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

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(54) **CARNATION PLANT NAMED ‘CFPC MELE’**

(50) Latin Name: *Dianthus caryophyllus*
Varietal Denomination: **CFPC Mele**

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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 449 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **12/807,556**

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(65) **Prior Publication Data**

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(51) **Int. Cl.**
A01H 5/00 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./275**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** **Plt./275**
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

PP14,830 P3 5/2004 Hasegawa **Plt./273**
PP17,596 P3 4/2007 Hasegawa **Plt./276**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new variety of carnation plant named ‘CFPC Mele’ having
a compact form of plant with well presented yellow flowers.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Latin name of the genus and species: Botanical classifica-
tion: *Dianthus caryophyllus*.

Variety denomination: The new carnation variety denomi-
nation is ‘CFPC Mele’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention comprises a new and distinct cultivar
of hybrid carnation botanically known as *Dianthus caryo-*
phyllus, and referred to by the cultivar name ‘CFPC Mele’.
The new variety, identified as selection no. 060102, was dis-
covered as a naturally occurring whole plant mutation in a
controlled cultivated planting of the variety ‘CFPC Annette’
(U.S. Plant Pat. No. 17,596) in Salinas, Calif. The original
plant from which the new mutation variety originated is the
variety known as ‘CFPC Annette’. The new variety ‘CFPC
Mele’ has been asexually reproduced by vegetative side shoot
cuttings in Salinas, Calif. and the distinguishing characteris-
tics are retained through successive generations of asexual
reproduction.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

‘CFPC Mele’ is a potted spray-type carnation plant variety
having a compact form of plant with well presented yellow
flowers.

Comparison With Original Variety ‘CFPC Annette’

Plants of the new carnation variety ‘CFPC Mele’ are simi-
lar to the original variety ‘CFPC Annette’ in plant habit and
growth rate. Under similar growing conditions in Salinas,
Calif., under commercial practice, plants of the new carnation
variety ‘CFPC Mele’ differed from plants of the original
variety ‘CFPC Annette’ in the following characteristic:

1. The new variety ‘CFPC Mele’ produces light yellow
flowers whereas the original variety ‘CFPC Annette’
produces light pink flowers.

Comparison With Other Similar Varieties

Plants of the new carnation variety ‘CFPC Mele’ are simi-
lar to plants of the variety ‘CFPC Yellow Lacy’ (U.S. Plant

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Pat. No. 14,830) in plant habitat and growth rate. Under
similar growing conditions, however, in Salinas, Calif., under
commercial practice, plants of the new carnation variety
‘CFPC Mele’ differed from plants of ‘CFPC Yellow Lacy’ in
the following characteristics:

1. The new variety ‘CFPC Mele’ produces light yellow
flowers whereas the variety ‘CFPC Yellow Lacy’ pro-
duces darker yellow flowers with picotee faint pink.
2. The new variety ‘CFPC Mele’ produces plants that are
slightly taller than plants of the variety ‘CFPC Yellow
Lacy’.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ILLUSTRATION

Typical specimens of the plant and flowers for the new
carnation variety ‘CFPC Mele’ are shown in the accompany-
ing photograph. The colors shown are as true as possible
within the usual limits of this kind of illustration.

FIG. 1 is a whole plant view of the new variety ‘CFPC
Mele’ grown in a pot. The plant shown in the illustration is
120 days from date of planting.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The following description of the new carnation variety
‘CFPC Mele’ is of plants 139 days from a planting date of
Dec. 6, 2009 grown in a commercial greenhouse in Salinas,
Calif. The cultivar has not been observed under all possible
environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary signifi-
cantly with variations in the environment such as tempera-
ture, length of day and light intensity without any variance in
genotype.

Plants of the new variety have been grown successfully
under temperature conditions averaging about 18° C. at night
and about 24° C. to 28° C. during the day under light condi-
tions of about 14 hours. Plants are daylight neutral and flower
throughout the year. Chemical growth regulators are not
required for production. The new variety may be produced as
a potted spray-type carnation. To produce a commercial prod-
uct the plants may be pinched once with the center bud

removed. Pinched plants are about 6 inches tall and about 6 inches in diameter. Flower diameter averages about 2 inches with a crown of about 1 inch. Foliage is generally about 3½ inches long and about ¾ inches at the widest point. The typical container size for commercial growth is 4½ inches.

It has been observed that the shelf life of the new variety is about 21 days with a time to first bud opening of about 15-16 weeks. The commercial classification of the new carnation variety is a potted spray-type. The plant hardiness zone has not been determined.

The following description is with respect to a plant produced as a potted spray-type carnation. The plant and flower measurements and foliage size are established as an average using standard commercial cultural practices. In the description of this new carnation variety, color values have been taken from The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart (R.H.S.C.C.).

Plant

Height (inches): 7½ at blooming time.

Form: Herbaceous.

Growing habit: Semi upright.

Branching characteristics: 4-5 laterals per stem.

Breaking action: 6-8 breaks per plant with strong straight stems.

First appearance of color in buds: 105 days after planting.

Vigor: Excellent.

Shelf life: 21 days.

Blooming habit: Spray type.

Blooming season: Year round.

Lastingness of blooms: About 10 days.

Disease (susceptibility/resistance observed): Excellent resistance to soil-borne diseases such as *Fusarium oxysporum* and *F. graminearum*, and root rots such as damping off, water molds and similar types, as are typical of carnations.

Pest susceptibility/resistance not evaluated or observed.

Drought and temperature susceptibility/resistance not evaluated or observed.

Mutation prone: No.

Propagation:

Type.—Side shoot cuttings.

Time to rooting.—18 days with soil temperatures of about 18° C. to 21° C.

Rooting habit.—Good fibrous system.

Growth treatments or special conditions: Single pinch.

Foliage

Stem:

Length (inches).—6.

Diameter (inches).—¾ (at base).

Texture.—Smooth.

Cross section.—Edged.

Color.—137 B internode. 145 C node.

Number of leaves per lateral branch: 26.

Arrangement of leaves: Bi-lateral along the stem.

Shape of leaf.—Long, narrow, lanceolate.

Size of leaf.—Width (inches): ¾. Length (inches): 3½.

Leaf apex.—Acute.

Edge.—Smooth.

Base.—Smooth.

Aspect.—Elliptic.

Surface texture.—Top: smooth. Bottom: smooth.

Leaf venation: Prominent mid-vein at underside.

Leaf longitudinal axis: Recurved.

Leaf cross section (upper side): Weakly concave.

Leaf color:

Mature leaf.—Upper side: 137 B; Under side: 137 C.

Young leaf.—Upper side: 137 D; Under side: 138 B.

5 Leaf waxy layer: Medium.

Flower

Flower appearance: Matte to shiny.

10 Flower type: Double.

Flower profile of upper part of corolla: Convex.

Flower profile of lower part of corolla: Concave.

Flower shape: Somewhat domed shape rounded.

15 Number of blossom per branch: 6-7.

Depth of fully expanded blossoms (inches).—1.

Diameter of fully expanded blossoms (inches).—2.

Calyx:

Sepals number.—5.

20 *Length (inches)*.—1½.

Width (inches).—7/16.

Color.—Outer side base: 144 B. Outer side middle to tip: 144 A. Inner side: 138 C.

Texture.—Smooth.

25 *Appearance*.—Matte with waxy bloom.

Shape.—Cylindrical.

Flower petals:

Form/shape.—Fan shape (type 4 UPOV).

30 *Petal edge*.—Serrated: width: 1/16 inches. depth: 1/16 inches. Edge type: crenate-dentate.

Texture.—Smooth.

Appearance.—Matte-shiny.

Petal surface of blade.—Undulating.

35 *Number per flower*.—24.

Outer petals.—Length (inches): 1¾. Width (inches): 1½.

Inner petals.—Length (inches): 1¼. Width (cm): 5/8.

Fragrance: Absent.

40 Flower bud (at onset of color):

Length (inches).—1½.

Diameter (inches).—½.

Form/shape.—Cylindrical.

Flower color:

45 1. *General tonality*.—Yellow.

2. *Petals, upper surface*.—4 B.

3. *Petals, lower surface*.—4 C.

4. *Petals, edge*.—4 B.

5. *Petals, center*.—4 C.

50 6. *Early bud*.—18 A.

Color distribution: One color.

Petal macule (random spots): Absent.

Flower progression with age: Color slightly fades to lighter color.

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Reproductive organs

Gynoecium: Pistillate.

Pistil number.—1.

60 *Pistil length (inches)*.—1½.

Stigma color.—4 B.

Stigma shape.—Filamentous.

Style color.—Whiter than 155 D.

65 *Style length (inches)*.—1½.

Style number.—Two and three.

Ovary:

Shape.—Ovoid.

Surface.—Smooth.

Color.—Base: 145 C. Body: 145 C. Apex: 145 A.

Androecium: None produced.

Fruit and seeds: None produced.

What is claimed is:

1. A new and distinct variety of carnation plant, substantially as described and illustrated herein.

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