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**(12) United States Plant Patent
Li****(10) Patent No.: US PP28,364 P2
(45) Date of Patent: Sep. 5, 2017**(54) **VERBENA PLANT NAMED ‘KLEVP15618’**(50) Latin Name: *Verbena* sp.
Varietal Denomination: **KLEVP15618**(71) Applicant: **Klemm+Sohn GmbH & Co. KG,**
Stuttgart (DE)(72) Inventor: **Ruijun Li,** North Parramatta (AU)(73) Assignee: **Klemm+Sohn GmbH & Co. KG,**
Stuttgart (DE)(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
patent is extended or adjusted under 35
U.S.C. 154(b) by 28 days.(21) Appl. No.: **14/998,952**(22) Filed: **Mar. 9, 2016**(51) **Int. Cl.**
A01H 5/02 (2006.01)(52) **U.S. Cl.**
USPC **Plt./308**(58) **Field of Classification Search**
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See application file for complete search history.*Primary Examiner* — Susan McCormick Ewoldt
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James M. Weatherly; Cochran Freund & Young, LLC(57) **ABSTRACT**A new *Verbena* plant particularly distinguished by violet-
blue flowers, a semi-upright plant habit, and good tolerance
to powdery mildew, is disclosed.**1 Drawing Sheet****1**Genus and species: *Verbena* sp.
Variety denomination: ‘KLEVP15618’.**BACKGROUND OF THE NEW PLANT**The present invention comprises a new and distinct vari-
ety of *Verbena*, botanically known as *Verbena* sp., and
hereinafter referred to by the variety name ‘KLEVP15618’.
‘KLEVP15618’ originated from a cross-pollination con-
ducted in September 2011 in Cobbitty, New South Wales,
Australia between the proprietary female *Verbena* variety
‘VC1293’ (unpatented), and the proprietary male *Verbena*
variety ‘VC1215’ (unpatented).The seeds from the cross were sown and plants were
grown for evaluation, where an individual plant designated
‘KLEVP15618’ was selected from the group of plants in
Cobbitty, New South Wales, Australia in August 2012.In October 2012, ‘KLEVP15618’ was first vegetatively
propagated by vegetative stem cuttings in Cobbitty, New
South Wales, Australia. ‘KLEVP15618’ was found to repro-
duce true to type in successive generations of asexual
propagation via vegetative stem cuttings.**SUMMARY**The following are the most outstanding and distinguish-
ing characteristics of this new variety when grown under
normal horticultural practices in Cobbitty, New South
Wales, Australia.

1. Violet-blue flowers;
2. A semi-upright plant habit; and
3. Good tolerance to powdery mildew.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHThis new *Verbena* plant is illustrated by the accompany-
ing photograph which shows the plant’s overall plant habit
including form, foliage, and flowers. The photograph is of a
thirteen- week-old plant grown in a greenhouse in Stuttgart,
Germany in May 2014.**2**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 ‘KLEVP15618’. The data which
define these characteristics were collected from asexual
reproductions carried out in Cobbitty, New South Wales,
Australia. Data was collected on three-month-old plants
grown in a greenhouse in Cobbitty, New South Wales,
Australia in June 2015 in Cobbitty, New South Wales,
Australia. Color references are to The R.H.S. Colour Chart
of The Royal Horticultural Society of London (R.H.S.)
2007.**Classification:***Family.*—Verbenaceae.*Botanical.*—*Verbena* sp.*Common.*—*Verbena*.*Designation.*—‘KLEVP15618’.**Parentage:***Female parent.*—The proprietary female *verbena* vari-
ety ‘VC1293’ (unpatented).*Male parent.*—The proprietary male *verbena* variety
‘VC1215’ (unpatented).**Plant:***Growth habit.*—Semi-upright.*Height (from top of soil).*—32.0 cm.*Width (horizontal plant diameter).*—36.0 cm.*Time to produce a finished flowering plant.*—Approx-
imately 8 weeks.*Time to initiate and develop roots.*—3 weeks.*Root description.*—RHS 155B (White); fine and
fibrous.**Stems:***Number of branches per plant.*—More than 20.*Length.*—24.0 cm.*Diameter.*—1.0 cm.*Internode length.*—Approximately 2.2 cm.*Color.*—RHS 130D.

Anthocyanin.—Absent.
Texture and appearance.—Pubescent, round.

Leaves:

Arrangement.—Opposite.
Immature and mature leaf color.—Upper surface: RHS 141A. Lower surface: RHS 141C.
Length.—2.5 cm.
Width.—1.5 cm.
Shape.—Lanceolate.
Apex.—Acute.
Base.—Obtuse.
Margin.—Crenate.
Texture.—Upper surface: Leathery. Lower surface: Rugose.
Venation type.—Pinnate.
Venation color (both upper and lower surfaces).—RHS 141D.
Petioles.—Length: 0.4 cm. Diameter: 0.1 cm. Color: RHS 141D. Texture: Leathery.

Flower buds:

Shape.—Tall, cylindrical.
Length.—0.5 cm.
Diameter.—0.1 cm.
Color (at tight bud).—RHS 93A.

Inflorescence:

Blooming habit (flowering season).—Continuously.
Lastingness of individual blooms on the plant.—1 week.
Fragrance.—Absent.
Inflorescence type.—Umbel.
Length of inflorescence.—6.0 cm.
Diameter of inflorescence.—6.0 cm.
Number of florets per inflorescence.—More than 20.
Peduncle.—Color: RHS 141A. Length: 1.0 cm. Diameter: 0.1 cm.

Florets:

Length.—1.2 cm.
Diameter.—2.6 cm.
Texture.—Glossy.
Form.—Single.
Corolla tube length.—1.3 cm.
Corolla tube color (outer surface).—RHS 56C.
Petals.—Length of lobe: 2.0 cm. Diameter of lobe: 1.9 cm. Lobe shape: Round. Apex: Acute. Base: Obtuse. Margin: Entire. Texture (both upper and lower surfaces): Glossy, satiny. Color: Immature: Upper surface: RHS 93A. Lower surface: RHS 89A. Mature: Upper surface: RHS 89A. Lower surface: RHS 88A.
Pedicels.—Not visible.

Sepals:

Shape.—Lanceolate.
Apex.—Acute.

Base.—Obtuse.
Margin.—Entire.
Length.—0.5 cm.
Diameter.—0.3 cm.
Color.—RHS 141C.
Texture (both upper and lower surfaces).—Hairy, dull.

Reproductive organs:

Stamens.—Present. Quantity: 4. Color: RHS 139D. Filament length: 0.6 cm. Filament diameter: 0.1 cm. Anther: Shape: Elliptic. Color: RHS 141D. Length: 0.8 cm. Diameter: 0.2 cm. Pollen amount: Sparse.
Pistils.—Number: 1. Length: 1.0 cm. Diameter: 0.1 cm. Stigma: Color: RHS 141D. Appearance: Ovate. Length: 0.1 cm. Diameter: 0.1 cm. Style: Color: RHS 141D. Length: 0.9 cm. Diameter: 0.1 cm. Appearance: Long.

Fruit and seed set: None observed.
Disease and pest/insect resistance: Good resistance to powdery mildew (*Podosphaera xanthii*).

COMPARISON WITH PARENTAL LINES AND KNOWN VARIETY

‘KLEVP15618’ is distinguished from its parents as described in Table 1.

TABLE 1

Comparison with Parental Lines			
Characteristic	‘KLEVP15618’	Female parent ‘VC1293’	Male parent ‘VC1215’
Flower color	Violet-blue	Purple	Violet
Eye color	None - no eyes	Present, tiny white eyes RHS N999D	Present, tiny white eyes RHS N999D

‘KLEVP15618’ is most similar to the commercial *verbena* ‘Imperial Blue’ (patent status unknown). Differences between the varieties are described in Table 2.

TABLE 2

Comparison with Similar Variety		
Characteristic	‘KLEVP15618’	‘Imperial Blue’
Flower color	Violet-blue	Purple
Resistance to powdery mildew	Good tolerance	Less tolerance than ‘KLEVP15618’

I claim:

1. A new and distinct variety of *Verbena* plant designated ‘KLEVP15618’ as illustrated and described herein.

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