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Van Rosmalen

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(54) ***PHALAENOPSIS* ORCHID PLANT NAMED 'PHALDOMEO'**

(50) Latin Name: ***Phalaenopsis* Blume**
Varietal Denomination: **PHALDOMEO**

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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct variety of *Phalaenopsis* plant named 'PHALDOMEO', particularly characterized by purple flowers with white edge and dark purple lip, 2 peduncles, a short and sturdy inflorescence, a narrow oblong/obovate leaf shape and green foliage, and propagated by tissue culture is disclosed.

3 Drawing Sheets

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Genus and species: *Phalaenopsis* Blume.
Variety denomination: 'PHALDOMEO'.

BACKGROUND OF THE NEW PLANT

The present invention comprises a new and distinct cultivar of *Phalaenopsis* plant, botanically known as *Phalaenopsis* of the Orchidaceae family, and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name 'PHALDOMEO'.

Phalaenopsis comprises a genus of about 60 species of herbaceous perennials many of which, or the hybrids thereof, are suitable for cultivar in the home or greenhouse. *Phalaenopsis* is predominantly epiphytic or rock dwelling, and is native to tropical Asia, the Malay Archipelago, and Oceania. The species typically has 2-ranked, fleshy, oblong or elliptic leaves affixed to a short central stem (monopodial growth), which vary in size from 12 to 20 cm to over 60 cm. The leaves may be entirely green or mottled with silver grey.

Phalaenopsis orchids, often referred to as 'Moth Orchids' in the horticultural trade, are frequently used to furnish cut flowers for the florist trade or sold as flowering potted-plants for home or interiorscape.

Phalaenopsis produces upright or pendent lateral racemes, often with many showy flowers which open in succession beginning with the lowermost. The flowers possess three sepals and three petals; the lateral ones being alike. The lowermost petals, called the labellum, is three-lobed and is often more brightly-colored than the other flower segments. Flower colors include various shades of pink, white, yellow, and red-brown.

Phalaenopsis orchids are typically propagated from seeds. Asexual propagation of *Phalaenopsis* is often done from off-shoots which arise from the lower bracts of the inflorescence. The resulting plants are detached from the mother plants and may be planted in a suitable substrate.

The new *Phalaenopsis* 'PHALDOMEO' is particularly characterized by its attractive and unique purple/white flowers, economical propagation by tissue culture, rapid growth, and a plant dimension suitable for packaging and shipping to the market.

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'PHALDOMEO' is a product of a planned breeding program conducted in Bleiswijk, The Netherlands.

The new *Phalaenopsis* 'PHALDOMEO' originated from a cross made in March 2004 in Bleiswijk, The Netherlands. The female parent is an unknown *Phalaenopsis* pot plant named 'unknown' (unpatented), while the male parent is an unknown *Phalaenopsis* pot plant named 'unknown' (unpatented). A single plant was selected in March 2007 and has been asexually reproduced repeatedly by tissue culture in Bleiswijk, The Netherlands over a 6-year period. The new variety has been found to retain its distinctive characteristics through successive asexual propagations.

Asexual reproduction of 'PHALDOMEO' by tissue culture was first performed in May 2011 in Bleiswijk, The Netherlands and has demonstrated that the new cultivar is firmly fixed and retained through successive generations of asexual reproduction.

Plant Breeder's Rights for this variety have been applied for in Europe on Sep. 19, 2013. 'PHALDOMEO' has not been made publicly available or sold anywhere in the world more than one year prior to the filing date of this application.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following are the most outstanding and distinguishing characteristics of this new cultivar when grown under normal horticultural practices in Bleiswijk, The Netherlands.

1) Purple flower with white edge and dark purple lip;
2) 2 peduncles;
3) Inflorescence is short and sturdy;
4) The shape of the leaf is narrow oblong/obovate and has green foliage; and
5) Plants are propagated by tissue culture.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

This new *Phalaenopsis* plant is illustrated by the accompanying photographs which show the overall plant habit including blooms, buds and foliage of the plant; the colors shown are as true as can be reasonably obtained by conventional photographic procedures. The photographs are of a 50-week old plant grown in a greenhouse in Bleiswijk, The Netherlands in September 2013.

FIG. **1** shows the overall plant habit, including blooms, buds and foliage of 'PHALDOMEO'.

FIG. **2** shows a close-up of the flower of 'PHALDOMEO'.

FIG. **3** shows a close-up of the leaves of 'PHALDOMEO'.

DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW VARIETY

The following detailed description sets forth the distinctive characteristics of 'PHALDOMEO'. The data which define these characteristics were collected from asexual reproductions carried out in Bleiswijk, The Netherlands. The plant history was taken on 40-week old plants which were planted from tissue culture in 9 centimeter pots and grown in a greenhouse between 27° C. to 29° C. for 20 weeks, continued by a cooling period of 8 weeks between 18° C. to 20° C. and 12 weeks in a greenhouse of 21° C. Observations were made in October 2013. Color readings were taken under 4000-6000 lux natural light in the greenhouse. Color references are primarily to The R.H.S. Colour Chart of The Royal Horticultural Society of London (R.H.S.) (2001).

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

Classification:

Family.—Orchidaceae.

Botanical.—Phalaenopsis Blume.

Common name.—Phalaenopsis.

Variety name.—'PHALDOMEO'.

Parentage:

Female parent.—Phalaenopsis cultivar 'mother unknown' (unpatented).

Male parent.—Phalaenopsis cultivar 'father unknown' (unpatented).

Propagation:

Type.—Tissue culture.

Plant:

Crop time (*time to produce a finished flowering plant*).—38 to 40 weeks for a 9 cm pot.

Growth habit of inflorescence.—Mini type, inflorescence.

Height (*including pot, including inflorescence*).—30.0 cm to 35.0 cm.

Width (*measured from leaf tips*).—16.0 cm to 19.0 cm.

Vigor.—Moderate.

Roots:

Root description.—Grey-green-colored roots with branching lateral roots having red-brown-colored root tips.

Leaves:

Mature leaves.—Quantity per plant: 6 to 8 leaves are produced before flowering. Length (fully expanded): 8.0 cm to 9.0 cm. Width: 3.5 cm to 4.5 cm. Shape: Narrow oblong/obovate. Apex: Mucronate. Leaf blade angle with the petiole: Between 0 degrees and 15 degrees. Leaf margin: Entire. Color: Upper surface: RHS 137B. Lower surface: RHS 146B. Texture: Slightly rough. Thickness: 1.8 mm to 2.2 mm. Venation: Pattern: Parallel. Color of the midvein: Upper surface: RHS 137A. Lower surface: RHS 146A.

Peduncle:

Quantity per plant.—1 to 2.

Number of flowers per peduncle.—13 to 20.

Length.—18.0 cm to 22.0 cm.

Diameter.—3.1 mm to 3.3 mm.

Strength.—Strong.

Aspect.—Upright.

Texture.—Smooth.

Color.—Brown (RHS 200B).

Internode length.—3.0 cm to 4.0 cm.

Inflorescence description:

Appearance.—Upright to slightly pendant, raceme inflorescence with bilaterally symmetrical flowers that open in succession beginning with the lowermost flower.

Inflorescence size.—Height (from base to tip): 70.0 mm to 90.0 mm. Diameter: 60.0 mm to 80.0 mm.

Flowering time.—First flowers can be expected 7 to 8 months after planting in a 9 cm pot.

Flower.—Height: 30.0 mm to 35.0 mm. Diameter: 36.0 mm to 40.0 mm. Depth of lip: 7.0 mm to 9.0 mm.

Flower longevity.—On the plant: 9 to 11 weeks.

Fragrance.—Absent.

Petals.—Arrangement: Open. Shape: Between rhombic and semi-circular. Apex: Slightly asymmetric and obtuse. Margin: Entire. Length: 16.0 mm to 18.0 mm. Width: 18.0 mm to 20.0 mm. Color (when fully opened): Main color: Purple (RHS 78A). At the base: Purple (RHS 78A). At the tip: White-purple (RHS 76C).

Dorsal sepal.—Shape: Elliptic. Length: 19.0 mm to 21.0 mm. Width: 13.0 mm to 15.0 mm. Color (when fully opened): Main color: Purple (RHS 80A). At the base: Purple (RHS 80B). At the tip: White-purple (RHS 76C).

Lateral sepals.—Shape: Ovate/elliptic. Length: 19.0 mm to 21.0 mm. Width: 13.0 mm to 15.0 mm. Color (when fully opened): Main color: Purple (RHS 78A). At the base: Purple (RHS 78A). At the tip: White-purple (RHS 76D).

Labellum (*lip*).—Margin: Entire. Length: 17.0 mm to 19.0 mm. Width: 13.0 mm to 15.0 mm.

Lateral lobe.—Shape: type IV. Color: Dark purple (RHS 83A).

Apical lobe.—Shape: Obdeltoid. Color: Dark red-purple (RHS 72A/77A).

Callus.—Color: Yellow (RHS 9B/11B).

Reproductive organs:

Arrangement.—The stamens, style and stigmas are fused into a single, short structure called the column, possessing one terminal anther with pollen grains united into pollinia, which are covered by an anther cap. The stigma is located under the column behind the pollinia. The ovary is inferior with three carpels present.

Column.—Length: 7.0 mm to 9.0 mm. Diameter: 3.5 mm to 4.5 mm. Color: Purple (RHS 78A).

Pollinia.—Quantity: 2. Size: 0.5 mm to 0.7 mm. Color: Orange (RHS 26A/25A).

Ovary.—Length: 5.5 mm to 6.5 mm. Diameter: 2.7 mm to 2.9 mm.

Pedicel.—Length: 21.0 mm to 23.0 mm. Diameter: 1.2 mm to 1.8 mm.

Disease, pest, and stress resistance: No specific resistance or susceptibility observed.

Temperature tolerance: Tolerant to a low temperature of 15° C. and a high temperature about 30° C.

COMPARISON WITH COMMERCIAL VARIETIES

Presently there is no commercial cultivar to which 'PHALDOMEO' can be meaningfully compared.

I claim:

1. A new and distinct variety of *Phalaenopsis* plant named 'PHALDOMEO' as illustrated and described herein.

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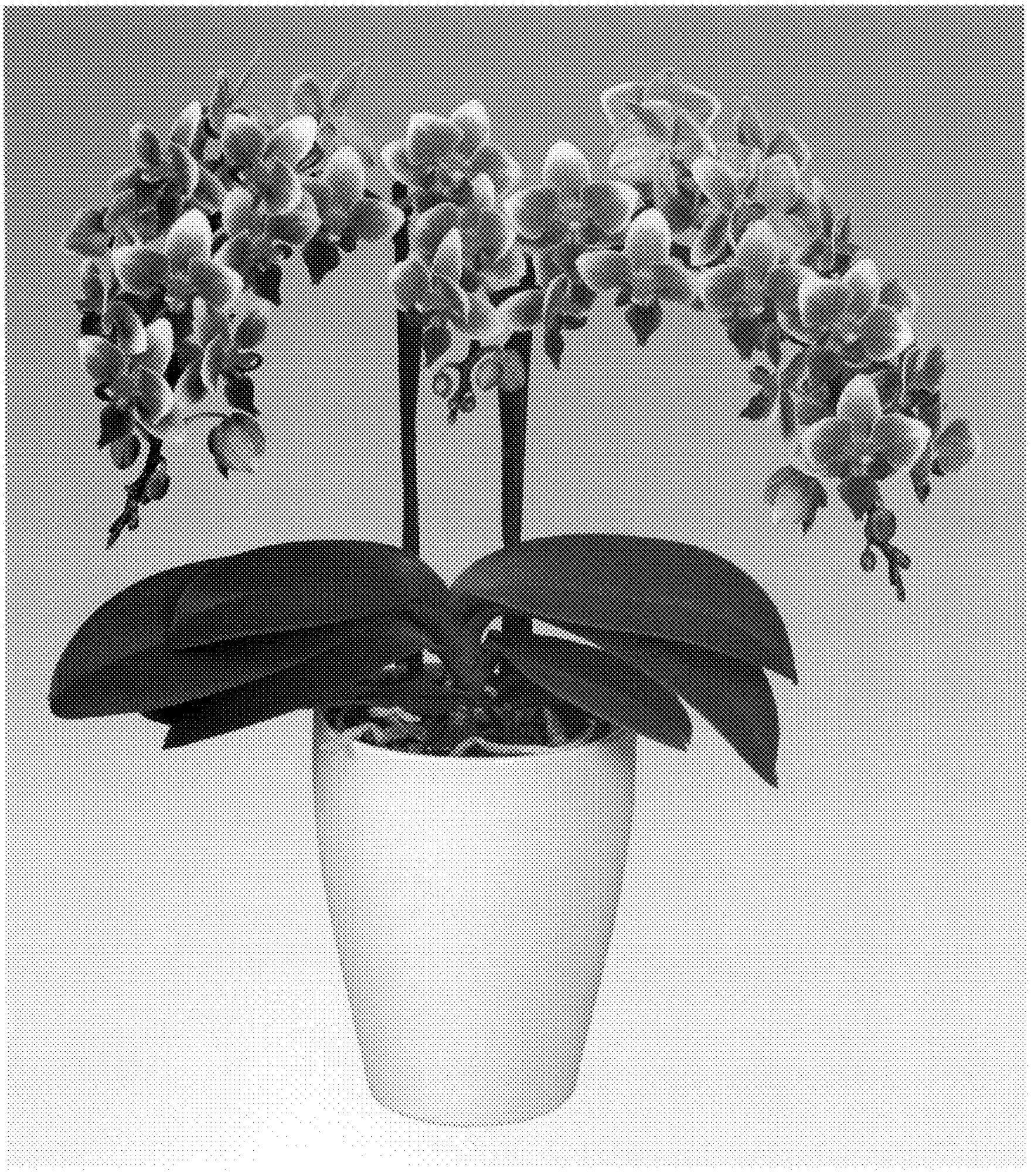

FIG. 1

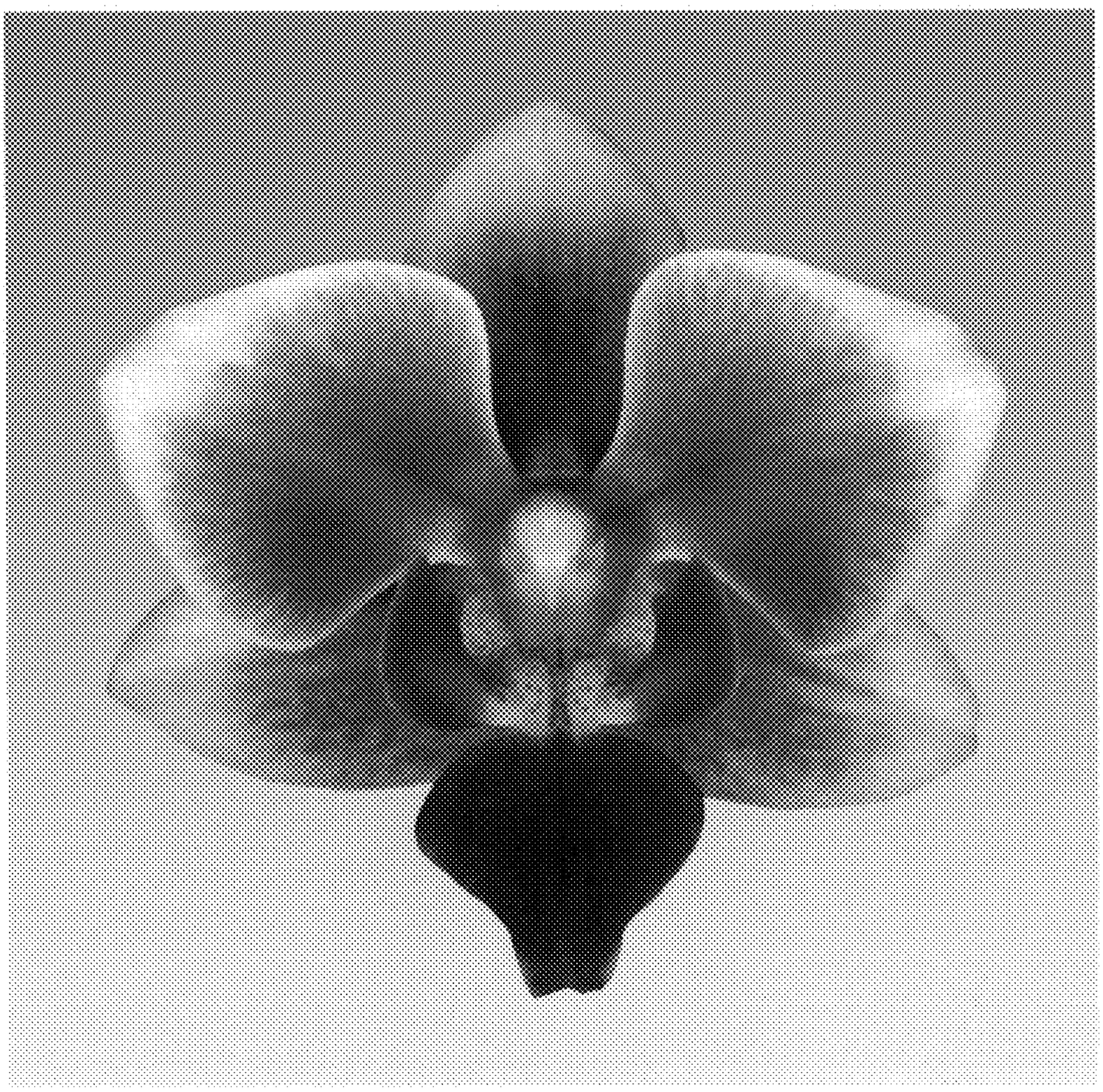

FIG. 2

FIG. 3