



US00PP24401P2

(12) **United States Plant Patent**
Ren(10) **Patent No.:** US PP24,401 P2
(45) **Date of Patent:** Apr. 22, 2014

- (54) **CALIBRACHOA PLANT NAMED 'BALCABRITE'**
- (50) Latin Name: *Calibrachoa×hybrida*
Varietal Denomination: **Balcabrite**
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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 99 days.
- (21) Appl. No.: **13/507,867**
- (22) Filed: **Aug. 2, 2012**

- (51) **Int. Cl.**
A01H 5/00 (2006.01)
- (52) **U.S. Cl.**
USPC **Plt./413**
- (58) **Field of Classification Search**
USPC Plt./413
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**
A new and distinct cultivar of *Calibrachoa* plant named 'Balcabrite', characterized by its dark red-colored flowers, medium green-colored foliage, and moderately vigorous, trailing growth habit, is disclosed.

1 Drawing Sheet**1**

Latin name of genus and species of plant claimed: *Calibrachoa×hybrida*.

Variety denomination: 'Balcabrite'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of *Calibrachoa* plant botanically known as *Calibrachoa×hybrida* and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name 'Balcabrite'.

The new cultivar originated in a controlled breeding program in Elburn, Ill. during August 2008. The objective of the breeding program was the development of *Calibrachoa* cultivars with attractive flower coloration, medium green-colored foliage, and a moderately vigorous, trailing growth habit.

The new *Calibrachoa* cultivar is the result of cross-pollination. The female (seed) parent of the new cultivar is the proprietary *Calibrachoa×hybrida* breeding selection coded 2333-4, not patented, characterized by its dark cherry-rose colored flowers, medium green-colored foliage, and moderately vigorous, mounded-trailing growth habit. The male (pollen) parent of the new cultivar is the proprietary *Calibrachoa×hybrida* breeding selection coded 2376-4A, not patented, characterized by its scarlet-colored flowers, medium green-colored foliage, and vigorous, semi-upright growth habit. The new cultivar was discovered and selected as a single flowering plant within the progeny of the above stated cross-pollination during May 2009 in a controlled environment in Elburn, Ill.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal stem cuttings since May 2009 in West Chicago, Ill. has demonstrated that the new cultivar reproduces true to type with all of the characteristics, as herein described, firmly fixed and retained through successive generations of such asexual propagation.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following characteristics of the new cultivar have been repeatedly observed and can be used to distinguish 'Balcabrite' as a new and distinct cultivar of *Calibrachoa* plant:

1. Dark red-colored flowers;
2. Medium green-colored foliage; and
3. Moderately vigorous, trailing growth habit.

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Plants of the new cultivar differ from plants of the female parent primarily in flower color and from plants of the male parent primarily in flower color and growth habit.

Of the many commercially available *Calibrachoa* cultivars, the most similar in comparison to the new cultivar is CABARET 'Balcabscar', U.S. Plant Pat. No. 17,374. However, in side by side comparisons, plants of the new cultivar differ from plants of 'Balcabscar' in at least flower color. Plants of the new cultivar have a darker red petal color than plants of 'Balcabscar'.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying photographs show, as nearly true as it is reasonably possible to make the same in color illustrations of this type, typical flower and foliage characteristics of the new cultivar. Colors in the photographs differ slightly from the color values cited in the detailed description, which accurately describes the colors of 'Balcabrite'. The plants were grown in 4-inch pots for 5 weeks in a greenhouse in West Chicago, Ill.

FIG. 1 illustrates a side view of the overall growth and flowering habit of 'Balcabrite'.

FIG. 2 illustrates a close-up view of an individual flower of 'Balcabrite'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The new cultivar has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions to date. Accordingly, it is possible that the phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in the environment, such as temperature, light intensity, and day length, without, however, any variance in genotype.

The chart used in the identification of colors described herein is The R.H.S. Colour Chart of The Royal Horticultural Society, London, England, 2007 edition, except where general color terms of ordinary significance are used. The color values were determined in May 2012 under natural light conditions in West Chicago, Ill.

The following descriptions and measurements describe plants produced from cuttings from stock plants and grown in a glass-covered greenhouse under conditions comparable to

those used in commercial practice. The plants were grown in West Chicago, Ill. in 4-inch pots for 5 weeks utilizing a soilless growth medium. Greenhouse temperatures were maintained at approximately 70° F. to 77° F. (21° C. to 25° C.) during the day and approximately 65° F. to 68° F. (18° C. to 20° C.) during the night. Greenhouse light levels of 2,500 footcandles to 6,000 footcandles were maintained during the day. Measurements and numerical values represent averages of typical plants.

Botanical classification: *Calibrachoa×hybrida* cultivar Bal-¹⁰
cabrite.

Parentage:

Female parent.—Proprietary *Calibrachoa×hybrida*
breeding selection coded 2333-4, not patented.

Male parent.—Proprietary *Calibrachoa×hybrida*
breeding selection coded 2376-4A, not patented.

Propagation:

Type cutting.—Terminal stem.

Time to initiate roots.—Approximately 6 to 8 days.

Time to produce a rooted cutting.—Approximately 24 to
28 days.

Root description.—Fibrous.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching.

Plant description:

Commercial crop time.—Approximately 6 to 7 weeks
from a rooted cutting to finish in a 10 cm pot.

Growth habit and general appearance.—Moderately
vigorous, trailing.

Size.—Height from soil level to top of plant plane:
Approximately 8.0 cm. Width: Approximately 32.1
cm.

Branching habit.—Freely branching, pinching
enhances basal branching. Quantity of main branches
per plant: Approximately 6.

Branch.—Strength: Moderate. Length: Approximately
14.8 cm. Diameter: Approximately 2.0 mm. Length of
central internode: Approximately 1.8 cm. Texture:
Densely glandular pubescent. Gland color: Colorless,
transparent. Color of young and mature stems: 144A
with an overlay of 187A.

Foliage description:

General description.—Quantity of leaves per main
branch: Approximately 12. Fragrance: Slight. Form:
Simple. Arrangement on flowering stem: Alternate.

Leaves.—Aspect: At acute angle to stem with tip turning
downward. Shape: Elliptic. Margin: Entire. Apex:
Broadly acute. Base: Attenuate. Venation pattern:
Pinnate. Length of mature leaf: Approximately 2.8
cm. Width of mature leaf: Approximately 1.1 cm.
Texture of upper and lower surfaces: Moderately
glandular pubescent. Gland color: Colorless, trans-
parent. Color of upper surface of young foliage: 137B
with venation of 144D to indistinguishable. Color of
lower surface of young and mature foliage: 138A with
venation of 138D to indistinguishable. Color of upper
surface of mature foliage: 137A with venation of
144D to indistinguishable.

Petiole.—Length: Approximately 2.0 mm. Diameter:
Approximately 1.0 mm. Texture: Moderately glandu-
lar pubescent. Gland color: Colorless, transparent.
Color: 144D.

Flowering description:

Flowering habit.—‘Balcabrite’ is freely flowering
under outdoor growing conditions with substantially

continuous blooming from spring through autumn
and year-round in greenhouse environment.

Lastingness of individual flower on the plant.—Ap-
proximately 5 to 7 days.

Flower description:

General description.—Type: Single, salverform. Quan-
tity per plant: Approximately 15. Fragrance: Slight.

Bud.—Rate of opening: Generally takes 3 to 4 days for
bud to progress from first color to fully open flower.
Quantity per plant: Approximately 7.

Bud just before opening.—Shape: Oblong. Length:
Approximately 1.9 cm. Diameter: Approximately 5.0
mm. Texture: Densely glandular pubescent. Gland
color: Colorless, transparent. Color: Petal portion
N79B and tube portion 151C, venation of N186A.

Corolla.—Diameter: Approximately 2.9 cm.

Petals.—Quantity: 5, fused to form a tube. Shape: Obo-
vate. Margin: Entire. Apex: Obtuse. Length from
tube: Approximately 1.1 cm. Length of free portion:
Approximately 5.0 mm. Width: Approximately 1.5
cm. Texture of upper surface: Glabrous. Texture of
lower surface: Moderately glandular pubescent.
Gland color: Colorless, transparent. Color of upper
surface when first open: Closest to 53A with midveins
of N186A. Color of lower surface when first and fully
open: 185A with midveins of N186A. Color of upper
surface when fully open: Closest to 53B with mid-
veins of N186A.

Corolla tube.—Length: Approximately 1.5 cm. Diam-
eter at distal end: Approximately 7.0 mm. Diameter at
proximal end: Approximately 2.0 mm. Texture of
inner surface: Glabrous. Texture of outer surface:
Densely glandular pubescent. Gland color: Colorless,
transparent. Color of inner surface: 13A with venation
of N186A. Color of outer surface: 151D with venation
of N186A.

Sepals.—Quantity per flower: 5, fused along lower
third. Shape: Lanceolate. Apex: Acute. Length:
Approximately 1.5 cm. Width: Approximately 2.0
mm. Texture of upper surface: Densely glandular
pubescent. Texture of lower surface: Densely glandu-
lar pubescent. Gland color: Colorless, transparent.
Color of upper surface: 137A. Color of lower surface:
138B with base of 145B.

Peduncle.—Strength: Strong. Aspect: Acute angle to
stem. Length: Approximately 1.7 cm. Diameter:
Approximately 1.0 mm. Texture: Densely glandular
pubescent. Gland color: Colorless, transparent.
Color: 144B with a faint overlay of 187A.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Stamen quantity:
5, basifixed. Stamen length: Approximately 1.1 cm.
Filament length of fixed portion: Approximately 5.0
mm. Filament color: 154D with streaks of N186A.
Anther shape: Bilobed, ovoid. Anther length:
Approximately 1.0 mm. Anther color: 8A. Pollen
amount: Abundant. Pollen color: 8B. Gynoecium:
Pistil quantity: 1 per flower. Pistil length: Approx-
imately 1.0 cm. Stigma shape: Funnel. Stigma length:
Less than 1.0 mm. Stigma color: 144A. Style length:
Approximately 8.0 mm. Style color: N144D. Ovary
diameter: Approximately 2.0 mm. Ovary color:
N144C with a spot of N186A at apex.

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Seed and fruit production: Neither seed nor fruit production has been observed.

Disease and pest resistance: Resistance to pathogens and pests common to *Calibrachoa* has not been observed.

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What is claimed is:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Calibrachoa* plant named 'Balcabrite', substantially as herein shown and described.

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FIG. 1



FIG. 2