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(54) **PETUNIA PLANT NAMED ‘KLEPH15261’**

(50) Latin Name: *Petunia hybrida*  
Varietal Denomination: **KLEPH15261**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new *petunia* plant particularly distinguished by having a  
yellow flower color with a uniform corolla, a medium vigor  
and a semi-trailing plant habit, is disclosed.

**1 Drawing Sheet**

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Genus and species: *Petunia hybrida*.  
Variety denomination: ‘KLEPH15261’.

**BACKGROUND OF THE NEW PLANT**

The present invention comprises a new and distinct vari-  
ety of *petunia*, botanically known as *Petunia hybrida* and  
hereinafter referred to by the variety name ‘KLEPH15261’.  
‘KLEPH15261’ is a selection from a cross-pollination of the  
proprietary female *petunia* line ‘PH-2011-2754’ (un-  
patented) and the proprietary male *petunia* line ‘PH-2009-  
1258’ (unpatented).

In July of 2011, the proprietary female *petunia* line  
‘PH-2011-2754’ and the proprietary male *petunia* line ‘PH-  
2009-1258’ were cross pollinated in Latina, Italy and seeds  
were obtained. The seeds were sown and plants were grown  
for evaluation. A plant line was selected in April 2012 in  
Latina, Italy and named ‘KLEPH15261’. In May 2012,  
‘KLEPH15261’ was first vegetatively propagated by termi-  
nal tip cuttings and tissue culture in Latina, Italy.  
‘KLEPH15261’ was found to reproduce true to type in  
successive generations of asexual propagation via tissue  
culture and terminal tip cuttings.

**SUMMARY**

The following are the most outstanding and distinguish-  
ing characteristics of this new variety when grown under  
normal horticultural practices in Latina, Italy.

1. Yellow flower color with a uniform corolla;
2. A medium vigor; and
3. A semi-trailing plant habit.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH**

This new *petunia* plant is illustrated by the accompanying  
photograph, which shows a close-up of the flower of the  
plant. The plant is about 3 months-old grown in Stuttgart,  
Germany in April 2014.

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The colors shown are as true as can be reasonably  
obtained by conventional photographic procedures.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW VARIETY**

The following detailed descriptions set forth the distinc-  
tive characteristics of ‘KLEPH15261’. The data which  
define these characteristics were collected from asexual  
reproductions carried out in Latina, Italy. Data was collected  
on ten-week-old plants grown indoors in Latina, Italy under  
greenhouse conditions in February 2015. Color references  
are to The R.H.S. Colour Chart of The Royal Horticultural  
Society of London (R.H.S.), 5<sup>th</sup> edition (2007).

**Classification:**

- Family.*—Solanaceae.
- Species.*—*Petunia hybrida*.
- Common name.*—*Petunia*.
- Variety.*—‘KLEPH15261’.

**Parentage:**

- Female.*—Proprietary *petunia* line ‘PH-2011-2754’.
- Male.*—Proprietary *petunia* line ‘PH-2009-1258’.

**Plant:**

- Form.*—Medium vigor.
- Habit.*—Semi-trailing.
- Height (from top of soil).*—About 7.0 cm.
- Width (horizontal plant diameter).*—About 16.0 cm.
- Propagation.*—Terminal tip cuttings.
- Time to produce a finished flowering plant.*—About 13  
weeks in winter under short day conditions, 7 weeks  
in spring.
- Time to initiate and develop roots.*—2 to 3 weeks.
- Root description.*—Moderate density, moderate  
branching, white roots.

**Stems:**

- Average number (basal).*—10.
- Length of basal branches (from the base of the stem to  
the tip).*—About 9.0 cm.

*Internode length*.—0.4 cm to 1.0 cm.  
*Diameter of branches (from midpoint)*.—0.4 cm.  
*Stem color*.—RHS 145D.  
*Anthocyanin*.—Absent.  
*Texture*.—Tomentose.

## Leaves:

*Arrangement*.—Alternate.  
*Length*.—5.0 cm to 7.0 cm.  
*Width*.—2.0 cm to 2.7 cm.  
*Shape*.—Elliptic.  
*Apex*.—Acute.  
*Base*.—Attenuate.  
*Margin*.—Entire.  
*Immature leaf color*.—Upper surface: RHS N137D.  
 Lower surface: RHS 146B.  
*Mature leaf color*.—Upper surface: RHS N137B.  
 Lower surface: RHS 146B.  
*Texture*.—Upper and lower surfaces: Tomentose.  
*Venation pattern*.—Arcuate.  
*Venation color*.—Upper surface: RHS N137B. Lower  
 surface: RHS 145A.  
*Petioles*.—Length: About 1.0 cm. Diameter: 0.4 cm.  
 Color: RHS 145B. Texture: Tomentose.

## Flower bud:

*Shape*.—Irregular oblong.  
*Length*.—4.5 cm.  
*Diameter*.—0.7 cm.  
*Color at tight bud*.—RHS 145B at the base and RHS  
 150C at the top.  
*Texture*.—Slightly pubescent.

## Inflorescence:

*Blooming habit (flowering season)*.—Permanent flow-  
 ering during summertime.  
*Inflorescence type*.—Cymose.  
*Number of flowers per node*.—1.  
*Lastingness of individual blooms on the plant*.—About  
 one week.  
*Fragrance*.—Absent.  
*Flowers*.—Arrangement: Composed of 5 petals fused  
 at the base. Diameter (flower face): 6.0 cm. Depth  
 (total length of flower): 6.0 cm. Throat/Funnel:  
 Length: 3.3 cm. Diameter (at opening): 1.5 cm.  
 Texture: Inner and outer surfaces: Smooth, glabrous.  
 Color: Inner surface: RHS 7A. Outer surface: RHS  
 150C. Petals: Color, mature flower (fully opened):  
 Upper surface: Margin color of RHS 4D with veins  
 of RHS 7A to RHS 7B (strong vein color provides  
 the main color of the flower). Lower surface: RHS  
 4A. Apex: Mucronate. Base: Fused. Shape: Fused in  
 a funnel. Margin: Entire. Strength of waviness:  
 Weak. Degree of lobation: Weak.  
*Calyx arrangement*.—Actinomorphic, composed of 5  
 sepals. Sepals: Color: Upper surface: RHS 137A.

Lower surface: RHS 137C. Length: 1.7 cm to 2.0  
 cm. Width: 0.4 cm. Shape: Narrowly oblong. Apex:  
 Acute. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire. Texture:  
 Upper and lower surface: Pubescent.

*Pedicels*.—Color: RHS 144A. Length: 3.8 cm. Diam-  
 eter: 0.2 cm. Texture: Pubescent.

## Reproductive organs:

*Stamens*.—Quantity: 5. Shape: Needle like with elliptic  
 head. Filament: Length: 1.3 cm. Diameter: 0.05 cm.  
 Color: RHS 2D. Anther: Shape: Elliptic-oblong.  
 Color: RHS 8B. Length: 0.2 cm. Diameter: 0.15 cm.  
 Pollen: Color: RHS 11B. Amount: Abundant.

*Pistils*.—Quantity per flower: 1. Length: 2.7 cm.  
 Stigma color: RHS 143A. Style color: RHS 145A.

Fruit and seed set: None observed.

Disease and pest insect resistance: None observed.

COMPARISON WITH PARENTAL LINES AND  
KNOWN VARIETY

‘KLEPH15261’ is a distinct variety of *petunia*.  
 ‘KLEPH15261’ is distinguished from its parents as  
 described in Table 1:

TABLE 1

Comparison with Parental Lines			
Trait	Variety ‘KLEPH15261’	Female parent ‘PH-2011-2754’	Male Parent ‘PH-2009-1258’
Flower color	More uniform corolla color than the parental lines	Darker color than ‘KLEPH15261’	Lighter margin than ‘KLEPH15261’ with a yellow center
Earliness	About two weeks earlier than ‘PH-2009-1258’		About two weeks later than ‘KLEPH15261’

‘KLEPH15261’ is most similar to the commercial *petunia*  
 plant named Sunshine Ray (patent status unknown). Differ-  
 ences between the two varieties are described in Table 2:

TABLE 2

Comparison with Similar Variety		
Characteristic	Variety ‘KLEPH15261’	Commercial line Sunshine Ray
Flower color	Yellow face and margin	Lighter margin and stronger vein center than ‘KLEPH15261’

We claim:

1. A new and distinct variety of *petunia* plant named  
 ‘KLEPH15261’ as illustrated and described herein.

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