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Jacobs

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(54) **ALSTROEMERIA PLANT NAMED**
'ZALSAROS'

(50) Latin Name: *Alstroemeria hybrida*
Varietal Denomination: **Zalsaros**

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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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 *Alstroemeria* plant named
'Zalsaros', characterized by its erect and strong flowering
stems; vigorous growth habit; large bright pink-colored flow-
ers; and excellent postproduction longevity.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical designation: *Alstroemeria hybrida*.
Cultivar denomination: 'ZALSAROS'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of *Alstroemeria* plant, botanically known as *Alstroemeria*
hybrida, commercially used as a cut flower *Alstroemeria*, and
hereinafter referred to by the name 'Zalsaros'.

The new *Alstroemeria* plant is a product of a planned
breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Rijsenhout,
The Netherlands. The objective of the breeding program is to
create new cut flower *Alstroemeria* plants with desirable
flower and plant qualities, attractive and unique flower col-
oration and excellent postproduction longevity.

The new *Alstroemeria* plant originated from a cross-poll-
ination made by the Inventor in Rijsenhout, The Netherlands
in May, 2006 of a proprietary *Alstroemeria hybrida* selection
identified as code number 64155-1, not patented, as the
female, or seed, parent with a proprietary *Alstroemeria*
hybrida selection identified as code number 340-1, not pat-
ented, as the male, or pollen, parent. The new *Alstroemeria*
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 greenhouse environment in Rijsen-
hout, The Netherlands in June, 2007.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Alstroemeria* plant by
rhizome divisions in a controlled greenhouse environment in
Rijsenhout, The Netherlands since September, 2007 has
shown that the unique features of this new *Alstroemeria* plant
are stable and reproduced true to type in successive genera-
tions.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* 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 and light
intensity without, however, any variance in genotype. The

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following traits have been repeatedly observed and are deter-
mined to be the unique characteristics of 'Zalsaros'. These
characteristics in combination distinguish 'Zalsaros' as a new
and distinct *Alstroemeria* plant:

1. Erect and strong flowering stems.
2. Vigorous growth habit.
3. Large bright pink-colored flowers.
4. Excellent postproduction longevity.

Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* can be compared to plants
of the female parent selection. Plants of the new *Alstroemeria*
differ from plants of the female parent selection primarily in
flower color as plants of the female parent selection have
darker pink-colored flowers.

Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* can be compared to plants
of the male parent selection. Plants of the new *Alstroemeria*
differ from plants of the male parent selection primarily in
flower color as plants of the male parent selection have darker
pink-colored flowers.

Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* can be compared to plants
of *Alstroemeria hybrida* 'Zalsalyn', disclosed in U.S. Plant
Pat. No. 22,308. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in
Rijsenhout, The Netherlands, plants of the new *Alstroemeria*
differed primarily from plants of 'Zalsalyn' in the following
characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* were shorter than plants
of 'Zalsalyn'.
2. Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* had larger flowers than
plants of 'Zalsalyn'.
3. Flowers of plants of the new *Alstroemeria* were lighter
pink in color than flowers of plants of 'Zalsalyn'.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying colored photograph illustrates the over-
all appearance of the new *Alstroemeria* plant showing the
colors as true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored
reproductions of this type. Colors in the photograph may
differ slightly from the color values cited in the detailed
botanical description which accurately describe the colors of

the new *Alstroemeria* plant. The photograph comprises a close-up view of a typical flowering stem of 'Zalsaros'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photograph and following observations and measurements describe plants of the new *Alstroemeria* grown during the spring and summer in ground beds in a glass-covered greenhouse in Rijsenhout, The Netherlands. During the production of the plants, day temperatures ranged from 15° C. to 25° C., night temperatures ranged from 10° C. to 15° C., soil temperatures averaged 14° C. and light levels averaged 5,000 lux. Plants were one year old when the photograph and 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: *Alstroemeria hybrida* 'Zalsaros'.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary *Alstroemeria hybrida* selection identified as code number 64155-1, not patented.

Male, or pollen, parent.—Proprietary *Alstroemeria hybrida* selection identified as code number 340-1, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—In vitro rhizogenesis.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, summer.—About 40 days at temperatures of 16° C. to 25° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, winter.—About 60 days at temperatures of 16° C. to 20° C.

Root description.—Fibrous, fleshy, thick; color, close to 155D.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching; medium density.

Rhizomes.—Shape: Elongate; rounded. Length: About 10 cm to 30 cm. Diameter: About 3 mm to 10 mm. Texture: Smooth. Color: Close to 155D.

Plant description:

Plant and growth habit.—Upright; freely branching, bushy appearance; vigorous growth habit; rapid growth rate.

Plant height.—About 120 cm to 140 cm.

Plant diameter (spread).—About 25 cm.

Flowering stem description:

Aspect.—Erect.

Length.—About 100 cm to 120 cm.

Diameter.—About 8 mm to 10 mm.

Internode length.—About 5 cm to 11 cm.

Strength.—Strong.

Texture.—Smooth, glabrous.

Color.—Close to 146B; towards the base, overlain with close to 187B.

Leaf description:

Appearance.—Leaves asymmetrical, simple; sessile.

Length.—About 14.8 cm to 19.5 cm.

Width.—About 3 cm to 4.1 cm.

Shape.—Lanceolate.

Apex.—Acute.

Base.—Cuneate.

Margin.—Entire; moderately undulate.

Texture, upper and lower surfaces.—Smooth, glabrous.

Venation pattern.—Parallel.

Color.—Developing and fully developed leaves, upper surface: Close to N137A; venation, close to 144B.

Developing and fully developed leaves, lower surface: Close to N137B; venation, close to 144A.

Flower description:

Flower type and habit.—Single cup-shaped flowers arranged in compound umbels; flowers face mostly outwardly; perianth segments separate; freely flowering habit, about 24 to 32 flower buds and open flowers developing per flowering stem.

Natural flowering season.—Flowering continuous during the spring and early summer in The Netherlands; plants begin flowering about 80 to 90 days after planting.

Fragrance.—None detected.

Flower longevity.—About four weeks on the plant and about 20 to 25 days as a cut flower; flowers not persistent.

Flower buds (showing color).—Length: About 5 cm to 5.5 cm. Diameter: About 1.5 cm to 2 cm. Shape: Roughly ovoid. Color: Close to 63A.

Umbel height.—About 18 cm to 22 cm.

Umbel diameter.—About 20 cm to 23 cm.

Flower diameter.—About 7 cm to 7.5 cm.

Flower depth.—About 7.5 cm to 8 cm.

Perianth.—Arrangement: Six arranged in two whorls, each whorl with two lateral and one median segments. Inner perianth, lateral segments: Length: About 6.9 cm to 7.6 cm. Width: About 2 cm to 2.2 cm. Shape: Oblanceolate. Apex: Cuspidate. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Shallowly serrate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, when opening and fully opened, upper surface: Towards the apex, close to 73B; center, close to NN155A; towards the base, close to 73D; stripes, close to 187B. Color, when opening and fully opened, lower surface: Towards the apex, close to 73B; center, close to NN155A; towards the base, close to 73D; stripes, close to 187B. Inner perianth, median segment: Length: About 5.7 cm to 6.3 cm. Width: About 2.2 cm to 2.5 cm. Shape: Oblanceolate. Apex: Cuspidate. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Shallowly serrate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, when opening and fully opened, upper surface: Towards the margins, close to 73B; center, close to 62A; few stripes, close to 187C. Color, when opening and fully opened, lower surface: Towards the margins, close to 73B; center, close to 62A; few stripes, close to 187C. Outer perianth, lateral segments: Length: About 6.7 cm to 7.4 cm. Width: About 3.5 cm to 4.8 cm. Shape: Obovate. Apex: Embedded point. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Shallowly serrate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, when opening and fully opened, upper surface: Close to 73B; center, close to 68A; apex, close to 138B. Color, when opening and fully opened, lower surface: Close to 73B; center, close to 68A; apex, close to 141C. Outer perianth, median segment: Length: About 6.8 cm to 7.3 cm. Width: About 3.7 cm to 4.2 cm. Shape: Obovate. Apex: Embedded point. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Shallowly serrate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, when opening and fully opened, upper surface: Close to 73B; center, close to 68A; apex, close to 138B. Color, when opening and fully opened, lower surface: Close to 73B; center, close to 68A; apex, close to 141C.

Pedicels.—Length: About 2 cm to 10.5 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm to 4 mm. Strength: Strong. Angle: About 15° from vertical. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 146B.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: Quantity per flower: 5 Six. Anther shape: Elliptic. Anther length: About 9 mm to 10 mm. Anther color: Close to 199A. Pollen amount: Abundant. Pollen color: Close to 203C. Pistils: Quantity per flower: One. Style length: About 3.5 cm to 4.2 cm. Style color: Close to 63C. Stigma color: 10 Close to 63C. Ovary color: Close to NN77A and 146B.

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

Disease & pest resistance: Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* have not been observed to be resistant to pathogens and pests common to *Alstroemeria* plants.

Temperature tolerance: Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* have been observed to tolerate temperatures from about −5° C. to about 40° C.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Alstroemeria* plant named ‘Zalsaros’ as illustrated and described.

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