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(54) **BEGONIA PLANT NAMED ‘TMBEG096’**

(50) Latin Name: *Begonia*×*tuberhybrida*
Varietal Denomination: **TMBEG096**

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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(52) **U.S. Cl.**

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(58) **Field of Classification Search**

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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Begonia* plant named
‘TMBEG096’, characterized by its upright to spreading and
mounded plant habit; moderately freely basal branching
habit; freely and continuously flowering habit; fragrant flow-
ers; single and double flowers that are orange, orange red and
yellow in color.

2 Drawing Sheets

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Botanical designation: *Begonia*×*tuberhybrida*.

Cultivar denomination: ‘TMBEG096’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of *Begonia* plant, botanically known as *Begonia*×*tuberhy-*
brida, and hereinafter referred to by the name ‘TMBEG096’.

The new *Begonia* plant is a product of a planned breeding
program conducted by the Inventor in Harkstead, Ipswich,
United Kingdom. The objective of the breeding program was
to develop new trailing *Begonia* plants with fragrant flowers.

The new *Begonia* plant originated from a cross-pollination
made by the Inventor in August, 2008 of a proprietary selec-
tion of *Begonia*×*tuberhybrida* identified as code number
BG07074A, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with
a proprietary selection of *Begonia*×*tuberhybrida* identified as
code number BG07074B, not patented, as the male, or pollen,
parent. The new *Begonia* plant was discovered and selected
by the Inventor as a single flowering plant from within the
progeny of the stated cross-pollination in a controlled green-
house environment in Harkstead, Ipswich, United Kingdom
in July, 2009.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Begonia* plant by shoot tip
cuttings in a controlled greenhouse environment in Hark-
stead, Ipswich, United Kingdom since August, 2009 has
shown that the unique features of this new *Begonia* plant are
stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Plants of the new *Begonia* have not been observed under all
possible environmental conditions and cultural practices. The
phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in environ-
ment such as temperature and light intensity, without, how-
ever, any variance in genotype.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are
determined to be the unique characteristics of ‘TMBEG096’.
These characteristics in combination distinguish
‘TMBEG096’ as a new and distinct *Begonia* plant:

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1. Upright to spreading and mounded plant habit.

2. Moderately freely basal branching habit.

3. Freely and continuously flowering habit.

4. Fragrant flowers.

5. Single and double flowers that are orange, orange red
and yellow in color.

Plants of the new *Begonia* can be compared to plants of the
female parent selection. Plants of the new *Begonia* differ from
plants of the female parent selection in the following charac-
teristics:

1. Plants of the new *Begonia* have darker green-colored
leaves than plants of the female parent selection.

2. Plants of the new *Begonia* and the female parent selec-
tion differ in flower color as plants of the female parent
selection have light yellow and orange-colored flowers.

3. Flowers of plants of the new *Begonia* are more fragrant
than flowers of plants of the female parent selection.

Plants of the new *Begonia* can be compared to plants of the
male parent selection. Plants of the new *Begonia* differ from
plants of the male parent selection in the following charac-
teristics:

1. Plants of the new *Begonia* are more freely flowering than
plants of the male parent selection.

2. Plants of the new *Begonia* have double and single flow-
ers whereas plants of the male parent selection have
semi-double flowers.

3. Plants of the new *Begonia* and the male parent selection
differ slightly in flower color.

4. Flowers of plants of the new *Begonia* are more fragrant
than flowers of plants of the male parent selection.

Plants of the new *Begonia* can be compared to plants of the
Begonia ‘Encanto Orange’, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No.
20,898. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Harkstead,
Ipswich, United Kingdom, plants of the new *Begonia* differed
from plants of ‘Encanto Orange’ in the following character-
istics:

1. Plants of the new *Begonia* had larger and darker green-
colored leaves than plants of ‘Encanto Orange’.

2. Plants of the new *Begonia* had larger flowers than plants
of ‘Encanto Orange’.

3. Plants of the new *Begonia* had larger flowers than plants of 'Encanto Orange'.
4. Plants of the new *Begonia* had double and single flowers whereas plants of 'Encanto Orange' only had single flowers.
5. Plants of the new *Begonia* and 'Encanto Orange' differed in flower color as plants of 'Encanto Orange' had bright orange-colored flowers.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

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

The photograph on the first sheet comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'TMBEG096' grown in a container.

The photograph on the second sheet are close up views of upper and lower surfaces of typical double and single flowers and upper and lower surfaces of typical leaves of 'TMBEG096'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTIONS

Plants used for the aforementioned photographs and following observations and measurements were grown in 12-cm containers during the summer in a glass-covered greenhouse in Maasdijk, The Netherlands. During the production of the plants, day temperatures ranged from 18° C. to 19° C. and night temperatures averaged 17° C. Plants were 14 weeks old when the photographs and the 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: *Begonia*x*tuberhybrida* 'TMBEG096'.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Begonia*x*tuberhybrida* identified as code number BG07074A, not patented.

Male, or pollen, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Begonia*x*tuberhybrida* identified as code number BG07074B, not patented.

PROPAGATION:

Type.—By tip cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—About 20 days at temperatures of about 25° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant.—About 40 to 42 days at temperatures of about 21° C. to 23° C.

Root description.—Medium in thickness, fibrous; white in color; plants of the new *Begonia* have not been observed to form tubers.

Rooting habit.—Moderately freely branching; medium density.

Plant description:

Plant form and growth habit.—Upright to spreading and mounded plant habit; flattened globular in shape; moderately freely basal branching with about four primary branches per plant; primary branches with secondary branches at potentially every node; moderately vigorous growth habit.

Plant height.—About 17 cm.

Plant width.—About 34.2 cm.

Lateral branch description.—Length: About 7.5 cm.

Diameter: About 8 mm. Internode length: About 2 cm.

Texture: Sparsely pubescent. Color: Close to 148B heavily tinged with close to 176B.

Leaf description.—Arrangement: Alternate, simple.

Length: About 15 cm. Width: About 9.3 cm. Shape:

Ovate to deltoid. Apex: Acute. Base: Oblique,

unequal cordate. Margin: Bi-serrate. Texture, upper

and lower surfaces: Sparsely pubescent; velvety.

Venation pattern: Palmate; reticulate. Color: Develop-

ing leaves, upper surface: Close to 137B. Develop-

ing leaves, lower surface: Close to 146C to 146D

slightly tinged with close to 172B. Fully expanded

leaves, upper surface: Darker than 147A; venation,

close to 146C. Fully expanded leaves, lower surface:

Close to 148C to 148D strongly tinged with close to

184B; venation, between 152A and 197A. Petioles:

Length: About 5.9 cm. Diameter: About 5 mm. Tex-

ture, upper and lower surfaces: Moderately pubes-

cent. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 174B;

base, tinged with close to 152B to 152C; apex, close to

185A.

Flower description:

Flowering habit.—Double (male) and single (female)

rotate flowers arranged in axillary cymes; freely flow-

ering habit with about three flowers per cyme and

about 36 flowers developing per plant; flowers and

face mostly outwardly to nodding.

Fragrance.—Moderately fragrant; fragrance pleasant, sweet-acidic.

Natural flowering season.—Plants begin flowering

about seven weeks after planting; long flowering

period, plants flower freely and continuously from

spring until autumn in The Netherlands.

Flower longevity.—Individual flowers last about ten days on the plant; flowers not persistent.

Inflorescence height (including peduncle).—About 16.8 cm.

Inflorescence diameter.—About 12.5 cm.

Flowers.—Female flowers, diameter: About 8.2 cm.

Female flowers, depth (height): About 3.8 cm. Male

flowers, diameter: About 9.5 cm. Male flowers, depth

(height): About 4.8 cm.

Flower buds.—Length, female flowers: About 2.1 cm.

Diameter, female flowers: About 8 mm to 18 mm.

Length, male flowers: About 3 cm. Diameter, male

flowers: About 1.3 cm to 3.5 cm. Shape, female and

male flowers: Broadly ovate to nearly circular, flat-

tened. Color, female and male flowers: Close to 34B

to 34C; towards the base, close to 145C to 145D.

Tepals.—Quantity per flower: Female flowers, usually

about four per flower; male flowers, usually about two

per flower. Length, female flowers: About 4.9 cm.

Width, female flowers: About 2.9 cm to 4.3 cm.

Length, male flowers: About 6 cm. Width, male flow-

ers: About 6.9 cm. Shape, female flowers: Broadly

obcordate to obovate. Shape, male flowers: Broadly

ovate to nearly circular. Apex, female and male flow-

ers: Obtuse. Margin, female and male flowers: Entire.

Texture, female and male flowers, upper and lower

surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; velvety. Color, female

and male flowers: When opening, upper surface:

Close to 30C; towards the margins, close to N30B;

toward the base, close to 14B. When opening, lower surface: Close to N30A. Fully opened, upper surface: Close to 13A to 13B; towards the margins, close to between 28A and 30B; color does not fade with development. Fully opened, lower surface: Close to 5
between 30A and N30B; color does not fade with development.

Tepaloids.—Quantity per flower: Present only on male flowers, usually about 65 per flower. Length: About 2.4 cm to 4.2 cm. Width: About 1.3 cm to 4 cm. Shape: 10
Broadly obcordate to obcordate. Apex: Obtuse. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; velvety. Color: When opening, upper surface: Close to 8A; towards the margins, close to 24C to 24D. When opening, lower surface: 15
Close to 10B; towards the margins, close to 29A. Fully opened, upper surface: Close to 13A to 13B; margins, close to between 28A and 30B; color does not fade with development. Fully opened, lower surface: Close to between 30A and N20B; color does not 20
fade with development.

Peduncles.—Length: About 10.4 cm. Diameter: About 5 mm. Angle: About 40° from vertical. Strength: Moderately strong. Texture: Sparsely pubescent. Color: Close to 199B; distally, close to 185A.

Pedicels.—Length, female flowers: About 3.9 cm. Diameter, female flowers: About 2 mm. Length, male

flowers: About 1.4 cm. Diameter, male flowers: About 3 mm. Angle, female flowers: About 40° from vertical. Angle, male flowers: Mostly erect. Strength, female and male flowers: Moderately strong. Texture, female and male flowers: Smooth, glabrous. Color, female and male flowers: Upper surface: Close to 146D strongly tinged with close to between 46A and 185A. Lower surface: Close to 146D.

Reproductive organs.—Female flowers: Number of pistils: About three per flower. Pistil length: About 7 mm. Style length: About 4 mm. Style color: Close to 14A. Stigma color: Close to 14A. Ovary color: Close to 146D; upper surface and apex strongly tinged with close to 173A. Male flowers: All stamens on male flowers transformed into tepaloids.

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

Disease/pest resistance: Resistance to pathogens and pests common to *Begonia* has not been observed on plants of the new *Begonia*.

Temperature tolerance: Plants of the new *Begonia* have been observed to tolerate temperatures from about 12° C. to about 35° C.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Begonia* plant named ‘TMBEG096’ as illustrated and described.

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