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Jacobs

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

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

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

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

1 Drawing Sheet

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

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 'Zalsameli'.

The new *Alstroemeria* plant is a product of a planned
breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Rijsenhout,
The Netherlands. The objective of the breeding program is to
create new cut flower *Alstroemeria* plants with desirable
flower and plant qualities, attractive flower coloration and
excellent postproduction longevity.

The new *Alstroemeria* plant originated from a cross-pollin-
ation made by the Inventor in Rijsenhout, The Netherlands
in June, 2004, of a proprietary *Alstroemeria hybrida* selection
identified as code number 20065-13, not patented, as the
female, or seed, parent with a proprietary *Alstroemeria*
hybrida selection identified as code number 35649-18, not
patented, as the male, or pollen, parent. The new *Alstroemeria*
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 Rijsen-
hout, The Netherlands in July, 2005.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Alstroemeria* plant by
rhizome divisions in a controlled greenhouse environment in
Rijsenhout, The Netherlands since September, 2005, has
shown that the unique features of this new *Alstroemeria* plant
are stable and reproduced true to type in successive genera-
tions.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* have not been observed
under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype
may vary somewhat with variations in environment and cul-
tural practices such as temperature and light intensity with-
out, however, any variance in genotype.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are
determined to be the unique characteristics of 'Zalsameli'.

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These characteristics in combination distinguish 'Zalsameli'
as a new and distinct cultivar of *Alstroemeria*:

1. Erect and strong flowering stems.
2. Vigorous growth habit.
3. Red and light red-colored flowers.
4. Excellent postproduction longevity.

Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* can be compared to plants
of the female parent selection. Plants of the new *Alstroemeria*
differ from plants of the female parent selection primarily in
flower color as plants of the female parent selection have
red-colored flowers.

Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* can be compared to plants
of the male parent selection. Plants of the new *Alstroemeria*
differ from plants of the male parent selection primarily in
flower color as flowers of plants of the male parent selection
have orange-colored flowers with fewer stripes.

Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* can be compared to plants
of *Alstroemeria hybrida* 'Staqueen', disclosed in U.S. Plant
Pat. No. 14,335. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in
Rijsenhout, The Netherlands, plants of the new *Alstroemeria*
differed primarily from plants of 'Staqueen' in flower color as
plants of 'Staqueen' had light and dark orange bi-colored
flowers with fewer stripes.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying colored photograph illustrates the over-
all appearance of the new *Alstroemeria* 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 *Alstroemeria* plant. The photograph comprises a side
perspective view of a typical flowering stem of 'Zalsameli'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photograph and following observa-
tions and measurements describe plants of the new *Alstro-*
emeria grown during the late summer in ground beds in a
glass-covered greenhouse in Rijsenhout, The Netherlands.
During the production of the plants, day temperatures ranged

from 15° C. to 25° C., night temperatures ranged from 10° C. to 15° C. and soil temperatures averaged 14° C. Plants were one year old when the photograph and description were taken. In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 1966 Edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Botanical classification: *Alstroemeria hybrida* 'Zalsameli'.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary *Alstroemeria hybrida* selection identified as code number 20065-13, not patented.

Male, or pollen, parent.—Proprietary *Alstroemeria hybrida* selection identified as code number 35649-18, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—In vitro rhizogenesis.

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

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

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

Rooting habit.—Freely branching; moderately dense.

Rhizomes.—Shape: Elongate; rounded. Length: About 10 cm to 30 cm. Diameter: About 3 mm to 10 mm. Texture: Smooth. Color: Close to 155D.

Plant description:

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

Plant height.—About 120.5 cm to 140.5 cm.

Plant diameter (spread).—About 25 cm.

Flowering stem description:

Aspect.—Erect.

Length.—About 106 cm to 123 cm.

Diameter.—About 6 mm to 9 mm.

Internode length.—About 9 cm to 10 cm.

Strength.—Strong.

Texture.—Smooth, glabrous.

Color.—Close to 147C.

Foliage description:

Appearance.—Leaves asymmetrical; sessile.

Length.—About 13.1 cm to 17.8 cm.

Width.—About 2.5 cm to 3.9 cm.

Shape.—Lanceolate.

Apex.—Acute.

Base.—Cuneate.

Margin.—Entire; slightly undulate.

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

Venation pattern.—Parallel.

Color.—Developing and fully developed leaves, upper surface: Close to 146A; venation, close to 141D. Developing and fully developed leaves, lower surface: Close to 137B; venation, close to 137D.

Flower description:

Flower type and habit.—Single cup-shaped flowers arranged in compound umbels; flowers face mostly outwardly; perianth segments separate; freely flowering habit, about 12 to 30 flowers developing per flowering stem.

Natural flowering season.—Flowering continuous during the spring in The Netherlands; plants begin flowering about 80 to 90 days after planting.

Fragrance.—Not detected.

Flower longevity on the plant.—About four weeks; flowers not persistent.

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

Flower buds (showing color).—Length: About 5 cm to 5.5 cm. Diameter: About 1.5 cm to 1.7 cm. Shape: Roughly ovoid. Color: Close to 47A.

Umbel height.—About 14.5 cm to 17.5 cm.

Umbel diameter.—About 16 cm to 18 cm.

Flower diameter.—About 6 cm by 6.5 cm.

Flower depth.—About 8 cm to 8.5 cm.

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

Outer perianth, lateral segments: Length: About 6 cm to 6.6 cm. Width: About 3 cm to 3.3 cm. Shape: Obovate. Apex: Embedded pointed. Base: Attenuate.

Margin: Entire; slightly undulate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, when opening and fully opened, upper surface: Close to 47C; central spot, close to 47A; towards the base, close to 36D. Color, when opening and fully opened, lower surface: Close to 47C; central spot, close to 47A.

Outer perianth, median segment: Length: About 6.6 cm to 7.2 cm. Width: About 3 cm to 3.4 cm. Shape: Obovate. Apex: Embedded pointed. Base: Attenuate.

Margin: Entire; slightly undulate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, when opening and fully opened, upper surface: Close to 47C; central spot, close to 47A; towards the base, close to 36D. Color, when opening and fully opened, lower surface: Close to 47C; central spot, close to 47A.

Inner perianth, lateral segments: Length: About 6.9 cm to 7.9 cm. Width: About 1.7 cm to 2 cm. Shape: Oblanceolate. Apex: Wishbone-shaped. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire; slightly undulate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, when opening and fully opened, upper surface: Close to 47C; upper spot, close to 47A; center, close to 12A; towards the base, close to 36D; stripes, close to 183A.

Color, when opening and fully opened, lower surface: Close to 47C; upper spot, close to 47A; center, close to 12A; towards the base, close to 36B. Inner perianth, median segment: Length: About 5.9 cm to 6.7 cm. Width: About 1.8 cm to 2.2 cm. Shape: Oblanceolate.

Apex: Wishbone-shaped. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire; slightly undulate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, when opening and fully opened, upper surface: Close to 47C; central spot, close to 47A; towards the base, close to 36D; stripes, close to 183A. Color, when opening and fully opened, lower surface: Close to 47C; central spot, close to 47A; towards the base, close to 36D; stripes, close to 183A.

Pedicels.—Length: About 1.5 cm to 8.5 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm to 4 mm. Strength: Strong. Angle: About 15° from vertical. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 147C.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: Quantity per flower: Six. Anther shape: Elliptical. Anther length: About 9 mm to 10 mm. Anther color: Close to 199B. Pollen amount: Scarce. Pollen color: Close to 152B. Pistils: Quantity per flower: One. Style length: About 4.1 cm to 4.9 cm. Style color: Close to 45A. Stigma color: Close to 45A. Ovary color: Close to 146B.

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. 5
to about 40° C.

It is claimed:
1. A new and distinct *Alstroemeria* plant named ‘Zal-sameli’ as illustrated and described.

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