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

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

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

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(58) **Field of Classification Search** **Plt./321**
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Dahlia* plant named 'Bkdapwt', 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 white-colored ray florets; and good garden performance.

2 Drawing Sheets

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

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 'Bkdapwt'.

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, 2006 in Maasdijk, The Netherlands of a proprietary selection of *Dahlia hybrida* identified as code number 2006-1059, 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 'Bkdapwt'. These characteristics in combination distinguish 'Bkdapwt' 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. Semi-double inflorescences with white-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 darker green-colored leaves than plants of the female parent selection.
3. Plants of the new *Dahlia* have smaller inflorescences than plants of the female parent selection.

Plants of the new *Dahlia* can be compared to plants of *Dahlia* 'Dahlstar White', not patented. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Maasdijk, The Netherlands, plants of the new *Dahlia* differed from plants of 'Dahlstar White' in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Dahlia* flowered earlier than plants of 'Dahlstar White'.
2. Inflorescences of plants of the new *Dahlia* had more ray florets than inflorescences of plants of 'Dahlstar White'.
3. Inflorescences of plants of the new *Dahlia* had a smaller disc area than inflorescences of plants of 'Dahlstar White'.

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 'Bkdapwt' grown in a container.

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

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* 'Bkdapwt'.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Dahlia hybrida* identified as code number 2006-1059, 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 14.3 cm.

Plant diameter or spread.—About 18.3 cm.

Lateral branches.—Length: About 7.5 cm. Diameter: About 4 mm. Internode length: About 8 mm. Aspect: About 30° from vertical. Strength: Strong. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: Close to 143B and 144A.

Foliage description:

Arrangement.—Leaves opposite; single.

Length.—About 5.5 cm.

Width.—About 3.7 cm.

Shape.—Broadly ovate.

Apex.—Acuminate.

Base.—Attenuate.

Margin.—Coarsely dentate.

Venation pattern.—Pinnate.

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

Color.—Developing leaves, upper surface: Close to 137A to 141A. Developing leaves, lower surface: Close to 147B. Fully expanded leaves, upper surface:

Close to N137D; venation, close to 144A to 144B. Fully expanded leaves, lower surface: Close to 191A; venation, close to 147B.

Petioles.—Length: About 2.1 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 144A.

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 18 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 5.7 cm. Depth (height): About 1.5 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 42 arranged in about three whorls. Length: About 2.4 cm. Width: About 1 cm. 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 NN155B; towards the base, close to 150D. When opening, lower surface: Close to NN155B to NN155C; towards the base, close to 150D. Fully opened, upper surface: Close to NN155C to NN155D; color does not change with development. Fully opened, lower surface: Close to NN155B to NN155C; color does not change 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 14 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 5 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Aspect: Erect to about 30° from vertical. Strength: Strong. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: Close to 144A to 144B.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Not observed. Gynoecium, present on ray and disc florets: Quantity per floret: One. Pistil length: About 9 mm. 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 'Bkdapwt' as illustrated and described.

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