with RHS N77A (Purple) veins
Petal color, lower surface	RHS 83D (Violet) with RHS N79A (Purple) veins	RHS N74C (Red-purple) with RHS N77A (Purple) veins
Plant growth habit	Semi-creeping	Semi-creeping

We claim:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Petunia-Calibrachoa* hybrid plant as shown and described herein.

* * * * *



Fig. 1

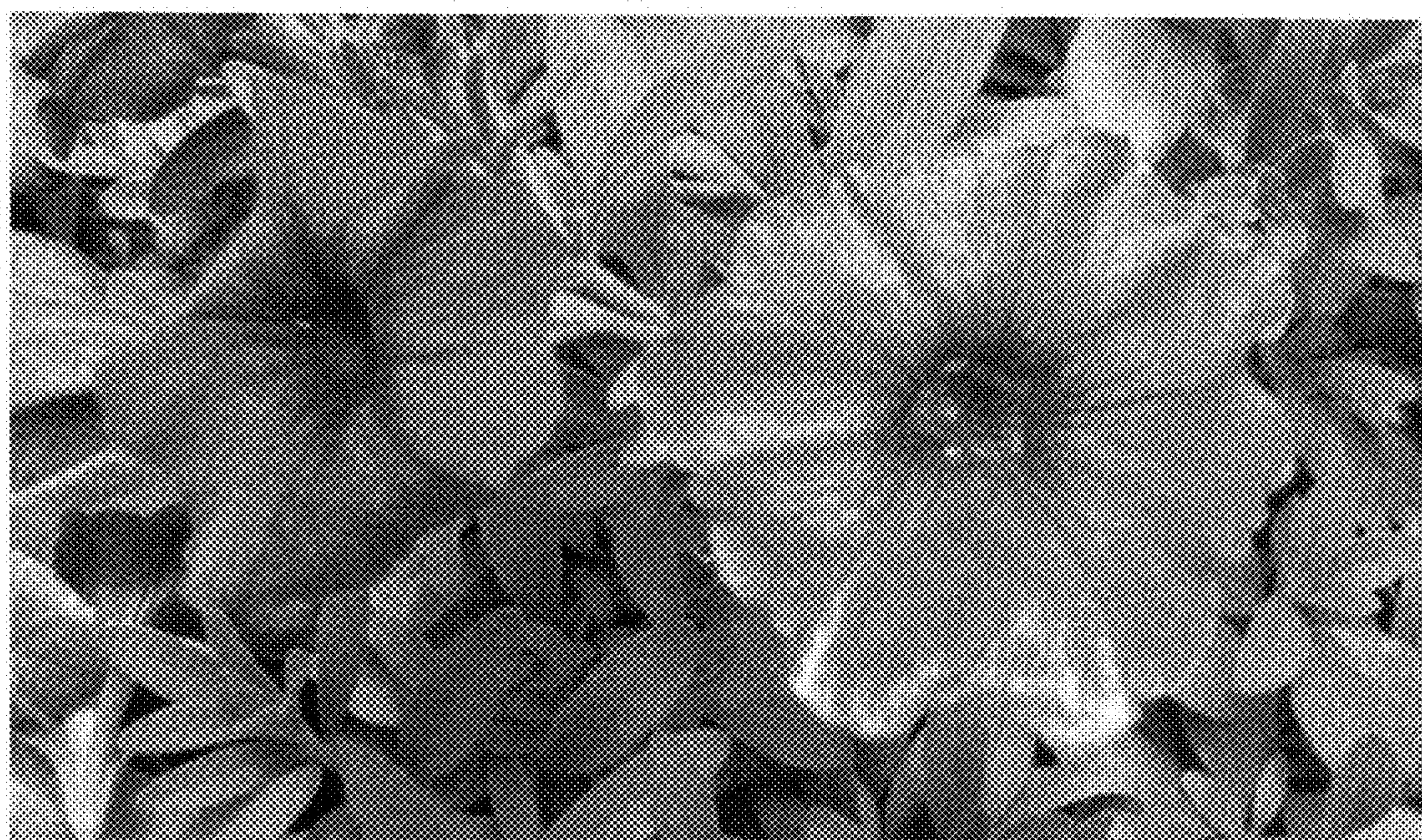


Fig. 2