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Beekenkamp

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(54) ***DAHLIA* PLANT NAMED 'BKDADP'**

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

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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

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

2 Drawing Sheets

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Botanical designation: *Dahlia hybrida.*
Cultivar denomination: 'BKDADP'.

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 'Bkdadp'.

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 July, 2006 in Maasdijk, The Netherlands of a proprietary selection of *Dahlia hybrida* identified as code number 2006-0102, 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, 2007.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Dahlia* plant by cuttings in a controlled environment in Maasdijk, The Netherlands since November, 2007 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 'Bkdadp'. These characteristics in combination distinguish 'Bkdadp' as a new and distinct *Dahlia* plant:

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

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2. Dense and bushy growth habit.
3. Early and continuous flowering habit.
4. Double inflorescences with light red purple-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 shorter than plants of the female parent selection.
2. Plants of the new *Dahlia* flower earlier 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 dark pink-colored ray florets.

Plants of the new *Dahlia* can be compared to plants of *Dahlia* 'Gallery Sisley', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 16,808. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Maasdijk, The Netherlands, plants of the new *Dahlia* differed from plants of 'Gallery Sisley' in the following characteristics:

1. Leaves of plants of the new *Dahlia* were darker green in color than leaves of plants of 'Gallery Sisley'.
2. Leaves of plants of the new *Dahlia* were more deeply serrated than leaves of plants of 'Gallery Sisley'.

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 'Bkdadp' grown in a container.

The photograph on the second sheet is a close-up view of a typical inflorescence of 'Bkdadp'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photographs and the following observations and measurements describe plants grown during the

winter in 15-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 nine weeks 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* 'Bkdadp'.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Dahlia hybrida* identified as code number 2006-0102, 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 19° 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 19° 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; about eight 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 25 cm.

Plant diameter or spread.—About 27.8 cm.

Lateral branches.—Length: About 10.4 cm. Diameter: About 5 mm. Internode length: About 4.8 cm. Aspect: About 30° from vertical. Strength: Strong. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: Close to 143B.

Foliage description:

Arrangement.—Leaves opposite; leaves either single or compound with three to five leaflets.

Single leaves.—Length: About 10.2 cm. Width: About 7.9 cm.

Compound leaves.—Length: About 11.7 cm. Width: About 10.9 cm.

Leaflet leaves.—Length: About 6.4 cm. Width: About 3.5 cm.

Shape.—Single leaves: Broadly ovate. Leaflets: Ovate.

Apex, single leaves and leaflets.—Apiculate.

Base, single leaves and leaflets.—Attenuate.

Margin, single leaves and leaflets.—Coarsely dentate.

Venation pattern, single leaves and leaflets.—Pinnate.

Texture, upper surface, single leaves and leaflets.—Smooth, glabrous; mid-vein, sparsely pubescent.

Texture, lower surface, single leaves and leaflets.—Smooth, glabrous.

Color.—Developing leaves and leaflets, upper surface: Close to N137A. Developing leaves and leaflets, lower surface: Close to 147B. Fully expanded leaves and leaflets, upper surface: Darker than between N137D and 147A; venation, close to N137D. Fully expanded leaves and leaflets, lower surface: Close to 191A; venation, close to 146B.

Petioles.—Length: About 2.9 cm. Diameter: About 3 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 144A.

Inflorescence description:

Appearance and arrangement.—Double inflorescence form with ray and disc florets forming acropetally on a receptacle; inflorescences positioned above the foliar plane on strong peduncles; inflorescences face mostly upright; freely flowering habit, about 40 inflorescences developing per plant.

Fragrance.—None detected.

Time to flower.—Early flowering habit, plants begin flowering about ten weeks 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 1 cm. Diameter: About 1.4 cm. Shape: Flattened globular. Color: Close to 144A; towards the base, close to 143A.

Inflorescence size.—Diameter: About 8.4 cm. Depth (height): About 6.8 cm. Disc diameter: About 1.2 cm. Receptacle height: About 4 mm. Receptacle diameter: About 1.1 cm. Receptacle color: Close to 145C.

Ray florets.—Quantity per inflorescence: About 130 arranged in about five whorls. Length: About 3.8 cm. Width: About 1.9 cm. Shape: Obovate. Apex: Broadly acute. Base: Cuneate. Margin: Entire. Aspect: About 65° from vertical; ray florets concave. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; slightly velvety. Color: When opening, upper surface: Between 68B and 73B; towards the margins, close to 71B; towards the base, close to 3A to 3B. When opening, lower surface: Close to 71B to 71C; towards the base, close to 3B; longitudinal ribs, close to 155C. Fully opened, upper surface: Close to N74D; towards the margins, close to 71B; towards the base, close to 3A to 3B; color becoming closer to 70B with development. Fully opened, lower surface: Close to 67A; towards the base, close to 3C; longitudinal ribs, close to 155C.

Disc florets.—Quantity per inflorescence: About 36. Length: About 1.4 cm. Diameter: About 3 mm. Shape: Tubular, elongated; apices, acute. Texture, inner and outer surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, when opening and fully opened, inner and outer surfaces: Close to 13A; towards the base, close to 151C to 151D.

Phyllaries.—Quantity per inflorescence: About eight arranged in a single whorl. Length: About 2 cm. Width: About 6 mm. Shape: Narrowly oblong. Apex: Obtuse. Base: Broadly cuneate. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 151C; towards the base, close to 143A.

Peduncles.—Length, terminal peduncle: About 12.4 cm. Length, axillary peduncle: About 4.1 cm. Diameter: About 4 mm. Aspect: Erect to about 30° from vertical. Strength: Strong. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: Close to 146B.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium, present on disc florets only: Quantity per floret: About five. Filament length: About 3 mm. Filament color: Close to 151C to 151D. Anther shape: Narrowly oblong. Anther length: About 3 mm. Anther color: Close to 22A. Pollen amount: Moderate. Pollen color: Close to 23A. Gynoecium, present on ray and disc florets: Quantity per floret: One. Pistil length: About 1 cm. Style length: About 7 mm. Style color: Close to 151C to 151D. Stigma shape: Cleft. Stigma color: Close to 22A. Ovary color: Close to 145C. 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 'Bkdadp' as illustrated and described.

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