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van der Knaap

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(54) **KALANCHOE PLANT NAMED ‘DON NANDO’**

(50) Latin Name: *Kalanchoe blossfeldiana*
Varietal Denomination: **Don Nando**

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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Kalanchoe* plant named ‘Don Nando’, characterized by its upright, uniform and vigorous growth habit; freely branching habit; dark green-colored leaves; uniform and freely flowering habit; double pink-colored flowers; and excellent postproduction longevity.

2 Drawing Sheets

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Botanical designation: *Kalanchoe blossfeldiana*.
Cultivar denomination: ‘DON NANDO’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of *Kalanchoe* plant, botanically known as *Kalanchoe blossfeldiana* and hereinafter referred to by the name ‘Don Nando’.

The new *Kalanchoe* plant is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Naaldwijk, The Netherlands. The objective of the breeding program is to create new double-flowered *Kalanchoe* plants with attractive foliage and flower coloration.

The new *Kalanchoe* plant originated from a cross-pollination made by the Inventor in Naaldwijk, The Netherlands in May, 2007, of a proprietary selection of *Kalanchoe blossfeldiana* identified as code number 20051445-001, not patented, as the female, or seed parent with a proprietary selection of *Kalanchoe blossfeldiana* identified as code number 20061286-001, not patented, as the male, or pollen, parent. The new *Kalanchoe* 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 Naaldwijk, The Netherlands in March, 2008.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Kalanchoe* plant by vegetative terminal cuttings in a controlled greenhouse environment in Naaldwijk, The Netherlands since September, 2008 has shown that the unique features of this new *Kalanchoe* plant are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Plants of the new *Kalanchoe* have not been observed under all possible environmental conditions and cultural practices. The phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in environmental conditions such as temperature, daylength 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 ‘Don Nando’.

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These characteristics in combination distinguish ‘Don Nando’ as a new and distinct *Kalanchoe* plant:

1. Upright, uniform and vigorous growth habit.
2. Freely branching habit.
3. Dark green-colored leaves.
4. Uniform and freely flowering habit.
5. Double pink-colored flowers.
6. Excellent postproduction longevity.

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

1. Plants of the new *Kalanchoe* are smaller than plants of the female parent selection.
2. Plants of the new *Kalanchoe* are more freely branching than plants of the female parent selection.
3. Plants of the new *Kalanchoe* have smaller leaves than plants of the female parent selection.
4. Plants of the new *Kalanchoe* and the female parent selection differ in flower color as plants of the female parent selection have reddish pink-colored flowers.

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

1. Plants of the new *Kalanchoe* are smaller than plants of the male parent selection.
2. Plants of the new *Kalanchoe* are more freely branching than plants of the male parent selection.
3. Plants of the new *Kalanchoe* have smaller leaves than plants of the male parent selection.

Plants of the new *Kalanchoe* can be compared to plants of the *Kalanchoe blossfeldiana* ‘Don Juan’, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 17,576. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Naaldwijk, The Netherlands, plants of the new *Kalanchoe* differed from plants of ‘Don Juan’ in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Kalanchoe* were more compact than plants of ‘Don Juan’.
2. Plants of the new *Kalanchoe* had smaller leaves than plants of ‘Don Juan’.

3. Plants of the new *Kalanchoe* and 'Don Juan' differed in flower color as plants of 'Don Juan' were red in color.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying colored photographs illustrate the overall appearance of the new *Kalanchoe* 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 *Kalanchoe* plant.

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

The photograph on the second sheet are close-up views of a typical flower (top), a typical inflorescence (center) and the upper and lower surfaces of typical leaves (bottom).

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photographs and following observations, measurements and values describe plants grown during the summer in 12-cm containers in a glass-covered greenhouse in Naaldwijk, The Netherlands and under conditions which closely approximate commercial *Kalanchoe* production. During the production of the plants, day temperatures ranged from 20° C. to 30° C., night temperatures ranged from 18° C. to 25° C. and light levels ranged from 5 to 60 kilolux. Plants received long day/short night conditions (more than 14 hours of light) for about four weeks; plants then received photoinductive short day/long night conditions (minimum 14 hours darkness) until flowering. Plants were 13 weeks old when the photographs and the description were taken. In the detailed 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: *Kalanchoe blossfeldiana* 'Don Nando'.
parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Kalanchoe blossfeldiana* identified as code number 20051445-001, not patented.

Male or pollen parent.—Proprietary selection of *Kalanchoe blossfeldiana* identified as code number 20061286-001, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—By vegetative terminal cuttings.

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

Time to initiate roots, winter.—About two weeks at temperatures of 21° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, summer.—About three weeks at temperatures of 21° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, winter.—About four weeks at temperatures of 21° C.

Root description.—Fine, fibrous; white in color.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching; dense.

Plant description:

Plant habit.—Upright, uniform and moderately vigorous growth habit with rounded crown; freely flowering with numerous compound cymes; appropriate for 12-cm and larger containers.

Plant height at flowering.—About 19.4 cm.

Plant diameter at flowering.—About 24.1 cm.

Lateral branch description:

Branching habit.—Freely branching habit; usually about eight lateral branches develop per plant.

Length.—About 5.2 cm.

Diameter.—About 4 mm.

Internode length.—About 1.1 cm.

Aspect.—Erect.

Strength.—Strong.

Texture.—Smooth, glabrous.

Color.—Close to 144A.

Foliage description:

Arrangement.—Opposite, simple; generally symmetrical.

Length, generative plants.—About 9.8 cm.

Width, generative plants.—About 5.6 cm.

Shape.—Ovate.

Apex.—Rounded acute.

Base.—Cuneate.

Margin.—Coarsely crenate.

Texture, upper and lower surfaces.—Glabrous, leathery; succulent.

Venation pattern.—Pinnate; reticulate.

Color.—Developing leaves, upper surface: Close to between 137A and 143A. Developing leaves, lower surface: Close to 137C. Fully expanded leaves, upper surface: Close to between N137D and 147A; venation, close to 143B. Fully expanded leaves, lower surface: Close to between 138A and 146A; venation, close to 144B.

Petiole.—Length: About 1.7 cm. Diameter: About 5 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 143B.

Flower description:

Flower arrangement and habit.—Double flowers arranged singly in compound dichasial cymes arising from leaf axils; uniform and freely flowering habit with usually about 50 flowers developing per inflorescence.

Fragrance.—None detected.

Natural flowering season.—Plants of the new *Kalanchoe* initiate and develop flowers during the late autumn/winter/early spring; flower initiation and development can also be induced under artificial short day/long night conditions (at least 14 hours of darkness); plants will flower from spring into the autumn in the garden.

Time to flower.—Under short day/long night photoinductive conditions, about 60 days are required.

Post-production longevity.—Excellent post-production longevity; flowers maintain good substance for about seven weeks under interior environmental conditions; individual flowers last about ten days on the plant; flowers persistent.

Inflorescence height.—About 10.5 cm.

Inflorescence diameter.—About 7 cm.

Flower diameter.—About 2 cm.

Flower length (height).—About 1.6 cm.

Flower bud.—Length: About 9 mm. Diameter: About 6 mm. Shape: Obovate. Color: Close to 143B; towards the apex, close to 145B flushed with close to 65C.

Petals.—Quantity and arrangement: About 27 fused at the base in several whorls. Length: About 1.7 cm to 1.9 cm. Width: About 5 mm. Shape: Narrowly obovate to obovate. Apex: Abruptly acute. Margin:

Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; somewhat velvety.

Color.—When opening, upper surface: Close to 63C; towards the base, close to 145B. When opening, lower surface: Close to 65C; towards the base, close to 145B. Fully opened, upper surface: Close to N66C; towards the base, close to 145B; color does not fade with development. Fully opened, lower surface: Close to 63C; towards the base, close to 145B.

Sepals.—Quantity and appearance: Three, fused at the base. Length: About 8 mm. Width: About 2 mm. Shape: Lanceolate. Apex: Narrowly acute. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth; glabrous. Color: Immature, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 143B. Mature, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 143C.

Peduncles.—Length: About 7 cm. Diameter: About 3.5 mm. Aspect: Mostly erect. Strength: Moderately strong. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: Close to 143B.

Pedicels.—Length: About 5 mm. Diameter: About 1.5 mm. Aspect: Erect to about 45° from vertical. Strength: Moderately strong. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: Close to 143B.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Stamen number: About ten per flower. Filament length: About 2 mm. Filament color: Close to 63C. Anther length: About 0.4 mm. Anther shape: Oblong. Anther color: Close to 152B. Amount of pollen: Scarce. Pollen color: Close to 11A. Gynoecium: Pistil number: About five per flower. Pistil length: About 2 mm. Style length: About 1.5 mm. Style color: Close to 145C. Stigma shape: Club-shaped. Stigma color: Close to 153C. Ovary color: Close to 145B to 145C.

Seeds and fruits.—Seed and fruit development has not been observed on plants of the new *Kalanchoe*.

Temperature tolerance: Plants of the new *Kalanchoe* have been observed to tolerate temperatures from about 5° C. to about 35° C.

Pathogen/pest resistance: Plants of the new *Kalanchoe* have not been observed to be resistant to pests and pathogens common to *Kalanchoes*.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Kalanchoe* plant named ‘Don Nando’ as illustrated and described.

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