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(54) BACOPA PLANT NAMED 'DUEBAHLABU'

(50) Latin Name: *Bacopa* hybrid Varietal Denomination: **Duebahlabu**

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Cayman (KY)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this

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U.S.C. 154(b) by 3 days.

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(57) ABSTRACT

A new and distinct cultivar of *Bacopa* plant named 'Duebahlabu', characterized by its compact, mounding and trailing growth habit; freely branching habit; freely flowering habit; and large light violet-colored flowers.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical designation: *Bacopa* hybrid. Cultivar denomination: 'DUEBAHLABU'.

CROSS-REFERENCED TO CLOSELY RELATED APPLICATIONS

Title: Bacopa Plant Named 'Duebahbla'

Applicant: Tobias Dümmen

Filed: Concurrently with this application Ser. No. 12/928, 10

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar 15 of *Bacopa* plant, botanically known as *Bacopa* hybrid and hereinafter referred to by the name 'Duebahlabu'.

The new *Bacopa* plant is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Rheinberg, Germany. The objective of the breeding program is to create new compact *Bacopa* plants with numerous light violet-colored flowers.

The new *Bacopa* plant originated from a cross-pollination made by the Inventor in Rheinberg, Germany in July, 2007 of a proprietary selection of *Bacopa* hybrid identified as code number F-09-007, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with a proprietary selection of *Bacopa* hybrid identified as code number Sut 764, not patented, as the male, or pollen, parent. The new *Bacopa* plant was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a flowering plant from within the progeny of the stated cross-pollination in a controlled greenhouse environment in Rheinberg, Germany in May, 2009.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Bacopa* plant cuttings in a controlled greenhouse environment in Rheinberg, Germany ³⁵ since May, 2009, has shown that the unique features of this new *Bacopa* plant are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Plants of the new Bacopa have not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary

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somewhat with variations in environmental conditions 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 'Duebahlabu'. These characteristics in combination distinguish 'Duebahlabu' as a new and distinct *Bacopa* plant:

- 1. Compact, mounding and trailing growth habit.
- 2. Freely branching habit.
- 3. Freely flowering habit.
- 4. Large light violet-colored flowers.

Plants of the new *Bacopa* can be compared to plants of the female parent selection. Plants of the new *Bacopa* differ primarily from plants of the female parent selection in the following characteristics:

- 1. Plants of the new *Bacopa* are more freely branching than plants of the female parent selection.
- 2. Plants of the new *Bacopa* have larger flowers than plants of the female parent selection.
- 3. Plants of the new *Bacopa* and the female parent selection differ in flower color as plants of the female parent selection have white-colored flowers.

Plants of the new *Bacopa* can be compared to plants of the male parent selection. Plants of the new *Bacopa* differ primarily from plants of the male parent selection in the following characteristics:

- 1. Plants of the new *Bacopa* are more freely branching than plants of the male parent selection.
- 2. Plants of the new *Bacopa* have larger flowers than plants of the male parent selection.

Plants of the new *Bacopa* can be compared to plants of the *Bacopa* 'Duebahbla', disclosed in a U.S. Plant Patent application filed concurrently. Plants of the new *Bacopa* differ primarily from plants of 'Duebahbla' in flower color as plants of 'Duebahbla' have white-colored flowers.

Plants of the new *Bacopa* can be compared to plants of the *Bacopa* 'Scopia Gulliver Lilac', not patented. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Rheinberg, Germany, plants of the new *Bacopa* differed primarily from plants of 'Scopia Gulliver Lilac' in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Bacopa* had smaller leaves than plants of 'Scopia Gulliver Lilac'.

2. Plants of the new *Bacopa* had smaller flowers than plants of 'Scopia Gulliver Lilac'.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying colored photograph illustrates the overall appearance of the new *Bacopa* 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 *Bacopa* plant.

The photograph comprises a close-up view of a typical flowering plant of 'Duebahlabu'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photograph and following observations, measurements and values describe plants grown during the summer in 10.5-cm containers in a glass-covered greenhouse in Rheinberg, Germany and under conditions which closely approximate commercial production. During the production of the plants, day temperatures average 18° C., night temperatures averaged 18° C. and light levels averaged 4,500 lux. Plants were pinched one time three weeks after planting and were 13 weeks old when the photograph and the description were taken. In the description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 1995 Edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Botanical classification: *Bacopa* hybrid 'Duebahlabu'. Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary selection of Bacopa hybrid identified as code number F-09-007, not patented.

Male or pollen parent.—Proprietary selection of 35 Bacopa hybrid identified as code number Sut 764, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—By cuttings.

Time to initiate roots, summer.—About five days at tem- 40 peratures of 20° C.

Time to initiate roots, winter.—About seven days at temperatures of 20° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, summer.—About three weeks at temperatures of 20° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, winter.—About four weeks at temperatures of 20° C.

Root description.—Fine, fibrous; white in color. Rooting habit.—Freely branching; dense.

Plant description:

Plant and growth habit.—Compact, mounded and trailing plant habit; vigorous growth habit.

Branching habit.—Freely branching habit about six to eight lateral branches develop per plant; pinching enhances branching.

Plant height.—About 11 cm.

Plant diameter (area of spread).—About 28 cm.

Lateral branch description:

Length.—About 25 cm.

Diameter.—About 2.5 mm.

Internode length.—About 1.4 cm.

Texture.—Pubescent.

Color.—Close to 143B.

Foliage description:

Arrangement.—Opposite, simple.

Length.—About 1.3 cm.

Width.—About 1.1 cm.

Shape.—Roughly cordate.

Apex.—Acuminate.

Base.—Obtuse with cordate tendencies.

Margin.—Crenulate.

Texture, upper and lower surfaces.—Sparsely pubescent.

Venation pattern.—Pinnate.

Color.—Developing and fully expanded leaves, upper surface: Close to 137A; venation, close to 144A. Developing and fully expanded leaves, lower surface: Close to 137B; venation, close to 144A.

Petiole.—Length: About 4.8 mm. Diameter: About 1.6 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, upper surface: Close to 144B. Color, lower surface: Close to 144C.

Flower description:

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Flower arrangement.—Large single rotate flowers; freely flowering habit with typically about 80 flowers developing per plant; flowers face mostly upright.

Fragrance.—None detected.

Natural flowering season.—Plants begin flowering about six weeks after planting and flower continuously year-round in moderate climates.

Flower longevity.—Flowers last about one week on the plant; flowers not persistent.

Flower diameter.—About 1.6 cm by 1.7 cm.

Flower length (height).—About 1 cm.

Flower buds.—Length: About 5.7 mm. Diameter: About 4 mm. Shape: Obovate. Color: Close to 85C to 85D.

Petals.—Quantity per flower: Corolla consists of five petals fused at the base. Length: About 7.4 mm. Width: About 6.8 mm. Shape: Roughly obovate. Apex: Obtuse, rounded. Base: Fused. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color: When opening, upper surface: Close to 85B. When opening, lower surface: Close to 85C; towards the base, close to 14C. Fully opened, upper surface: Close to 85B; throat, close to 15C. Fully opened, lower surface: Close to 85C; towards the base, close to 14C.

Sepals.—Appearance: Five sepals fused into a tubular calyx. Length: About 4.2 mm. Width: About 1 mm. Shape: Lanceolate. Apex: Acute. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 137D.

Peduncles.—Length: About 6 mm. Diameter: About 1 mm. Angle: Erect. Strength: Strong. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: Close to 137C.

About four. Filament length: About 8.5 mm. Filament color: Close to 155B. Anther shape: Cylindrical. Anther length: About 1.5 mm. Anther color: Close to 13B. Amount of pollen: Abundant. Pollen color: Close to 15B. Gynoecium: Pistil length: About 1 cm. Style length: About 8 mm. Style color: Close to 154D. Stigma color: Close to 151D. Ovary color: Close to 144B.

Seeds/fruits.—Seed and fruit production have not been observed.

It is claimed:

Temperature tolerance: Plants of the new *Bacopa* have been observed to tolerate temperatures from about 5° C. to about 40° C. Pathogen/pest resistance: Plants of the new *Bacopa* have not been shown to be resistant to pathogens and pests common 5

to Bacopa.

1. A new and distinct Bacopa plant named 'Duebahlabu' as illustrated and described.

