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Li

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(54) **VERBENA PLANT NAMED ‘KLEVP20076’**

(50) Latin Name: *Verbena x hybrida*
Varietal Denomination: **KLEVP20076**

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

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new *Verbena* plant particularly distinguished by red
flowers and an upright, compact, and round habit, is dis-
closed.

1 Drawing Sheet

1

Genus and species: *Verbena x hybrida*.
Variety denomination: ‘KLEVP20076’.

BACKGROUND OF THE NEW PLANT

The present invention comprises a new and distinct vari-
ety of *Verbena*, botanically known as *Verbena x hybrida*, and
hereinafter referred to by the variety name ‘KLEVP20076’.
‘KLEVP20076’ originated from a cross-pollination con-
ducted in November 2016 in Cobbitty, New South Wales,
Australia between the proprietary female *Verbena* variety
‘16.6029’ (unpatented), and the proprietary male *Verbena*
variety ‘15.5134.5130’ (unpatented).

The seeds from the cross were sown and plants were
grown for evaluation, where an individual plant designated
‘KLEVP20076’ was selected from the group of plants in
Cobbitty, New South Wales, Australia in October 2017.

In October 2017, ‘KLEVP20076’ was first vegetatively
propagated by vegetative cuttings in Cobbitty, New South
Wales, Australia. ‘KLEVP20076’ was found to reproduce
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. Red flowers; and
2. An upright, compact, and round habit.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

This 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
plant approximately twelve weeks old grown indoors in

2

Stuttgart, Germany in April 2020. The colors shown are as
true as can be reasonably obtained by conventional photo-
graphic procedures.

DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW VARIETY

The following detailed descriptions set forth the distinc-
tive characteristics of ‘KLEVP20076’. The data which
define these characteristics were collected from asexual
reproductions carried out in Latina, Italy. Data was collected
on three-month-old plants grown in a greenhouse in Latina,
Italy in 2019. 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.—Verbenaceae.

Botanical.—*Verbena x hybrida*.

Common.—*Verbena*.

Designation.—‘KLEVP20076’.

Parentage:

Female parent.—‘16.6029’ (unpatented).

Male parent.—‘15.5134.5130’ (unpatented).

Plant:

Growth and branching habit.—Upright with compact
round shape.

Height (from top of soil).—23.0 cm.

Width (horizontal plant diameter).—30.0 cm.

Time to produce a finished flowering plant.—Approx-
imately 8 weeks.

Time to initiate and develop roots.—2 weeks.

Root description.—White, RHS 155B, fine and fibrous
roots.

Stems:

Number of branches per plant.—More than 26.

Length.—21.0 cm.

Diameter.—0.24 cm.

Internode length.—Approximately 1.6 cm.

Color.—RHS 139D.

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

Leaves:

Arrangement.—Opposite.
Immature and mature leaf color.—Upper surface: RHS 141A. Lower surface: RHS 141C. 5
Length.—4.6 cm.
Width.—2.4 cm.
Shape.—Lanceolate.
Apex.—Acute. 10
Base.—Obtuse.
Margin.—Crenate.
Division.—Absent.
Texture.—Upper surface: Leathery. Lower surface: Rugose. 15
Venation type.—Pinnate.
Venation color (both upper and lower surfaces).—RHS 141D.
Petioles.—Length: 0.2 cm. Diameter: 0.1 cm. Color: RHS 141D. Texture: Leathery.

Flower buds:

Shape.—Tall, cylindrical.
Length.—1.4 cm.
Diameter.—0.3 cm.
Color (at tight bud).—RHS 42B. 25

Inflorescence:

Inflorescence in profile.—Broad ovate.
Blooming habit (flowering season).—Continuously.
Lastingness of individual blooms on the plant.—About 1 week. 30
Fragrance.—Absent.
Inflorescence type.—Umbel.
Length of inflorescence.—3.5 cm.
Diameter of inflorescence.—5.2 cm.
Number of florets per inflorescence.—Average of 23. 35
Peduncle.—Color: RHS 141A. Length: 2.4 cm. Diameter: 0.2 cm.

Florets:

Length.—1.9 cm.
Diameter.—2.1 cm.
Texture.—Smooth.
Form.—Single.
Color.—Immature: Upper surface: RHS 42B. Lower surface: RHS 39A. Mature: Upper surface: RHS 42C. Lower surface: RHS 39B. 45
Corolla tube length.—1.5 cm.
Corolla tube color.—RHS 157B.
Arrangement of corolla lobes.—Touching.
Curvature of the longitudinal axis of the corolla lobe.—Straight. 50
Corolla eye.—No eye, tiny dark center at throat opening, RHS N187A.
Petals.—Length of lobe: 1.1 cm. Diameter of lobe: 0.7 cm. Lobe shape: Obtuse. Apex: Emarginate. Margin: Entire. Texture (both upper and lower surfaces): Smooth, glabrous. 55
Pedicels.—Not visible.

Sepals:

Shape.—Lanceolate but fused.
Apex.—Acute. 60

Margin.—Entire.
Length.—1.1 cm.
Diameter.—0.2 cm.
Color.—RHS 141C.
Texture (both upper and lower surfaces).—Hairy, dull.

Reproductive organs:

Stamens.—Present. Quantity: 4. Appearance: Didynamous. Color: RHS 139D. Filament length: 0.3 cm. Filament diameter: 0.1 cm.
Anther.—Shape: Elliptic. Color: RHS 139D. Length: 0.2 cm. Diameter: 0.1 cm.
Pollen amount.—Sparse.
Pollen color.—RHS 2D.
Pistils.—Quantity: 1. Length: 1.3 cm. Diameter: 0.1 cm. Stigma: Color: RHS 141D. Appearance: Ovate. Length: 0.1 cm. Diameter: 0.1 cm. Style: Color: RHS 141D. Length: 1.1 cm. Diameter: 0.1 cm. Appearance: Long.

Fruit and seed set: None observed.

Disease and pest/insect resistance: Good tolerance to powdery mildew (*Podosphaera xanthii*).

COMPARISON WITH PARENTAL LINES AND KNOWN VARIETY

‘KLEVP20076’ is distinguished from its parents as described in Table 1.

TABLE 1

Comparison with Parental Lines			
Characteristic	‘KLEVP20076’	Female parent	Male parent
Flower color	Red	Soft pink	Deep pink
Branching ability	Better than both parents	Less than KLEVP20076	Less than KLEVP20076
Earliness	Earlier than both parents	Later than KLEVP20076	Later than KLEVP20076

‘KLEVP20076’ is most similar to the commercial *Verbena* ‘KLEVP15616’ (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 28,320). Differences between the varieties are described in Table 2.

TABLE 2

Comparison with Similar Variety		
Characteristics	Variety ‘KLEVP20076’	‘KLEVP15616’
Growth habit	Upright with compact round shape	Upright
Branching ability	Better than ‘KLEVP15616’	Less than KLEVP20076
Earliness	Earlier than ‘KLEVP15616’	Later than KLEVP20076

I claim:

1. A new and distinct variety of *Verbena* plant designated ‘KLEVP20076’ as illustrated and described herein.

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