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(54) LOBELIA PLANT NAMED 'TEC TRAVIO'

(50) Latin Name: *Lobelia erinus*Varietal Denomination: **Tec Travio**

(75) Inventor: Eric Giesen, Andijk (NL)

(73) Assignee: Syngenta Crop Protection AG, Basel

(CH)

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Primary Examiner — June Hwu

Assistant Examiner — Louanne Krawczewicz Myers

(74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm — S. Matthew Edwards

(57) ABSTRACT

A new *Lobelia* plant named 'Tec Travio' particularly distinguished by the large intense purple-violet colored flowers, medium green foliage, vigorous, mounding, but semi-trailing and well branched habit with early flowering.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Latin name of the genus and species of the plant claimed: *Lobelia erinus*.

Varietal denomination: 'Tec Travio'.

BACKGROUND OF THE NEW PLANT

The present invention comprises a new *Lobelia*, botanically known as *Lobelia erinus*, and hereinafter referred to by the variety name 'Tec Travio'.

'Tec Travio' is a product of a planned breeding program. ¹⁰ The new cultivar has large intense purple-violet colored flowers, medium green foliage, vigorous, mounding but semitrailing and well branched habit with early flowering.

'Tec Travio' originated from a hybridization made in a controlled breeding environment in Andijk, Netherlands. The ¹⁵ female parent was the proprietary, unpatented plant designated 'LOB06-225-1' with pink flower color, smaller flower size, and lighter green leaves.

The male parent of 'Tec Travio' was an unpatented, proprietary plant designated as 'LOB02-14-1' with blue flower color, lighter green leaves, larger flower size and is less trailing in habit. The resultant seed was sown in September 2006.

'Tec Travio' was selected as one flowering plant within the progeny of the stated cross in December 2006 in a controlled environment in Andijk, Netherlands.

The first act of asexual reproduction of 'Tec Travio' was accomplished when vegetative cuttings were propagated from the initial selection in December 2006 in a controlled environment in Andijk, Netherlands.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF INVENTION

Horticultural examination of plants grown from cuttings of the plant initiated in December 2006, and continuing thereafter, has demonstrated that the combination of characteristics as herein disclosed for 'Tec Travio' are firmly fixed and are retained through successive generations of asexual reproduction.

'Tec Travio' has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary significantly with variations in environment such as temperature, light intensity and day length.

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Plant Breeder's Rights for this cultivar were applied for in Canada on Feb. 18, 2010 (#10-6849), in CVPO on Feb. 5, 2010 (#2010/0547), and in Switzerland on Oct. 29, 2009 (#09-2618). 'Tec Travio' has not been made publicly available more than one year prior to the filing of this application.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be basic characteristics of the new variety. The combination of these characteristics distinguishes this *Lobelia* as a new and distinct variety.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying photographic drawing shows typical flower and foliage characteristics of 'Tec Travio' with colors being as true as possible with an illustration of this type.

The photographic drawing shows three flowering potted plants growing in one container of the new variety and a close-up of the flowers.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The plant descriptions, measurements and aforementioned photographs were taken in Gilroy, Calif. from plants growing in an 8 inch basket in a greenhouse trial in April 2010. These plants were approximately 13-14 weeks of age.

Color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart (R.H.S.) 2001.

TABLE 1

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE NEW VARIETY 'TEC TRAVIO' AND A SIMILAR VARIETY 'Lobmounlila' (U. S. Plant 'Tec Travio' Pat. No. 18,410) Plant habit: Less trailing More trailing Flower size: Smaller Larger Stem diameter: Smaller Larger Foliage color: Darker green Lighter green

Plant:

Form, growth and habit.—Vigorous growth habit, dense and freely branched with medium long internodes, initially low spreading becoming more trailing.

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Plant height.—About 20 cm. Flower: Plant height (inflorescence included).—About 30 cm. Corolla type.—Single, zygomorphic; upper lip has two small lobes and lower lip has three larger and broader Plant width.—About 30 cm. lobes; lobes are fused at the base. Garden performance and tolerance to weather.—Good. Immature inflorescence: Crop time to flowering.—About 10 weeks. Flower diameter.—1.8-2.1 cm. Roots: Flower color, upper surface.—Closest to RHS N81A. Number of days to initiate roots and develop roots.—21-Lower surface.—Closest to RHS 77B. 24 days at about 22 degrees C. Mature inflorescence: *Type.*—Fine, fibrous, free branching. Flower depth.—2.2 cm. Color.—RHS N155B but whiter. Flower length.—2.3-2.5 cm. Foliage: Color upper petals, upper surface.—Between RHS *Arrangement*.—Alternate. N81A and RHS N80A. Immature, leaf color, upper surface.—Closest to RHS Lower surface.—RHS 77B with RHS 77A blotches. 144A with a few darker patches. Upper petals, length (from the corolla opening).—0.8 Lower surface.—Closest to RHS 144B. cm. Mature, leaf color, upper surface.—Closest to RHS *Upper petals, width.*—0.3 cm. 137A but a little lighter. Color lower petals, upper surface.—Between RHS Lower surface.—RHS 138A. N81A and RHS N80A with a spot of closest to RHS 20 *Length.*—4.5-6.5 cm. N79C basally on the mid vein; at the very base, a *Width.*—1.4-1.7 cm. white blotch with a spot of RHS 3B. Shape.—Oblong. Lower surface.—RHS 77B with RHS 77A blotches; and Base shape.—Fused. white basally. *Apex shape*.—Praemorse. Lower petals, length (from the corolla opening).—1.1-*Margin.*—Serrate. 1.2 cm. Texture, upper surface.—Slightly hirsute; hispid. Lower petals, width.—0.7-0.8 cm. Lower surface.—Slightly hirsute; hispid. Petal (all lobes): Color of veins, upper surface.—Indistinct. *Petal shape.*—Obovate. Color of veins, lower surface.—Indistinct. Apex shape.—Mucronulate. Stem: Base.—Fused. Quantity of main branches per plant.—10-15. *Margin*.—Entire. Color of stem.—Between RHS 144A and RHS 144B. Petal texture, upper surface.—Smooth, glabrous, Length of stem.—About 40 cm. slightly Pubescent. *Diameter.*—0.2-0.3 cm. Lower surface.—Glabrous. Length of internodes.—1.5-3.0 cm. Corolla tube color, outside.—RHS N81B. *Texture.*—Sparsely hirsute. *Inside.*—RHS N155A with RHS N79C blotches and Inflorescence: lines of RHS 1B. Type.—Raceme, terminal (at stem end), composed of 40 Corolla tube length.—0.7-0.8 cm. single flowers in an alternate arrangement, with one Tube width.—0.4 cm. flower per node, subtended by a narrow leaflet. *Texture*, *inside*.—Hirsute. Blooming habit.—Continuous through the growing sea-Outside.—Papillose. Calyx: son. Quantity and form.—5 sepals in a whorl, fused at the Quantity of flowers per plant.—About 50, and numerous 45 base and somewhat funnel shaped. buds. Color, upper surface.—RHS 147A but a little lighter. Quantity of flowers per peduncle.—3-4 open, with Lower surface.—RHS 147A but a little lighter. numerous buds. Length.—0.8-0.9 cm. Lastingness of individual blooms on the plant.—5-7 Width.—0.15 cm. days depending on temperature. 50 Shape.—Ligulate. Fragrance.—None. *Apex shape.*—Acute. Color of peduncle.—RHS 137A. Base.—Fused. Length of peduncle.—5.0-5.5 cm. *Margins*.—Entire. Peduncle diameter.—0.1 cm. *Texture, upper surface.*—Glossy and glabrous. *Peduncle texture.*—Slightly hirsute. Lower surface.—Hirsute. Color of pedicels.—RHS 137A. Reproductive organs: Length of pedicels.—2-2.3 cm. Pistil.—1. Diameter of pedicels.—0.075 cm. *Length.*—0.8-0.9 cm. *Pedicel texture.*—Slightly hirsute. Style color.—RHS 144A. 60 Bud (just when starting to show color): Style length.-0.6-0.7 cm. Color.—RHS 147D; RHS N77B but a little lighter at the Stigma color.—RHS 59B. Ovary color.—RHS 145C. apex. *Length.*—1.0-1.2 cm. Ovary length.—0.2-0.3 cm. Width.—0.4 cm. Ovary width.—0.1-0.15 cm.

Stamens.—5.

Shape.—Oblong.

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Disease/pest resistance: Disease/pest resistance has not been observed on this hybrid.

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Color of filaments.—RHS 72A at the anthers and white basally.

Length filaments.—0.7 cm. Anther color.—RHS N187A.

Anther length.—0.2-0.3 cm. Color of pollen.—RHS 4D. Pollen amount.—Abundant.

Fertility/seed set.—Has not been observed on this hybrid.

What is claimed is:

1. A new and distinct variety of *Lobelia* plant named 'Tec Travio' substantially as illustrated and described herein.

