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EUPHORBIA PLANT NAMED 'BONPRI 2761' (54)

Latin Name: Euphorbia pulcherrima Willd. ex (50)*Klotzsch×Euphorbia cornastra* Varietal Denomination: **Bonpri 2761**

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ABSTRACT (57)

A new and distinct cultivar of Euphorbia plant named 'Bonpri 2761', characterized by its upright and mounded plant habit; moderately vigorous growth habit; freely branching habit; dark green-colored leaves; inflorescences with pink-colored flower bracts; and good post-production longevity.

1 Drawing Sheet

Botanical designation: *Euphorbia pulcherrima* Willd. ex *Klotzsch*×*Euphorbia cornastra*.

Cultivar denomination: 'BONPRI 2761'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of Euphorbia plant, an interspecific hybrid botanically known

4. Medium green-colored leaves.

5. Inflorescences with pink-colored flower bracts.

6. Good post-production longevity.

In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Yellow Rock, New South Wales, Australia, plants of the new *Euphorbia* differ primarily from plants of the parent, 'Bonpriho', in flower bract color as plants of 'Bonpriho' have white-colored flower bracts. In addition, plants of the new Euphorbia have smaller inflorescences than plants of 'Bonpriho'. Plants of the new Euphorbia can be compared to plants of the Euphorbia pukherrima Willd. ex Klotzsch×Euphorbia cornastra 'Bonprilipcom', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 21,327. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Yellow Rock, New South Wales, Australia, plants of the new *Euphorbia* differed from plants of 'Bonprilipcom' in the following characteristics:

as Euphorbia pulcherrima Willd. ex Klotzsch×Euphorbia cornastra, and hereinafter referred to by the name 'Bonpri¹⁰ 2761'.

The new *Euphorbia* plant is a naturally-occurring whole plant mutation of a proprietary selection of *Euphorbia pul*cherrima Willd. ex Klotzsch×Euphorbia cornastra 'Bonpriho', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 23,296. The new *Euphorbia* plant was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a flowering plant from within a population of plants of the parent selection in a controlled greenhouse environment in Yellow Rock, New South Wales, Australia in January, 2006. Asexual reproduction of the new Euphorbia plant by terminal vegetative cuttings in a controlled greenhouse environment in Yellow Rock, New South Wales, Australia since January, 2006 has shown that the unique features of this new *Euphorbia* plant are stable and reproduced true to type in 25 successive generations of asexual reproduction.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Plants of the new *Euphorbia* 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 'Bonpri 2761'. ³⁵ These characteristics in combination distinguish 'Bonpri 2761' as a new and distinct *Euphorbia* plant: 1. Upright and mounded plant habit. 2. Vigorous growth habit. 3. Freely branching habit.

- 1. Plants of the new *Euphorbia* were larger than plants of 'Bonprilipcom'.
- 2. Plants of the new *Euphorbia* had longer and thicker lateral branches with longer internodes than plants of 'Bonprilipcom'.
- 3. Plants of the new *Euphorbia* had smaller leaves than plants of 'Bonprilipcom'.
- 4. Plants of the new *Euphorbia* had smaller flower bracts than plants of 'Bonprilipcom'.
- 5. Plants of the new *Euphorbia* and 'Bonprilipcom' differed slightly in flower bract color.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

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

The photograph at the top of the sheet comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'Bonpri 2761' grown in a container.

The photograph at the bottom of the sheet is a close-up ⁴⁰ view of a typical flowering plant of 'Bonpri 2761'.

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DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

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Plants used in the aforementioned photographs and herewith described in detail were grown in 12-cm containers during the summer in an outdoor nursery in Higashiomi, 5 Shiga, Japan and under cultural practices typical of commercial production. During the production of the plants, day temperatures averaged 23° C. and night temperatures averaged 13° C. Measurements and numerical values represent averages for typical flowering plants. Plants were four months 10 old when the photographs and the description were taken. In the following description, color references are made to The

Quantity of inflorescences.—One inflorescence develops per lateral branch. *Inflorescence diameter.*—About 11.4 cm. *Inflorescence height.*—About 4.1 cm. *Fragrance.*—None detected. Natural flowering season.—Plants typically flower during the autumn and winter in Japan; inflorescence initiation and development can also be induced under artificial long nyctoperiod/short photoperiod conditions; early flowering habit, plants flower about 50 days under natural season conditions in Japan. Post-production longevity.—Good post-production longevity; plants of the new Euphorbia maintain good substance and bract color for about seven weeks. *Flower bracts.*—Quantity per inflorescence: About 17. Length, largest bracts: About 4.8 cm. Width, largest bracts: About 2 cm. Shape: Elliptic to ovate. Apex: Acute. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire to shallowly serrulate; slightly undulate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Aspect: Mostly horizontal. Venation pattern: Pinnate, reticulate. Color: Developing or transitional bracts, upper surface: Close to 143C, NN155A and 62C. Developing or transitional bracts, lower surface: Close to 143C and NN155C. Fully expanded bracts, immature, upper surface: Close to 68B. Fully expanded bracts, immature, lower surface: Close to N155C. Fully expanded bracts, mature, upper surface: Close to 65B to 65C; venation, close to 164B. Fully expanded bracts, mature, lower surface: Close to N155B; venation, close to 144D. Flower bract petioles: Length: About 1 cm. Diameter: About 1.1 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, upper and

Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, Fourth Edition, 2007, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used. 15

Botanical classification: *Euphorbia pulcherrima* Willd. ex *Klotzsch×Euphorbia cornastra* 'Bonpri 2761'.

Parentage: Naturally-occurring whole plant mutation of *Euphorbia pulcherrima* Willd. ex *Klotzsch×Euphorbia cornastra* 'Bonpriho', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 20 23,296.

Propagation:

Type.—Terminal vegetative cuttings.

Time to initiate roots, summer.—About seven days at 20° C. to 25° C.

Time to initiate roots, winter.—About nine days at 20° C. to 22° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, summer.—About three weeks at 20° C. to 25° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, winter.—About 30 four weeks at 20° C. to 22° C.

Root description.—Fibrous; white in color. Rooting habit.—Freely branching; medium density.
Plant description:
Plant habit and form.—Upright and mounded plant 35 habit; inverted triangle; inflorescences positioned above the foliar plane; vigorous growth habit.
Plant height.—About 28.2 cm.

Plant diameter or spread.—About 24.9 cm.
Lateral branch description.—Branching habit: Freely 40 branching habit, about seven lateral branches develop per plant; pinching enhances lateral branch development. Length: About 23.2 cm. Diameter: About 3.6 mm. Internode length: About 2.3 cm. Aspect: Mostly upright. Strength: Strong. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. 45 Color: Close to 143B.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Alternate, simple. Length: About 9 cm. Width: About 3.8 cm. Shape: Narrowly elliptic to ovate. Apex: Acute. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Shallowly serrulate; slightly undulate. 50 Venation pattern: Pinnate, reticulate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent. Color: Developing leaves, upper surface: Close to 144A. Developing leaves, lower surface: Close to 143B. Fully developed leaves, upper surface: Close to 137B; venation, close 55 to 144C. Fully developed leaves, lower surface: Close lower surfaces: Close to 144D.

- Cyathia.—Quantity per corymb: About 16. Diameter of cyathia cluster: About 3.1 cm. Height, individual cyathium: About 7.2 mm. Diameter, individual cyathium: About 5.3 mm. Shape, individual cyathium: Globose. Color: Close to 143B. Nectaries: Quantity per cyathium: One. Size: About 1.9 mm by 3 mm. Color: Close to 6A.
- Peduncles.—Length: About 4 mm. Diameter: About 1.4 mm. Strength: Strong. Aspect: Mostly upright. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: Close to 144C.
- *Reproductive organs.*—Stamens: Quantity per cyathium: Numerous. Anther shape: Lanceolate or globose. Anther length: About 0.4 mm to 0.8 mm. Anther color: Close to 4D. Amount of pollen: Scarce to none. Pollen color: Close to 155D. Pistils: Plants of the new *Euphorbia* have not been observed to develop pistils.

Seeds and fruits.—Seed and fruit production has not been observed on plants of the new Euphorbia.
Disease & pest resistance: Plants of the new Euphorbia have not been shown to be resistant to pathogens and pests

to 137C; venation, close to 144D. Petioles: Length: About 2.7 cm. Diameter: About 1.3 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Sparsely pubescent. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 144C. 60 Inflorescence description:

Inflorescence type and habit.—Inflorescences are compound corymbs of cyathia with colored flower bracts subtending the cyathia; inflorescences positioned above the foliage. 65 common to *Euphorbia* plants.

Temperature tolerance: Plants of the new *Euphorbia* have been observed to tolerate temperatures ranging from about 8° C. to about 40° C.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Euphorbia* plant named 'Bonpri 2761' as illustrated and described.

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