US00PP25504P3

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

(10) **Patent No.: US PP25,504 P3**
(45) **Date of Patent: May 5, 2015**

(54) ***LANTANA* PLANT NAMED 'PIIL-MHP'**

(50) Latin Name: ***Lantana camara***
Varietal Denomination: **PIIL-MHP**

(71) Applicant: **Matthew A. Dirr**, Watkinsville, GA (US)

(72) Inventor: **Matthew A. Dirr**, Watkinsville, GA (US)

(73) Assignees: **Plant Introductions, Inc.**, Watkinsville, GA (US); **University of Georgia Research Foundation, Inc.**, Athens, GA (US)

( * ) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **13/694,990**

(22) Filed: **Jan. 23, 2013**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2014/0208472 P1 Jul. 24, 2014

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

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
USPC ..... **Plt./227**

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
USPC ..... Plt./227
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| PP19,548 | P2 | 12/2008 | Dirr |
| PP21,539 | P3 | 11/2010 | Griffith |
| 2012/0084892 | P1 | 4/2012 | Kardos |

*Primary Examiner* — Kent L Bell
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Lathrop & Gage LLP

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Lantana* plant named 'PIIL-MHP', characterized by its mounded to rounded growth habit, papery, scabrous medium green foliage, continuous flowering, and light pink flower buds that open to pale yellow with a bright golden yellow center and age to medium pink with a pale orange center. There are no other cultivars of *Lantana* with this combination of characteristics known to the inventor.

**2 Drawing Sheets**



Genus and species of plant claimed: *Lantana camara.*
Variety denomination: 'PIIL-MHP'.

## BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of *Lantana* plant, botanically known as *Lantana camara*, and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name 'PIIL-MHP'.

The new *Lantana* plant originated as a naturally occurring, non-induced branch mutation on a plant of *Lantana camara* 'Miss Huff' (not patented). The cultivar 'PIIL-MHP' originated and was discovered in a cultivated environment in a garden in Watkinsville, Ga.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by stem cuttings in Watkinsville, Ga. has shown that all the unique features of this new *Lantana*, as herein described, are stable and reproduced true-to-type through successive generations of such asexual propagation.

## SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Plants of the new cultivar 'PIIL-MHP' have not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary somewhat with changes in light, temperature, soil and rainfall without, however, any variance in genotype.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be unique characteristics of 'PIIL-MHP'. These characteristics in combination distinguish 'PIIL-MHP' as a new and distinct cultivar: 1. Mounded to rounded growth habit; 2. Papery, scabrous medium green foliage; 3. Continuous flowering; and 4. Light pink flower buds that



open to pale yellow with a bright golden yellow center and age to medium pink with a pale orange center. There are no other cultivars of *Lantana* with this combination of characteristics known to the inventor.

Plants of the new *Lantana* 'PIIL-MHP' differ from plants of the parent, 'Miss Huff', primarily in flower color, as plants of 'Miss Huff' have medium pink flower buds that open to yellow with a darker golden yellow center and age to orange and eventually age to medium pink with a darker pink center, whereas plants of 'PIIL-MHP' have light pink flower buds that open to pale yellow with a bright golden yellow center and age to medium pink with a pale orange center.

Plants of the new *Lantana* 'PIIL-MHP' can be compared to plants of *Lantana* 'MHSH' (not patented). However, in side-by-side comparisons conducted in Watkinsville, Ga., plants of 'PIIL-MHP' differed from plants of 'MHSH' primarily in foliage and flower color, as plants of 'PIIL-MHP' have light pink flower buds that open to pale yellow with a bright golden yellow center and age to medium pink with a pale orange center, whereas plants of 'MHSH' have thicker foliage and medium pink flower buds that open to golden yellow and age to reddish orange and eventually age to medium pink.

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The accompanying color photographs illustrate the flower and foliage characteristics and the overall appearance of the new *Lantana*, showing the colors as true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in color 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 *Lantana*.

FIG. **1** illustrates a close-up view of the inflorescences and foliage of 'PIIL-MHP'.

FIG. **2** illustrates the overall appearance of a mature plant of 'PIIL-MHP' planted in the ground.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

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. Plants used for the description were approximately six months old and were grown in 11.8 L containers in full sun under outdoor conditions in a nursery in Watkinsville, Ga.

Botanical classification: *Lantana camara* 'PIIL-MHP'.

Parentage: *Lantana camara* 'Miss Huff' (not patented).

Propagation: Stem cuttings.

Time to initiate roots, summer: About 10 days at 32° C.

Plant description: Herbaceous flowering plant, subshrub, mounded to rounded growth habit. Freely branching habit with about three to four primary lateral branches per plant; each primary lateral branch with potentially two secondary lateral branches developing at each node. Pinching enhances lateral branch development. Length about 102 cm in height.

- *Root description*.—Numerous, fine, fibrous and well-branched.
- *Plant size*.—About 102 cm in height from the soil level to the top of the inflorescences, and about 183 cm in diameter. Young stems having a diameter of about 3 mm and a squarish shape. Mature stems having a diameter of about 4 mm or more and a rounded shape.
- *Stem strength*.—Strong, but flexible.
- *Stem texture*.—Coarse, pubescent, with hooked spines about 1 mm long and 0.5 mm wide and 144A in color.
- *Stem color* (*young*).—144A.
- *Color* (*mature*).—199A.
- *Internode length*.—About 5.4 cm.

Vegetative buds: Opposite in arrangement, valvate, ovoid, pubescent.

- *Color*.—144A.
- *Size*.—About 1 mm in length and about 1 mm in width.

Foliage description:

- *Arrangement*.—Opposite, simple.
- *Length*.—About 6 cm.
- *Width*.—About 3.7 cm.
- *Shape*.—Ovate.
- *Apex*.—Acute.
- *Base*.—Cuneate.
- *Margin*.—Crenate.
- *Texture* (*upper surface*).—Papery with scabrous pubescence.
- *Texture* (*lower surface*).—Papery with hispid pubescence.
- *Venation pattern*.—Pinnate.
- *Venation color* (*upper surface*).—144A.
- *Venation color* (*lower surface*).—144D.
- *Fragrance*.—Pungent, mint-like.
- *Color of developing foliage* (*upper surface*).—143A.
- *Color of developing foliage* (*lower surface*).—143C.
- *Color of mature foliage* (*upper surface*).—N137A.
- *Color of mature foliage* (*lower surface*).—147B.
- *Petiole length*.—About 1.2 cm.
- *Petiole diameter*.—About 2 mm.
- *Petiole texture, both surfaces*.—Hispid pubescence.
- *Petiole color* (*upper and lower surfaces*).—144A.

Flower description:

- *Flower type and habit*.—Small salverform flowers arranged in axillary corymbs; flowers face mostly upward or outward. Flowers are self-cleaning. Freely flowering with potentially two inflorescences per node; typically about 26 to 32 flowers per corymb.
- *Natural flowering season*.—Spring until the first frost in fall; flowering is continuous.
- *Flower longevity on the plant*.—About one week.
- *Fragrance*.—None observed.
- *Inflorescence diameter*.—About 3.5 cm.
- *Inflorescence height*.—About 2.3 cm.
- *Flower bud length*.—About 8 mm.
- *Flower bud diameter*.—About 2 mm.
- *Flower bud shape*.—Oblong.
- *Flower bud color*.—65B.
- *Flower appearance*.—Flared trumpet, corolla fused, four-parted; flowers roughly rectangular in shape.
- *Diameter*.—About 1 cm.
- *Corolla tube length*.—About 1 cm.
- *Depth* (*height*).—About 1.5 cm.
- *Throat diameter*.—About 1.5 mm.
- *Pedicels*.—None observed, flowers not stalked.

Petals:

- *Arrangement/appearance*.—Single whorl of four petals, fused into flared trumpet.
- *Petal length from throat*.—About 5 mm for the upper petal, about 4 mm for the lower petal, and about 4 mm for the lateral petals.
- *Petal width*.—About 6 mm for the upper petal, about 6 mm for the lower petal, and about 4 mm for the lateral petals.
- *Petal shape*.—Spatulate to somewhat orbicular.
- *Petal apex*.—Obtuse.
- *Petal base*.—Fused.
- *Petal margin*.—Entire.
- *Petal texture, upper and lower surfaces*.—Smooth, glabrous.
- *Petal color* (*young*).—Upper surface: 6D and lower surface: 4D. Color of throat: 14A. Color of corolla tube: 6D.
- *Petal color* (*mature*).—Upper surface: N66D and lower surface: 69C. Color of throat: 170D. Color of corolla tube: 4D.

Sepals:

- *Arrangement/appearance*.—One sepal per flower at the base of the corolla, leaf-like. Length is about 6 mm. Width is about 2 mm.
- *Shape*.—Lanceolate.
- *Apex*.—Acute.
- *Margin*.—Entire.
- *Texture, upper and lower surface*.—Scabrous.
- *Sepal color, upper and lower surfaces*.—147A.

Peduncles:

- *Length*.—About 4.5 cm.
- *Diameter*.—About 1.5 mm.
- *Angle*.—About 45 degrees from the stem.
- *Strength*.—Flexible, but strong.
- *Color*.—144A.

Stamens:

- *Quantity/arrangement*.—Four per flower, adnate to the inside of the corolla tube.

*Anther shape*.—Oblong.
*Anther length*.—1 mm.
*Anther width*.—Less than 1 mm.
*Anther color:* 16C.
*Pollen amount*.—Produced in very small quantities, and 16C in color.

Pistils:
*Quantity*.—One inferior pistil per flower.
*Pistil length*.—About 4 mm.
*Stigma shape*.—Rounded.
*Stigma size*.—About 1 mm in diameter.
*Stigma color*.—145C.
*Style length*.—About 2 mm.
*Style color*.—145C.
*Ovary size*.—About 1 mm in diameter.
*Ovary color*.—145B.

Fruit:
*Type/appearance*.—Drupe.
*Shape*.—Round.
*Diameter*.—About 5 mm.
*Mature color*.—202A.
*Number per infructescence*.—Ranges from zero to about five.

Disease/pest resistance: Plants of the claimed *Lantana* cultivar grown in the garden have not been noted to be susceptible or resistant to pathogens and pests common to *Lantana*.

I claim:

**1**. A new and distinct *Lantana* plant named 'PIIL-MHP', as illustrated and described herein.

* * * * *

FIG. 1

FIG. 2