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Geibel

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- (54) **PELARGONIUM PLANT NAMED ‘REGSNOW’**
- (50) Latin Name: *Pelargonium grandiflorum*
Varietal Denomination: **Regsnow**
- (71) Applicant: **Martin Geibel**, Dresden (DE)
- (72) Inventor: **Martin Geibel**, Dresden (DE)
- (73) Assignee: **Elsner pac Jungpflanzen GbR**,
Dresden (DE)
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- (52) **U.S. Cl.**
USPC **Plt./331**
- (58) **Field of Classification Search**
USPC **Plt./324, 331**
See application file for complete search history.

Primary Examiner — Susan McCormick Ewoldt

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — C. A. Whealy

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of Regal Geranium plant named ‘Regsnow’, characterized by its compact, upright to somewhat outwardly spreading and uniformly mounded plant habit; moderately vigorous growth habit; freely basal branching habit; early and freely flowering habit; white-colored flowers with a red purple-colored spot on the upper petals; and no requirement for cooling treatment for flower initiation and development.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical designation: *Pelargonium grandiflorum*.
Cultivar denomination: ‘REGSNOW’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of Regal Geranium plant, botanically known as *Pelargonium grandiflorum*, and hereinafter referred to by the name ‘Regsnow’.

The new Regal Geranium plant is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Dresden, Germany. The objective of the breeding program is to develop new early flowering Regal Geranium plants that do not require a cooling treatment for flower development.

The new Regal Geranium plant originated from a cross-pollination made by the Inventor in Dresden, Germany during the summer of 2009 of two unnamed proprietary selections of *Pelargonium grandiflorum*, not patented. The new Regal Geranium plant was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a flowering plant from within the progeny of the stated cross-pollination in a controlled greenhouse environment in Dresden, Germany during the spring of 2010.

Asexual reproduction of the new Regal Geranium plant by vegetative terminal cuttings in a controlled greenhouse environment in Dresden, Germany since October, 2010 has shown that the unique features of this new Regal Geranium plant are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Plants of the new Regal Geranium have not been observed under all possible combinations of environmental conditions and cultural practices. The phenotype may vary somewhat with various environmental conditions such as temperature and light intensity without, however, any variance in genotype.

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The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be the unique characteristics of ‘Regsnow’. These characteristics in combination distinguish ‘Regsnow’ as a new and distinct Regal Geranium plant:

- 5 1. Compact, upright to somewhat outwardly spreading and uniformly mounded plant habit.
2. Moderately vigorous growth habit.
3. Freely basal branching habit.
4. Early and freely flowering habit.
- 10 5. White-colored flowers with a red purple-colored spot on the upper petals.
6. No required cooling treatment for flower initiation and development.

Plants of the new Regal Geranium differ primarily from plants of the parent selections in flower color. In addition, plants of the new Regal Geranium are more uniform than plants of the parent selections.

Plants of the new Regal Geranium can also be compared to plants of the *Pelargonium grandiflorum* ‘Camwhi’, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 26,281. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Dresden, Germany, plants of the new Regal Geranium differed from plants of ‘Camwhi’ in the following characteristics:

- 25 1. Plants of the new Regal Geranium were more compact than and not as vigorous as plants of ‘Camwhi’.
2. Plants of the new Regal Geranium had larger leaves than plants of ‘Camwhi’.
- 30 3. Plants of the new Regal Geranium had larger flowers than plants of ‘Camwhi’.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying colored photograph illustrates the overall appearance of the new Regal Geranium 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 Regal Geranium plant.

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

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photograph and following observations, measurements and values describe plants grown during the winter, spring and summer in 19-cm containers in a glass-covered greenhouse in Dresden, Germany and under cultural practices which closely approximate commercial Regal Geranium production. During the production of the plants, day temperatures averaged 18° C., night temperatures averaged 16° C. and light levels ranged from 15 kilolux to 100 kilolux. Plants were six and nine months old when the photograph and description, respectfully, were taken. In the detailed description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 1995 Edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Botanical classification: *Pelargonium grandiflorum* 'Regsnow'.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Unnamed proprietary selection of *Pelargonium grandiflorum*, not patented.

Male or pollen parent.—Unnamed proprietary selection of *Pelargonium grandiflorum*, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—By vegetative terminal cuttings.

Time to initiate roots, summer.—About 18 days at temperatures about 20° C.

Time to initiate roots, winter.—About 22 days at temperatures about 20° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, summer and 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, upright to somewhat outwardly spreading and uniformly mounded plant habit; inverted triangle; densely foliated; moderately vigorous growth habit; freely basal branching habit with numerous lateral branches developing per plant.

Plant height, to top of umbels.—About 38 cm.

Plant height, to top of leaves.—About 30 cm.

Plant width.—About 50 cm.

Lateral branches.—Length: About 30 cm. Diameter: About 7 mm. Internode length: About 2 cm. Texture: Moderately pubescent. Color: Close to 144A.

Leaf description:

Arrangement.—Mostly opposite; simple.

Length.—About 6 cm.

Width.—About 8 cm.

Shape.—Cordate.

Apex.—Acute to rounded.

Base.—Cordate, open.

Margin.—Serrate.

Venation pattern.—Palmate.

Texture, upper and lower surfaces.—Sparsely pubescent; leathery.

Color.—Developing and fully expanded leaves, upper surface: Close to 137C; venation, close to 137B.

Developing and fully expanded leaves, lower surface: Close to 138B; venation, close to 138B. Zonation pattern: Not present.

Petioles.—Length: About 3.5 cm. Diameter: About 2.5 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Slightly pubescent. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 144A.

Flower description:

Flower arrangement and flowering habit.—Single rotate flowers arranged in inversely conical umbels arising from apical leaf axils; umbels displayed above the foliar plane on moderately strong peduncles; flowers face upright to outwardly; freely flowering habit with about six to eight flowers per umbel and numerous umbels developing over time.

Fragrance.—None detected.

Flowering season.—Early flowering habit, plants begin flowering about three months after planting; in outdoor gardens in Germany, plants flower from spring until frost; plants do not require a cooling treatment for flower initiation and development.

Flower longevity.—Flowers last about two weeks on the plant; flowers not persistent.

Umbel height.—About 7 cm.

Umbel diameter.—About 9 cm.

Flower diameter.—About 6 cm.

Flower depth (height).—About 3.5 cm.

Flower buds.—Length: About 1.5 cm. Diameter: About 7 mm. Shape: Spindle-shaped. Color: Close to 146A.

Petals.—Quantity per flower: Five, arranged in a single whorl; petals imbricate. Length, upper petals: About 4 cm. Length, lower petals: About 4 cm. Width, upper petals: About 4 cm. Width, lower petals: About 2.5 cm. Shape, all petals: Obovate. Apex, all petals: Rounded. Base, all petals: Cuneate with attenuate tendencies. Margin, all petals: Entire. Texture, all petals, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; satiny. Color, upper petals: When opening and fully opened, upper surface: Close to 155D; spot, close to 74A. When opening and fully opened, lower surface: Close to 155D. Color, lower petals: When opening and fully opened, upper surface: Close to 155D. When opening and fully opened, lower surface: Close to 155D.

Sepals.—Quantity per flower: Five, arranged in a single whorl. Length: About 1.8 cm. Width: About 4 mm. Shape: Lanceolate. Apex: Acute. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper surface: Slightly pubescent. Texture, lower surface: Densely pubescent. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 144A.

Peduncle (umbel stem).—Length: About 4.5 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Strength: Moderately strong. Angle: Slightly outwardly slanted. Texture: Moderately pubescent. Color: Close to 146A.

Pedice (individual flower stem).—Length: About 2.5 cm. Diameter: About 1.5 mm. Strength: Moderately strong; flexible. Texture: Moderately pubescent. Color: Close to 146B.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Stamen quantity per flower: About seven. Anther length: About 2 mm. Anther shape: Tubular. Anther color: Close to 72A. Pollen amount: Abundant. Pollen color: Close to 171A. Gynoecium: Pistil quantity per flower: One. Pistil length: About 2 cm. Stigma shape: Five-parted. Stigma color: Close to 61A. Style length: About 7

mm. Style color: Close to 61C. Ovary color: Close to 147C. Seeds and fruits: Seed and fruit development have not been observed on plants of the new Regal Geranium.

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

Temperature tolerance: Plants of the new Regal Geranium have been observed to tolerate temperatures ranging from about 1° C. to about 35° C. to 40° C.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct Regal Geranium plant named 'Regsnow' as illustrated and described.

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