



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

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(54) **DAHLIA PLANT NAMED ‘BKDAPRS’**

(50) Latin Name: ***Dahlia hybrida***
Varietal Denomination: **Bkdaprs**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Dahlia* plant named ‘Bkdaprs’, characterized by its compact, upright, somewhat outwardly spreading and mounding plant habit; dense and bushy growth habit; early and continuous flowering habit; semi-double inflorescences with light pink-colored ray florets; and good garden performance.

2 Drawing Sheets

1

Botanical designation: *Dahlia hybrida*.
Cultivar denomination: ‘BKDAPRS’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of *Dahlia* plant, botanically known as *Dahlia hybrida* and hereinafter referred to by the name ‘Bkdaprs’.

The new *Dahlia* plant is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Maasdijk, The Netherlands. The objective of the breeding program is to create new container *Dahlia* plants that have a freely branching habit, attractive ray floret coloration, long flowering period and good garden performance.

The new *Dahlia* plant originated from an open-pollination in June, 2007 in Maasdijk, The Netherlands of a proprietary selection of *Dahlia hybrida* identified as code number 2007-0095, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with an unknown selection of *Dahlia hybrida* as the male, or pollen, parent. The new *Dahlia* plant was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a single flowering plant from within the progeny of the stated open-pollination in a controlled environment in Maasdijk, The Netherlands in July, 2008.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Dahlia* plant by cuttings in a controlled environment in Maasdijk, The Netherlands since November, 2008 has shown that the unique features of this new *Dahlia* plant are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Plants of the new *Dahlia* have not been observed under all possible environmental conditions and cultural conditions. The phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in environment 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 ‘Bkdaprs’. These characteristics in combination distinguish ‘Bkdaprs’ as a new and distinct *Dahlia* plant:

1. Compact, upright, somewhat outwardly spreading and mounding plant habit.

2

2. Dense and bushy growth habit.
3. Early and continuous flowering habit.
4. Semi-double inflorescences with light pink-colored ray florets.
5. Good garden performance.

Compared to plants of the female parent selection, plants of the new *Dahlia* differ primarily in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Dahlia* are more compact than plants of the female parent selection.
2. Plants of the new *Dahlia* have smaller inflorescences than plants of the female parent selection.
3. Plants of the new *Dahlia* and the female parent selection differ in ray floret color as plants of the female parent selection have red violet-colored ray florets.

Plants of the new *Dahlia* can be compared to plants of *Dahlia* ‘Dahlstar Pink’, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 12,714. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Maasdijk, The Netherlands, plants of the new *Dahlia* differed from plants of ‘Dahlstar Pink’ in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Dahlia* were not as compact as plants of ‘Dahlstar Pink’.
2. Plants of the new *Dahlia* and ‘Dahlstar Pink’ differed in leaf color as plants of ‘Dahlstar Pink’ had darker green-colored leaves.
3. Plants of the new *Dahlia* flowered earlier than plants of ‘Dahlstar Pink’.
4. Plants of the new *Dahlia* and ‘Dahlstar Pink’ differed in ray floret color as plants of ‘Dahlstar Pink’ had darker pink-colored ray florets.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying photographs illustrate the overall appearance of the new *Dahlia* plant showing 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 *Dahlia* plant.

The photograph on the first sheet comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'Bkdaprs' grown in a container.

The photograph on the second sheet is a close-up view of a typical flowering plant of 'Bkdaprs'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photographs and the following observations and measurements describe plants grown during the winter in 12-cm containers in a glass-covered greenhouse in Maasdijk, The Netherlands and under conditions and practices which approximate those generally used in commercial container *Dahlia* production. During the production of the plants, day and night temperatures ranged from 17° C. to 19° C. Plants were pinched one time and were three months old when the photographs and description were taken. In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 2007 Edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Botanical classification: *Dahlia hybrida* 'Bkdaprs'.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Dahlia hybrida* identified as code number 2007-0095, not patented.

Male, or pollen, parent.—Unknown selection of *Dahlia hybrida*, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—By cuttings.

Time to initiate roots, summer.—About 16 days at temperatures of about 18° C. to 21° C.

Time to initiate roots, winter.—About 19 days at temperatures of about 18° C. to 21° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, summer.—About 21 days at temperatures of about 18° C. to 21° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, winter.—About 23 days at temperatures of about 18° C. to 21° C.

Root description.—Medium in thickness, fibrous, white in color; tuber development has not been observed.

Rooting habit.—Moderate branching; medium density.

Plant description:

Plant form and growth habit.—Compact, upright, somewhat outwardly spreading and mounding plant form; broad inverted triangle; two primary lateral branches develop, each primary lateral branch with numerous secondary branches; inflorescences held above the foliar plane on strong peduncles; bushy and dense growth habit.

Plant height.—About 13.5 cm.

Plant diameter or spread.—About 16.1 cm.

Lateral branches.—Length: About 7.3 cm. Diameter: About 4 mm. Internode length: About 1 cm. Aspect: About 30° from vertical. Strength: Strong. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: Close to 144A.

Foliage description:

Arrangement.—Leaves opposite; single.

Length.—About 4.1 cm.

Width.—About 3.4 cm.

Shape.—Broadly ovate.

Apex.—Acuminate.

Base.—Attenuate.

Margin.—Dentate to coarsely dentate.

Venation pattern.—Pinnate.

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

Color.—Developing leaves, upper surface: Close to 137A to 137B. Developing leaves, lower surface: Close to 138B. Fully expanded leaves, upper surface: Close to N137C to N137D; venation, close to 144A to 144B. Fully expanded leaves, lower surface: Close to 191A to 191B; venation, close to 147B to 147C.

Petioles.—Length: About 2 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 144A to 144B.

Inflorescence description:

Appearance and arrangement.—Semi-double inflorescence form with ray and disc florets forming acropetally on a receptacle; inflorescences positioned above the foliar plane on strong peduncles; inflorescences face upright to slightly outwardly; freely flowering habit, about 20 inflorescences per plant.

Fragrance.—Faintly fragrant, sweet.

Time to flower.—Early flowering habit, plants begin flowering about 56 days after planting; plants flower continuously during the late summer in The Netherlands.

Post-production longevity.—Inflorescences maintain good substance for about two to three weeks on the plant; inflorescences not persistent.

Inflorescence bud.—Height: About 6 mm. Diameter: About 8 mm. Shape: Globular, flattened. Color: Close to 150B; towards the base, close to 144B.

Inflorescence size.—Diameter: About 4.6 cm. Depth (height): About 1.6 cm. Disc diameter: About 1.6 cm. Receptacle height: About 2 mm. Receptacle diameter: About 3 mm. Receptacle color: Close to 144B to 144C.

Ray florets.—Quantity per inflorescence: About 60 arranged in about four whorls. Length: About 1.7 cm. Width: About 7 mm. Shape: Obovate. Apex: Broadly acute. Base: Cuneate. Margin: Entire. Aspect: About 80° from vertical; ray florets concave. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color: When opening, upper surface: Close to 69B; towards the base, close to 150D. When opening, lower surface: Close to 69C; towards the base, close to 150C. Fully opened, upper surface: Close to 69B; color becoming closer to 70D with development. Fully opened, lower surface: Close to 69C; color becoming closer to 70D with development.

Disc florets.—Quantity per inflorescence: About 35. Length: About 1 cm. Diameter: About 3.5 mm. Shape: Tubular, elongated; apices, acute. Texture, inner and outer surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, when opening and fully opened: Close to 150B; towards the apex, close to 14B; towards the base, close to 145C.

Phyllaries.—Quantity per inflorescence: About 15 arranged in a single whorl. Length: About 1 cm. Width: About 3.5 mm. Shape: Oblong. Apex: Obtuse. Base: Broadly cuneate. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 145A to 145B; towards the base, close to 144A.

Peduncles.—Length: About 4.8 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Aspect: Erect to about 30° from vertical. Strength: Strong. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: Close to 144B to 144C.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium, present on disc florets only: Quantity per floret: About two. Filament

length: About 4 mm. Filament color: Close to 1C.
Anther shape: Narrowly oblong. Anther length:
About 2 mm. Anther color: Close to 13A. Pollen
amount: Scarce. Pollen color: Close to 13A. Gyno-
ecium, present on ray and disc florets: Quantity per
florete: One. Pistil length: About 1 cm. Style length:
About 7 mm. Style color: Close to 154A to 154B.
Stigma shape: Cleft. Stigma color: Close to 13A.
Ovary color: Close to 145B. Seeds/fruits: Seed and
fruit development have not been observed on plants of
the new *Dahlia*.

Disease/pest resistance: Plants of the new *Dahlia* have not
been shown to be resistant to pathogens and pests common
to *Dahlia*.
Garden performance: Plants of the new *Dahlia* have been
observed to have good garden performance and to tolerate
wind and rain. Plants of the new *Dahlia* have been observed
to be tolerant to high temperatures of 35° C. and hardy to
USDA Hardiness Zone 8.
It is claimed:
1. A new and distinct *Dahlia* plant named ‘Bkdaprs’ as
illustrated and described.

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