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

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(54) **PETUNIA PLANT NAMED ‘DUEPLUHOPI’**

(50) Latin Name: *Petunia*×*hybrida*
Varietal Denomination: **Duepluhopi**

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(52) **U.S. Cl.**
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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Petunia* plant named ‘Duepluhopi’, characterized by its compact and mounding plant habit; vigorous growth habit; freely branching habit; early and freely flowering habit; rounded bright red purple-colored flowers; and good garden performance.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical designation: *Petunia*×*hybrida*.
Cultivar denomination: ‘DUEPLUHOPI’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of *Petunia* plant, botanically known as *Petunia*×*hybrida* and hereinafter referred to by the name ‘Duepluhopi’.

The new *Petunia* plant is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Rheinberg, Germany. The objective of the breeding program is to create new freely-flowering *Petunia* plants with large attractive and unique flowers.

The new *Petunia* plant originated from a cross-pollination made by the Inventor in July, 2011 in Rheinberg, Germany of a proprietary selection of *Petunia*×*hybrida* identified as code number T10-4267-015, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with a proprietary selection of *Petunia*×*hybrida* identified as code number T08-5433-003, not patented, as the male, or pollen, parent. The new *Petunia* 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 Rheinberg, Germany in May, 2013.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Petunia* plant by terminal cuttings in a controlled greenhouse environment in Rheinberg, Germany since June, 2013 has shown that the unique features of this new *Petunia* plant are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Plants of the new *Petunia* have not been observed under all possible combinations of 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 following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be the unique characteristics of ‘Duepluhopi’.

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These characteristics in combination distinguish ‘Duepluhopi’ as a new and distinct *Petunia* plant:

1. Compact and mounding plant habit.
2. Moderately vigorous growth habit.
3. Freely branching habit.
4. Early and freely flowering habit.
5. Rounded bright red purple-colored flowers.
6. Good garden performance.

Plants of the new *Petunia* can be compared to plants of the female parent selection. Plants of the new *Petunia* differ primarily from plants of the female parent selection in flower color as plants of the female parent selection have blue-colored flowers. In addition, plants of the new *Petunia* are more compact than plants of the female parent selection.

Plants of the new *Petunia* can be compared to plants of the male parent selection. Plants of the new *Petunia* differ primarily from plants of the male parent selection in flower color as plants of the male parent selection have light pink-colored flowers. In addition, plants of the new *Petunia* have smaller flowers than plants of the male parent selection.

Plants of the new *Petunia* can be compared to plants of *Petunia*×*hybrida* ‘Sunrovein’, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 16,468. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Rheinberg, Germany, plants of the new *Petunia* differed primarily from plants of ‘Sunrovein’ in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Petunia* were more compact than plants of ‘Sunrovein’.
2. Plants of the new *Petunia* flowered earlier than plants of ‘Sunrovein’.
3. Plants of the new *Petunia* had smaller flowers than plants of ‘Sunrovein’.
4. Plants of the new *Petunia* and ‘Sunrovein’ differed slightly in flower color.
5. Plants of the new *Petunia* had shorter flower peduncles than plants of ‘Sunrovein’.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying colored photograph illustrates the overall appearance of the new *Petunia* 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 *Petunia* plant.

The photograph comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'Duepluhopi' grown in a container.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photograph and following observations, measurements and values describe plants grown during the summer in 12-cm containers in a glass-covered greenhouse in Rheinberg, Germany and under cultural practices typical of commercial *Petunia* production. During the production of the plants, day and night temperatures averaged 18° C. and light levels averaged 4,500 lux. Plants were pinched one time three weeks after planting and were 16 weeks 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: *Petunia* × *hybrida* 'Duepluhopi'.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Petunia* × *hybrida* identified as code number T10-4267-015, not patented.

Male, or pollen, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Petunia* × *hybrida* identified as code number T08-5433-003, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—By terminal cuttings.

Time to initiate roots, summer.—About five days at temperatures about 20° C.

Time to initiate roots, winter.—About seven days at temperatures about 20° C.

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

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

Root description.—Fine, fibrous; white in color.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching; dense.

Plant description:

Plant and growth habit.—Compact and mounding plant habit; freely branching habit with about eight to ten lateral branches developing after pinching; moderately vigorous growth habit.

Plant height.—About 23 cm.

Plant diameter.—About 70 cm.

Lateral branch description:

Length.—About 36 cm.

Diameter.—About 4 mm.

Internode length.—About 1.6 cm.

Strength.—Moderately strong.

Aspect.—Initially upright to outwardly spreading.

Texture.—Pubescent.

Color.—Close to 144A to 144B.

Leaf description:

Arrangement.—Before flowering, alternate; after flowering, opposite; simple.

Length.—About 3.5 cm.

Width.—About 1.9 cm.

Shape.—Spatulate.

Apex.—Obtuse.

Base.—Attenuate.

Margin.—Entire.

Texture, upper and lower surfaces.—Pubescent; leathery.

Venation pattern.—Pinnate; arcuate.

Color.—Developing leaves, upper surface: Close to 144A. Developing leaves, lower surface: Close to 144B. Fully expanded leaves, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 144A; venation, close to 145C.

Petioles.—Length: About 3.2 mm. Diameter: About 2.6 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 145C.

Flower description:

Flower type and flowering habit.—Single salverform flowers arising from leaf axils; freely flowering habit with usually about seven to nine open flowers and flower buds per lateral branch and about 60 to 90 flowers developing per plant; flowers face mostly upright to outwardly.

Fragrance.—Faintly fragrant.

Natural flowering season.—Plants flower continuously during the spring and summer in Germany; early flowering habit, plants typically beginning flowering about nine weeks after planting.

Flower longevity.—Individual flowers last about five to seven days on the plant; flowers persistent.

Flower buds.—Length: About 2.9 cm. Diameter: About 6.4 mm. Shape: Ovoid. Color: Close to 146B.

Flower diameter.—About 5.4 cm.

Flower depth (height).—About 4.3 cm.

Flower throat diameter.—About 1.2 cm.

Flower tube length.—About 3.1 cm.

Flower tube diameter.—About 2.2 mm.

Corolla.—Arrangement: Five petals fused at the base and opening into a flared trumpet. Petal lobe length (from throat): About 2.8 cm. Petal lobe width: About 2.2 cm. Petal shape: Roughly spatulate. Petal apex: Obtuse. Petal margin: Entire. Petal texture, upper and lower surfaces: Rippled, glabrous. Throat texture: Rippled, glabrous. Tube texture: Rippled, pubescent. Color: Petal lobe, when opening and fully opened, upper surface: Close to 68A and 67B; venation, close to 144A; colors becoming closer to 76A with development. Petal lobe, when opening and fully opened, lower surface: Close to 69B; venation, close to 145A. Flower throat: Close to 145C; venation, close to 144A. Flower tube: Close to 145A; venation, close to 145A.

Calyx.—Arrangement: Five sepals fused at the base forming a star-shaped calyx. Sepal length: About 1.7 cm. Sepal width: About 3.8 mm. Sepal shape: Oblong. Sepal apex: Rounded. Sepal margin: Entire. Sepal texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth. Color, upper surface: Close to 137C. Color, lower surface: Close to 143B.

Peduncles.—Length: About 1.9 cm. Diameter: About 1.4 mm. Strength: Moderately strong. Texture: Smooth. Color: Close to 143B.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: Quantity per flower: Five. Filament length: About 2 mm. Filament color: Close to 157D. Anther length: About 1.2 mm. Anther shape: Ovate. Anther color: Close to 8B. Pollen amount: Abundant. Pollen color: Close to 8D. Pistils: Quantity per flower: One. Pistil length: About 2.2 cm. Style length: About 1.8 cm. Style color: Close to

142C. Stigma shape: Rounded. Stigma color: Close to 144A. Ovary color: Close to 144C. Seeds and fruits: Seed and fruit development have not been observed on plants of the new *Petunia*.

Garden performance: Plants of the new *Petunia* have been observed to have good garden performance and tolerate wind, rain and temperatures ranging from about 5° C. to about 40° C.

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

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Petunia* plant named 'Duepluhopi' as illustrated and described.

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