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

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(54) **PHALAEOPSIS ORCHID PLANT NAMED**  
**'VALLEY BUZZ'**

(50) Latin Name: *Phalaenopsis hybrida*  
Varietal Denomination: **Valley Buzz**

(71) Applicant: **Floricultura**, Heemskerk (NL)

(72) Inventor: **René Schoone**, Assendelft (NL)

(73) Assignee: **Floricultura**, Heemskerk (NL)

(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 11 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **14/545,295**

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(51) **Int. Cl.**  
*A01H 5/02* (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**  
USPC ..... **Plt./311**

(58) **Field of Classification Search**  
USPC ..... Plt./311  
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

**PUBLICATIONS**

PLUTO Plant Variety Database Jun. 11, 2016.p. 1.\*

\* cited by examiner

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct *Phalaenopsis* plant named 'Valley Buzz' particularly characterized by flowers which are white with purple stripes and a purple with red/purple striped labellum; plants which may be propagated economically and uniformly using tissue culture; plants which produce more than one inflorescence; long and sturdy inflorescences; and relatively short, dark-green foliage.

**3 Drawing Sheets**

Latin name of the genus and species of the plant claimed:  
*Phalaenopsis hybrida*.  
Variety denomination: 'Valley Buzz'.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

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

*Phalaenopsis* comprises a genus of about 55 species of herbaceous perennials many of which, or the hybrids thereof, are suitable for cultivation 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 5 to 8 inches to over 2 feet. 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 petal, 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 frequently arise from the lower bracts of the inflorescence. The resulting plants are detached from the mother plant and may be planted in a suitable substrate.

The new *Phalaenopsis* 'Valley Buzz' is a product of a controlled breeding program conducted by the inventor, René Schoone, in Strengweg, Heemskerk, The Netherlands. The objective of the breeding program was to develop a new *Phalaenopsis* cultivar particularly characterized by its attractive and unique colored flowers, economical propagation via tissue culture, rapid growth, and a plant dimension suitable for packaging and shipping to the market.

The new *Phalaenopsis* 'Valley Buzz' originated from a cross made by the inventor in 2001 in Strengweg, Heemskerk, The Netherlands. The female or seed parent is the *Phalaenopsis* cultivar designated 'Minho Princess', unpatented. The male or pollen parent is the *Phalaenopsis* cultivar designated 'Taisuco Jewel', unpatented. The new *Phalaenopsis* 'Valley Buzz' was discovered and selected by the inventor as a single flowering plant within the progeny of the stated cross in a controlled environment in 2009 in Strengweg, Heemskerk, The Netherlands.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Phalaenopsis* cultivar by tissue culture (mericlone) was first performed in November, 2009 in Cieweg 13, Heemskerk, The Netherlands, and has demonstrated that the combination of characteristics as

herein disclosed for the new cultivar are firmly fixed and retained through successive generations of asexual reproduction. The new cultivar asexually reproduces true-to-type.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be unique characteristics of 'Valley Buzz', which in combination distinguish this *Phalaenopsis* as a new and distinct cultivar:

1. flowers which are white with purple stripes and a purple with red/purple striped labellum;
2. plant produces more than one inflorescence;
3. plants may be propagated economically and uniformly using tissue culture;
4. inflorescences are long and sturdy; and
5. relatively short, dark-green foliage.

In comparison with the parental cultivars of 'Valley Buzz', the female parent 'Minho Princess' is white with purple stripes on the edges and on the labellum. The male parent 'Taisuco Jewel' is purple with a small white edge and a red/purple labellum, whereas the flowers of 'Valley Buzz' are white with purple stripes and a purple with red/purple striped labellum.

Presently, the commercial cultivar to which 'Valley Buzz' can be meaningfully compared is 'Maryland' (unpatented). The flowers of 'Maryland' are about 7 cm, whereas the flowers of 'Valley Buzz' are about 6 cm. The flowers of 'Valley Buzz' have more purple stripes on the petals and sepals and more white in the labellum than the flowers of 'Maryland'.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying photographs illustrate the overall appearance of the new *Phalaenopsis* 'Valley Buzz' showing the colors as true as is reasonably possible with 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 color of 'Valley Buzz'.

FIG. 1 shows a side view perspective of a typical flowering plant of 'Valley Buzz' in a 12 cm pot, at 16 months of age.

FIG. 2 shows a close-up view of the typical flower of 'Valley Buzz'.

FIG. 3 shows a close-up view of the typical leaves of 'Valley Buzz'.

#### DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The new *Phalaenopsis* cultivar 'Valley Buzz' has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype of the new cultivar may vary with variations in environment such as temperature, light intensity, and day length without any change in the genotype of the plant.

The aforementioned photographs, together with the following observations, measurements and values describe plants of 'Valley Buzz' as grown in a greenhouse in Strenweg, Heemskerk, The Netherlands, under conditions which closely approximate those generally used in commercial practice. Initially, the ideal temperature to grow plants of 'Valley Buzz' is 27° C. during the day and at night. Then, during the flowering phase of 'Valley Buzz', the ideal growing temperature is 20-22° C. during the day and 18° C. at night. Light levels for growing 'Valley Buzz' are a

minimum of 5,000 lux and a maximum of 10,000 lux. A balanced fertilizer with level of 200 ppm N, 87 ppm P, 168 ppm K is applied. Duration of growth of 'Valley Buzz' from potting size is between 10 and 14 months.

Color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart (R.H.S.), 2007 edition, except where general colors of ordinary significance are used. Color values were taken under daylight conditions at approximately noon in Zaandammerweg, Assendelft, The Netherlands. The age of the 'Valley Buzz' plants described is 12 months after potting.

Classification:

*Botanical.*—*Phalaenopsis hybrida*.

Parentage:

*Female or seed parent.*—*Phalaenopsis* cultivar designated 'Minho Princess', unpatented.

*Male or pollen parent.*—*Phalaenopsis* cultivar designated 'Taisuco Jewel', unpatented.

Propagation:

*Type.*—tissue culture.

*Rooting habit and description.*—Fleshy; approximately 4 mm-7 mm wide and greyed/green in color (RHS 190B); freely branching. It takes 12 weeks for plants growing in tissue culture to initiate roots.

Plant:

*Size at maturity.*—Height (from bottom of pot to highest flower): about 50 cm. Spread: about 45 cm.

*Growth habit.*—Small; green leaves (RHS N137A) and a relatively normal raceme. Vigor: moderate. Crop time: Following asexual propagation, at about 26 weeks 2 leaves appear; at about 30 weeks 3-4 leaves appear; after a cold treatment of about 4-8 weeks at a temperature of about 19° C. about 1-3 racemes with flowers appear.

Foliage:

*Quantity per plant.*—About 6-10 leaves are produced before flowering.

*Arrangement and attachment.*—Half up/horizontal and on two sides.

*Overall shape of leaf.*—Oval; the tip is blunt and asymmetric.

*Texture (upper & underside).*—Smooth and leathery.

*Pubescence.*—None.

*Mature leaf length.*—About 20 cm.

*Mature leaf width.*—About 8 cm.

*Mature leaf thickness.*—About 2 mm.

*Mature leaf color.*—Upper side: green (RHS N137A).

Under side: green (137B).

*Leaf base.*—Acute.

*Margin.*—Entire.

*Venation.*—Pattern: parallel. Color of midvein: upper side: green (RHS 136A). Under side: green (RHS 137C).

Inflorescence description:

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

*Raceme.*—Quantity per plant: About 1 to 3. Number of flowers per raceme: About 21. Length: About 40 cm.

*Peduncle.*—Length: about 10 mm. Diameter: about 3 mm. Strength: strong. Aspect: upright. Texture: glabrous and smooth. Color: green (RHS 137B). Internode: Length: about 30 mm.

*Buds*.—Height (from base to tip): about 16 mm. Diameter (at midpoint): about 13 mm. Shape: oval/egg-shaped with a bump on one side. Color: yellow/green (RHS 145A and RHS 145C) with purple (RHS N78A). Orientation: same as flowers (forward facing).

*Flowering time*.—For an untreated plant (flowering plant that has not undergone cold-treatment where the plant grows at a temperature of 18° C. to 19° C. for about 4 to 8 weeks after a period of about 30 weeks at a temperature of 25° C.), 1-3 racemes appear with flower buds and flowers. First flowers can be expected approximately 4 to 6 months after planting a plant with a leaf diameter of 3 to 5 cm. Flowers persistent.

*Flowering longevity*.—On the plant: about 4 to 6 months; lastingness of cut flowers: has not been observed.

*Fragrance*.—No fragrance.

*Flower*.—Rate of opening: Flowers fully opened about 2 to 3 days after petal and sepal separation. Orientation at opening: slanted upward and outward. Shape: Typical shape of *Phalaenopsis*; see FIG. 2. Size (of single bloom): Height: about 55 mm. Diameter: about 60 mm. Quantity and arrangement: three petals and three sepals that are trimerous, overlapping and arranged in 2 whorls. Petals are more pronounced than sepals.

*Petals*.—Arrangement: Inner whorl comprises 3 petals: 2 lateral petals and a labellum. 2 lateral petals: Overall shape: broadly ovate (little triangular) and weakly cupped. Apex: oval. Margin: entire and weakly undulate (crenated). Base: broadly ovate. Length: about 34 mm. Width: about 29 mm. Texture: Upper surface: smooth and satiny. Under surface: smooth and satiny. Color (when fully opened): upper side & under side: white (RHS NN155D) with purple stripes (RHS N78A). Labellum: Overall shape: 3-lobed with 2 prominent callosities at central junction of the lateral lobes and base of the midlobe. Lateral lobes of labellum fold upward about the column; the midlobe extends forward and is terminated by 2 filiform appendages at the apex. Lateral lobes of the labellum are ovate in shape while the midlobe is triangular with a bump and a rib on it. Margin: entire and weakly undulate. Apex: oval. Length: about 20 mm. Width (not flattened): about 19 mm. Depth of tube created by lateral lobes of labellum: about 8 mm. Texture: Upper & under surface: smooth and satiny. Color (when fully opened): Mid lobe, upper side: at the base a little white (RHS NN155D) and yellow (RHS 12B). Main

color is purple (RHS N78A) with red/purple stripes (RHS 59A). Under side: white (RHS NN155D). At the base the edges are yellow (RHS 12B). Purple stripes (RHS N78A) and red/purple (RHS 59A). Lateral lobes, upper and under side: at the base white (RHS NN155D) and yellow (RHS 12B) with purple stripes (RHS 78A) upper edge purple/violet (RHS N80A). Cirrhi: about 5 mm. color: purple (RHS N79A and RHS N79C). Pestle (Callosities): Length: about 6 mm. Width (not flattened): about 6 mm. Color: yellow (RHS 11A) with red/purple spots (RHS 72A).

*Sepals*.—Arrangement: Outer whorl comprises 3 sepals, one dorsal and two lateral sepals. Overall shape: elliptical and weakly cupped. Margin: entire and weakly undulate. Length: about 24 mm. Width: about 19 mm. Apex: oval; dorsal has little notch and lateral sepals are little pointy. Texture: Upper and under surface: smooth and satiny. Color (when fully opened): Upper side, dorsal and lateral: white (RHS NN155D) with purple/violet stripes (RHS N81A). Under side, dorsal: main color is white (RHS NN155D) with a green/white haze (RHS 157A). At the base a yellow/green haze (RHS 145C). Further purple/violet stripes (RHS N81A). Lateral: white (MS NN155D) with a yellow/green haze (RHS 145C) and purple/violet stripes (RHS N81A).

*Pedice*.—Length: about 30 mm. Diameter: about 3 mm. Texture: glabrous and smooth. Color: green/white (RHS 157A) and yellow/green (RHS 144A).

#### 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 a 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. The plant has not produced seed.

*Column*.—Length: about 9 mm. Diameter: about 4 mm. Color: pred/urple (RHS 72A and RHS 70B).

*Pollinia*.—Quantity: two. Diameter: about 2 mm. Color: orange (RHS 26A).

*Ovary*.—Length: about 3 mm. Diameter: about 3 mm. Color: white (RHS NN155D).

Disease/pest resistance/susceptibility: No specific resistance or susceptibility observed.

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

What is claimed is:

1. A new and distinct *Phalaenopsis* plant named 'Valley Buzz', as illustrated and described herein.

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FIG. 1

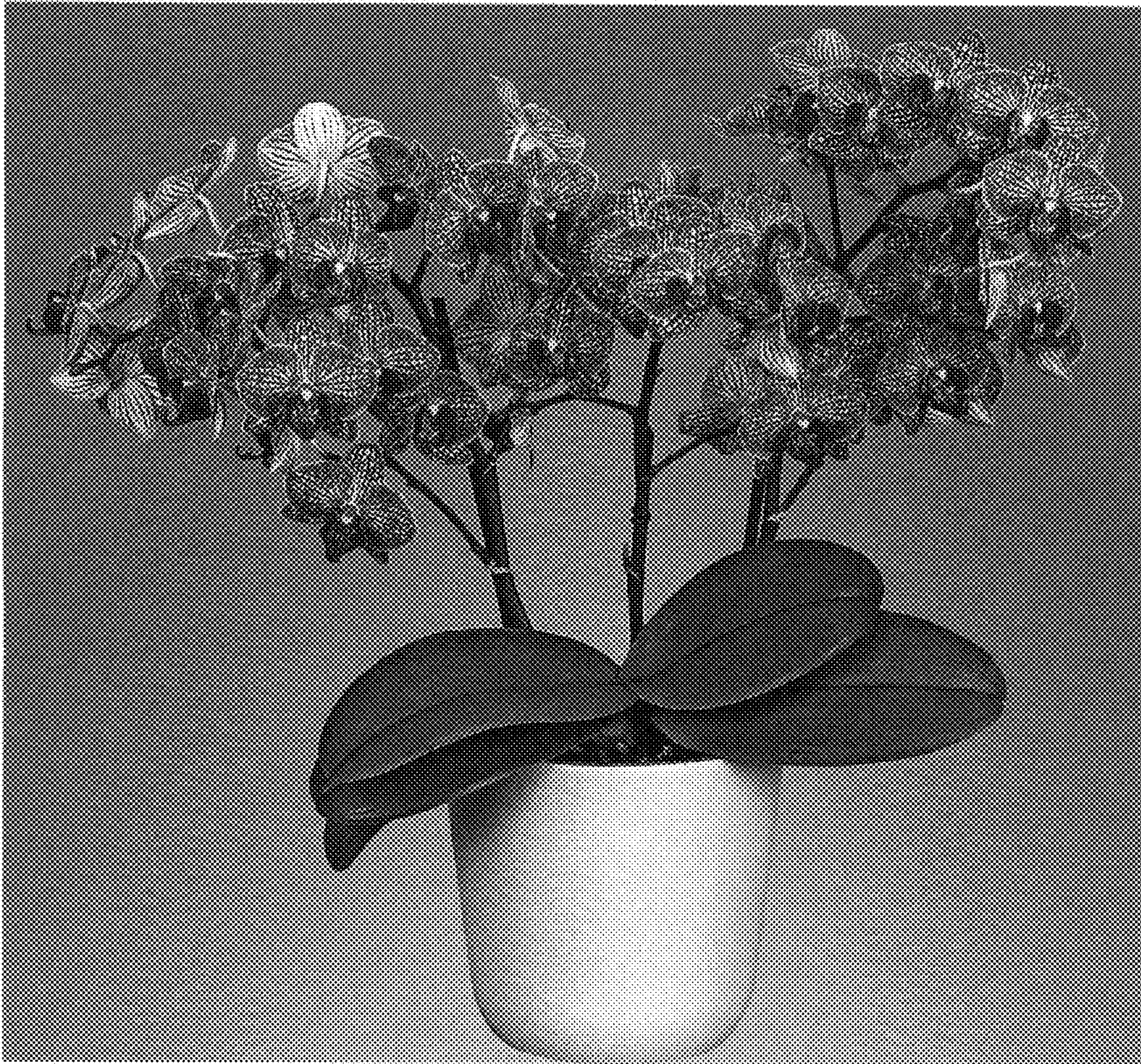


FIG. 2

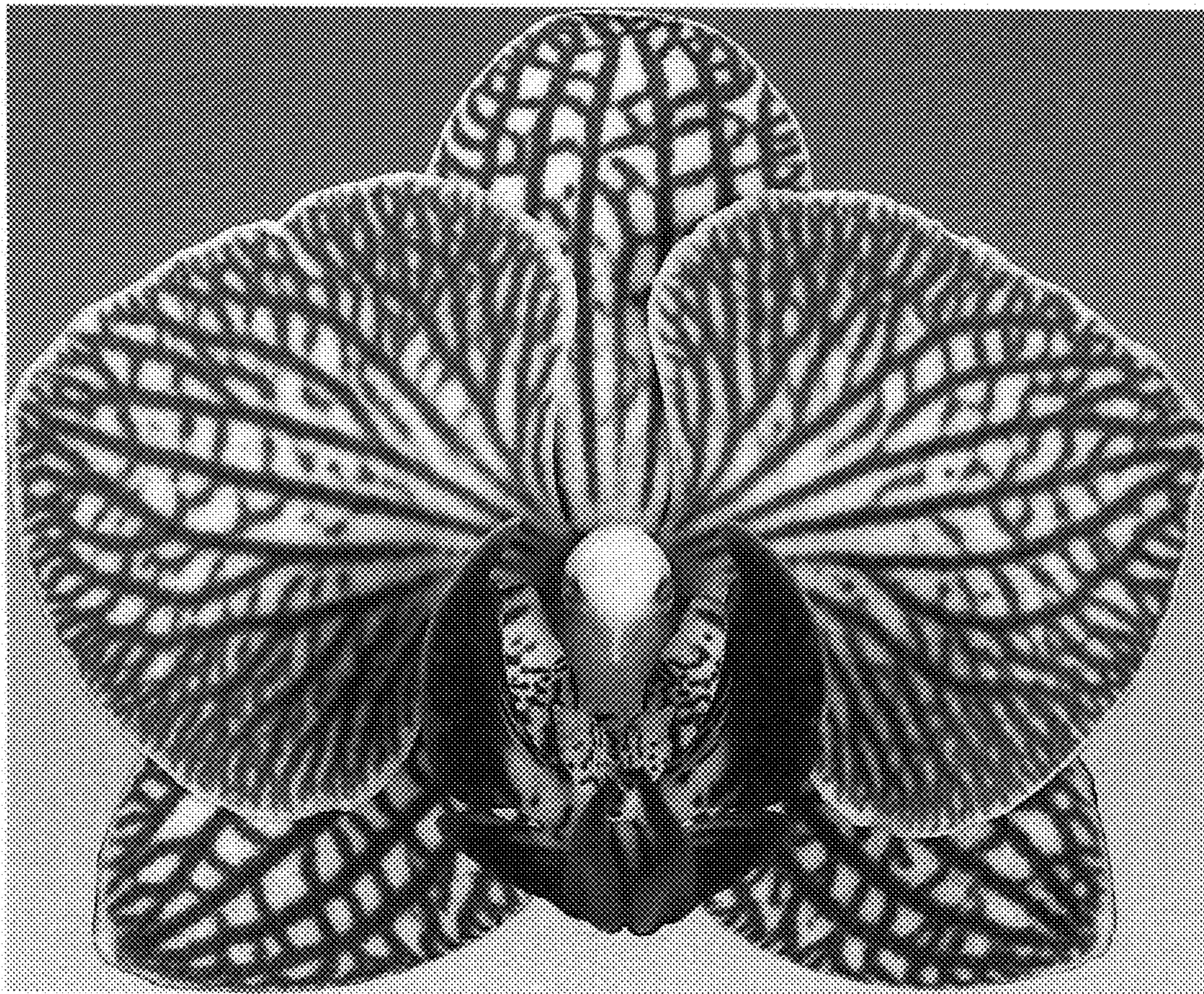


FIG. 3

