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Barnes

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(54) ***CALIBRACHOA* PLANT NAMED 'BBCAL85303'**

(50) Latin Name: ***Calibrachoa* sp.**
Varietal Denomination: **BBCAL85303**

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(52) **U.S. Cl.**
USPC **Plt./413**

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
USPC Plt./413
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

PUBLICATIONS

PLUTO Plant Variety Database Feb. 22, 2019.*

* cited by examiner

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct *Calibrachoa* plant named 'BBCAL85303', characterized by its compact, upright to outwardly spreading and mounding to trailing plant habit; moderately vigorous growth habit; freely branching habit; dense and bushy appearance; early and freely flowering habit; red purple-colored petals with white-colored margins and star-shaped pattern and bright yellow-colored centers; and good garden performance.

1 Drawing Sheet

Botanical designation: *Calibrachoa* sp.
Cultivar denomination: 'BBCAL85303'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of *Calibrachoa* plant, botanically known as *Calibrachoa* sp. and hereinafter referred to by the name 'BBCAL85303'.

The new *Calibrachoa* plant is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Bonsall, Calif. The objective of the breeding program is to create new uniform and freely-branching *Calibrachoa* plants with unique and attractive flower colors and patterns and good garden performance.

The new *Calibrachoa* plant originated from a cross-pollination conducted by the Inventor in Bonsall, Calif. on Oct. 28, 2015 of a proprietary seedling selection of *Calibrachoa* sp. identified as code number 15C644-01, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with *Calibrachoa* sp. 'USCAL91001', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 23,232, as the male, or pollen, parent. The new *Calibrachoa* plant was discovered and first selected by the Inventor as a single flowering plant within the progeny of the stated cross-pollination in a controlled greenhouse environment in Bonsall, Calif. on Jun. 23, 2016.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Calibrachoa* plant by vegetative terminal cuttings in a controlled greenhouse environment in Bonsall, Calif. since Jun. 25, 2016 has shown that the unique features of this new *Calibrachoa* plant are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* have not been observed under all possible combinations of environmental conditions

and cultural practices. The phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in environmental conditions such as temperature and light intensity without, however, any variance in genotype.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be the unique characteristics of 'BBCAL85303'. These characteristics in combination distinguish 'BBCAL85303' as a new and distinct *Calibrachoa* plant:

1. Compact, upright to outwardly spreading and mounding to trailing plant habit.
2. Moderately vigorous growth habit.
3. Freely branching habit; dense and bushy appearance.
4. Early and freely flowering habit.
5. Red purple-colored petals with white-colored margins and star-shaped pattern and bright yellow-colored centers.
6. Good garden performance.

Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* differ primarily from plants of the female parent selection in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* are more freely branching than plants of the female parent selection.
2. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* and the female parent selection differ in flower color as flowers of plants of the female parent selection are pink in color with yellow-colored star-shaped pattern and centers.
3. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* have good garden performance and are more tolerant to pathogens common to *Calibrachoa* plants than plants of the female parent selection.

Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* differ primarily from plants of the male parent, 'USCAL91001', in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* are more outwardly spreading than and not as upright as plants of 'USCAL91001'.
2. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* and 'USCAL91001' differ in flower color as flowers of plants of 'USCAL91001' are red purple in color with yellow-colored star-shaped pattern and centers.

Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* can be compared to plants of the *Calibrachoa* sp. 'USCALI11', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 14,968. In side-by-side comparisons, plants of the new *Calibrachoa* differ primarily from plants of 'USCALI11' in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* are more outwardly spreading than and not as upright as plants of 'USCALI11'.
2. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* and 'USCALI11' differ in flower color as flowers of plants of 'USCALI11' are light red purple in color.

Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* can also be compared to plants of the *Calibrachoa* sp. 'USCALI51', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 14,874. In side-by-side comparisons, plants of the new *Calibrachoa* differ primarily from plants of 'USCALI51' in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* are more outwardly spreading than and not as upright as plants of 'USCALI51'.
2. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* and 'USCALI51' differ in flower color as flowers of plants of 'USCALI51' are violet in color.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying colored photographs illustrate the overall appearance of the new *Calibrachoa* plant showing the colors as true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in 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 colors of the new *Calibrachoa* plant.

The photograph at the bottom of the sheet is a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'BBCAL85303' grown in a container.

The photograph at the top of the sheet is a close-up view of a typical flowering plant of 'BBCAL85303'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photographs and following observations and measurements describe plants grown during the winter and early spring in 11.5-cm containers in an acrylic-covered greenhouse in Carleton, Mich. and under cultural practices typical of commercial *Calibrachoa* production. During the production of the plants, day and night temperatures ranged from 18° C. to 24° C. Plants were twelve weeks from planting rooted cuttings when the photographs and description were taken. In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 2007 Edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Botanical classification: *Calibrachoa* sp. 'BBCAL85303'.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary seedling selection of *Calibrachoa* sp. identified as code number 15C644-01, not patented.

Male, or pollen, parent.—*Calibrachoa* sp. 'USCAL91001', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 23,232.

Propagation:

Type.—By vegetative terminal cuttings.

Time to initiate roots, summer.—About five to seven days at ambient temperatures ranging from 17° C. to 29° C.

Time to initiate roots, winter.—About seven to ten days at ambient temperatures ranging from 17° C. to 21° C.

Time to produce a rooted plant, summer.—About four to five weeks at ambient temperatures ranging from 17° C. to 29° C.

Time to produce a rooted plant, winter.—About five to six weeks at ambient temperatures ranging from 17° C. to 21° C.

Root description.—Medium in thickness, fibrous; typically white in color, actual color of the roots is dependent on substrate composition, water quality, fertilizer type and formulation, substrate temperature and physiological age of roots.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching; medium density.

Plant description:

Plant and growth habit.—Compact, upright to outwardly spreading and mounding to trailing plant habit; moderately vigorous growth habit; moderate growth rate; freely branching habit with about three primary lateral branches each with about four to six secondary branches; dense and bushy appearance.

Plant height, soil level to top of foliar plane.—About 10.5 cm.

Plant height, soil level to top of floral plane.—About 12 cm.

Plant diameter.—About 28 cm by 30 cm.

Lateral branch description:

Length.—About 11.5 cm.

Diameter.—About 3 mm.

Internode length.—About 1.2 cm.

Strength.—Strong.

Aspect.—About 45° to 55° from stem axis.

Texture and luster.—Minute pubescence; matte.

Color, developing.—Close to 144A.

Color, developed.—Close to 146C.

Leaf description:

Arrangement.—Before flowering, alternate; after flowering, opposite; leaves simple.

Length.—About 3.5 cm.

Width.—About 1.7 cm.

Shape.—Elliptical.

Apex.—Rounded.

Base.—Attenuate.

Margin.—Entire.

Texture and luster, upper and lower surfaces.—Minute pubescence; matte.

Venation pattern.—Pinnate; arcuate.

Color.—Developing leaves, upper surface: Close to 137A. Developing leaves, lower surface: Close to 137B. Fully expanded leaves, upper surface: Close to 147A; venation, close to 147B. Fully expanded leaves, lower surface: Close to 147B; venation, close to 147C.

Petioles.—Length: About 4 mm. Diameter: About 3 mm. Strength: Moderately strong. Texture and luster,

upper and lower surfaces: Scattered pubescence; matte. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 144B.

Flower description:

Flower type and flowering habit.—Single salverform flowers arising from leaf axils; freely flowering habit with typically more than 300 flowers and flower buds developing per plant; flowers face upright to outwardly.

Fragrance.—None detected.

Natural flowering season.—Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* begin flowering about six weeks after planting; plants flower continuously from the spring though the summer until frost.

Flower longevity.—Individual flowers last about four to five days on the plant; flowers persistent.

Flower buds.—Length: About 2.6 cm. Diameter: About 7 mm. Shape: Oblong, elongate. Texture and luster: Minute pubescence; matte. Color: Close to N78C.

Flower diameter.—About 4 cm by 4.5 cm.

Flower length (*height*).—About 2.7 cm.

Flower throat diameter.—About 4 mm by 10 mm.

Flower tube length.—About 2 cm.

Flower tube diameter.—About 8 mm.

Corolla.—Arrangement: Five fused petals opening into a flared trumpet. Petal lobe length (from throat): About 2 cm. Petal lobe width: About 1.8 cm to 2 cm. Petal shape: Fan-shaped. Petal apex: Rounded; recurving with development. Petal margin: Entire; moderately undulate. Petal texture and luster, upper surface: Smooth, glabrous, velvety; slightly glossy. Petal texture and luster, lower surface: Minute pubescence especially along the veins; matte. Throat texture and luster: Smooth, glabrous; matte. Tube texture and luster: Minute pubescence; matte. Color: Petal lobe, when opening, upper surface: Close to 71B. Petal lobe, when opening, lower surface: Close to 75A. Petal lobe, fully opened, upper surface: Close to N74A to N74B; towards the margins, close to NN155C; towards the base, close to 71A; venation, close to 71B; lobe color becoming closer to 77A to 77B with development. Petal lobe, fully opened, lower surface: Close to N78C to N78D; towards the margins, close to NN155C; venation, close to 194A; color becoming closer to N81D with development. Throat: Close to 11A, yellow color fusing distally into the white-colored star pattern; venation, close to 11A; color becoming closer to 11B to 11C with development. Tube: Close to 160B; venation, close to 195A.

Calyx.—Arrangement: One star-shaped calyx tube with five sepals fused towards the base and arranged in a single whorl. Length: About 1.7 cm. Diameter: About 1.8 cm. Sepal length: About 8 mm. Sepal width: About 2.5 mm. Sepal shape: Lanceolate. Sepal apex: Acute. Sepal margin: Entire. Sepal texture and luster, upper and lower surfaces: Minute pubescence; matte. Sepal color, when developing, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 146A. Sepal color, developed, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 146A.

Peduncles.—Length: About 1.2 cm. Diameter: About 1 mm. Angle: About 45° to 60° from stem axis. Strength: Moderately strong. Texture and luster: Minute pubescence; matte. Color: Close to 146A.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: Quantity: Five per flower. Filament length: About 8 mm. Filament color: Close to 145D. Anther size: About 1 mm by 1 mm. Anther shape: Round. Anther color: Close to 11C. Pollen amount: Scarce to none. Pollen color: Close to 11B. Pistils: Quantity: One per flower. Pistil length: About 1 cm. Style length: About 8 mm. Style color: Close to 145C. Stigma diameter: About 1 mm. Stigma shape: Oval. Stigma color: Close to 146B. Ovary color: Close to 145A. Seeds and fruits: To date, seed and fruit development have not been observed on plants of the new *Calibrachoa*.

Garden performance: Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* have been observed to have good garden performance and tolerate wind, rain and to be suitable for USDA Hardiness Zones 10a to 11b.

Pathogen & pest resistance: To date, plants of the new *Calibrachoa* have not been observed to be resistant to pathogens and pests common to *Calibrachoa* plants.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Calibrachoa* plant named 'BBCAL85303' as illustrated and described.

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