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Klemm et al.

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(54) **OSTEOSPERMUM PLANT NAMED**
‘KLEOE16287’

(50) Latin Name: *Osteospermum ecklonis*
Varietal Denomination: **KLEOE16287**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new *Osteospermum* plant particularly distinguished by
white flowers and a spreading growth habit, is disclosed.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Genus and species: *Osteospermum ecklonis*.
Variety denomination: ‘KLEOE16287’.

BACKGROUND OF THE NEW PLANT

The present invention comprises a new and distinct variety of *Osteospermum*, botanically known as *Osteospermum ecklonis*, and hereinafter referred to by the variety name ‘KLEOE16287’. ‘KLEOE16287’ originated from a cross-pollination conducted in the time of May to October, 2011 in Nairobi, Kenya between the proprietary female *Osteospermum* variety ‘KLEOE14215’ (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 26,694), and the proprietary male *Osteospermum* variety ‘OE-2002-V 068’ (unpatented).

The seeds from the cross were sown and plants were grown in a greenhouse for evaluation, where an individual plant designated ‘KLEOE16287’ was selected from the group of plants in May 2012 in Stuttgart, Germany. In September 2013 in Stuttgart, Germany, ‘KLEOE16287’ was first vegetatively propagated by vegetative terminal cuttings. ‘KLEOE16287’ was found to reproduce true to type in successive generations of asexual propagation via vegetative terminal cuttings.

SUMMARY

The following are the most outstanding and distinguishing characteristics of this new variety when grown under normal horticultural practices in Stuttgart, Germany.

1. White flowers; and
2. A spreading habit.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

This new *Osteospermum* plant is illustrated by the accompanying photograph which shows the plant’s overall plant habit including form, foliage, and flowers. The photograph

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is of an 8-week-old plant grown in a greenhouse in Stuttgart, Germany in April 2015. 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 distinctive characteristics of ‘KLEOE16287’. The data which define these characteristics were collected from asexual reproductions carried out in Latina, Italy in April 2017. Data was collected on six-month-old plant grown outdoors in March 2017. Color references are to The R.H.S. Colour Chart of The Royal Horticultural Society of London (R.H.S.), 5th edition (2007).

Classification:

Family.—Asteraceae.

Botanical.—*Osteospermum ecklonis*.

Common.—*Osteospermum*.

Designation.—‘KLEOE16287’.

Parentage:

Female parent.—The proprietary female *Osteospermum* variety ‘KLEOE14215’ (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 26,694).

Male parent.—The proprietary male *Osteospermum* variety ‘OE-2001-V 068’ (unpatented).

Plant:

Form and habit.—Herbaceous perennial but usually cultivated as an annual; not frost resistant.

Habit.—Spreading.

Height (from top of soil).—15.0 cm.

Width.—49.0 cm.

Natural flowering season.—Spring to autumn.

Propagation.—Terminal cuttings.

Time to produce a finished flowering plant.—About 7 weeks.

Time to initiate and develop roots.—Between 3 and 4 weeks.

Root description.—Light tan in color.

Stems:

Total number of branches per plant.—5.

Length.—24.0 cm.

Diameter.—0.6 cm.

Internode length.—2.1 cm.

Color.—RHS 143C.

Texture.—Smooth, but with fine hairs.

Stem form.—Round.

Anthocyanin.—RHS 59A.

Leaves:

Arrangement.—Alternate.

Length.—5.0 cm.

Width.—1.7 cm.

Shape.—Oblanceolate.

Apex.—Acute.

Base.—Acute.

Margin.—Entire.

Texture.—Upper surface: Leathery and smooth. Lower surface: Leathery and smooth, but covered with fine hairs.

Immature color.—Upper surface: RHS N137B. Lower surface: RHS 137B.

Mature color.—Upper surface: RHS N137B. Lower surface: RHS 137B.

Petioles.—Absent.

Venation pattern.—Pinnate.

Venation color.—Upper surface: RHS N137B. Lower surface: RHS 137B.

Flower buds:

Shape.—Round-ovoid.

Apex.—Obtuse.

Base.—Acute.

Height.—1.0 cm.

Width.—0.9 cm.

Color.—RHS 144B.

Pubescence.—Present with fine hairs.

Inflorescence:

Type.—Single, daisy.

Quantity of inflorescences per plant.—Between 15 and 20.

Lastingness of the inflorescences on the plant.—About 2 weeks.

Fragrance.—Absent.

Inflorescence diameter.—About 6 cm.

Inflorescence depth (cm).—About 1 cm.

Disc diameter (cm).—About 1 cm.

Disc floret:

Quantity per inflorescence.—About 30.

Shape.—Tubular.

Tube color (corolla).—Closed: RHS 157A (outer surface at an immature state). Mature: RHS 155B (both inner and outer surface).

Length.—0.4 cm.

Diameter (at apex).—0.1 cm.

Apex.—Acute.

Apex color.—RHS 102C.

Base.—Acute.

Base color.—RHS 155B.

Margin of the corolla.—Entire.

Ray floret:

Quantity per inflorescence.—Between 20 and 23.

Shape.—Oblanceolate.

Color.—Upper surface: RHS NN155D with a ring colored RHS N81A. Lower surface: Young ray florets colored RHS N77B, fading to RHS 75A.

Conspicuousness of longitudinal stripes.—Absent.

Length.—2.4 cm.

Width.—0.9 cm.

Apex.—Rounded.

Base.—Acute.

Margin.—Entire.

Texture.—Upper surface: Smooth. Lower surface: Smooth, shiny.

Peduncle:

Length.—5.0 cm.

Diameter.—0.15 cm.

Texture.—Smooth.

Color.—RHS 143C with RHS 59A anthocyanin.

Strength.—Medium.

Phyllaries:

Observed quantity per plant.—17.

Shape.—Lanceolate.

Arrangement.—Single.

Apex.—Acute.

Base.—Obtuse.

Margin.—Entire with fine hairs.

Length.—1.1 cm.

Width.—0.15 cm.

Texture.—Upper surface: Smooth with fine hairs. Lower surface: Smooth.

Color.—Upper surface: RHS 143A. Lower surface: RHS 143B.

Reproductive organs:

Androecium.—Location: On the disc floret. Stamens: Quantity: About 50. Shape: Filamentous. Filament length: 0.8 cm. Filament color: RHS 69B. Anther: Shape: Lanceolate. Color: RHS 69B. Length: 0.2 cm. Pollen: Color: RHS 14A. Amount: Moderate.

Gynoecium.—Location: On the base of the ray florets. Pistils: Number: About 20, one per ray floret. Length: 0.4 cm. Diameter: Less than 0.05 cm. Stigma: Color: RHS N79A. Shape: Tapering filamentous and split in two parts. Length: 0.2 cm. Diameter: Less than 0.05 cm. Style: Color: RHS N79A. Length: 0.4 cm. Diameter: Less than 0.05 cm. Ovary: Arrangement: Upright. Color: RHS 142D. Diameter: 0.1 cm. Length: 0.3 cm.

Fruit and seed set: Some observed, 0.3 cm in length, 0.1 cm in width, shape is obovate and color is brown.

Disease and pest/insect resistance: No disease and pest/insect resistance observed.

COMPARISON WITH PARENTAL LINES AND KNOWN VARIETY

‘KLEOE16287’ is a distinct variety of *Osteospermum* and is distinguished from its parents as described in Table 1.

TABLE 1

Comparison with Parental Lines			
Characteristic	‘KLEOE16287’	Female Parent ‘KLEOE14215’	Male Parent ‘OE-2001-U 088’
Habit	More spreading than ‘KLEOE14215’	Spreading	Upright
Ray floret color	White	White	Purple

‘KLEOE16287’ is most similar to the commercial *Osteospermum* variety ‘KLEOE03106’ (unpatented). Differences between the varieties are described in Table 2.

TABLE 2

Comparison with Similar Variety		
Characteristic	‘KLEOE16287’	‘KLEOE03106’
Habit	Spreading	Upright

We claim:

1. A new and distinct variety of *Osteospermum* plant designated ‘KLEOE16287’ as illustrated and described herein.

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