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Klemm et al.

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(54) **DIANTHUS PLANT NAMED ‘KLEDG17297’**

Related U.S. Application Data

(50) Latin Name: *Dianthus* sp.
Varietal Denomination: **KLEDG17297**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**
A new *Dianthus* plant designated ‘KLEDG17297’ particularly distinguished by dark-pink semi-double flowers with purple eyes and an upright habit, is disclosed.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Genus and species: *Dianthus* sp.
Variety denomination: ‘KLEDG17297’.

2016 in Stuttgart, Germany. The colors shown are as true as can be reasonably obtained by conventional photographic procedures.

BACKGROUND OF THE NEW PLANT
‘KLEDG17297’

DESCRIPTION OF ‘KLEDG17297’

The present invention comprises a new and distinct variety of *Dianthus*, botanically known as *Dianthus* sp., and hereinafter referred to by the variety name ‘KLEDG17297’. ‘KLEDG17297’ originated as a naturally-occurring branch mutation from the *Dianthus* parent ‘KLEDG12163’ (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 24,707) in The Netherlands in 2015.

The following detailed descriptions set forth the distinctive characteristics of ‘KLEDG17297’. The data which define these characteristics were collected from asexual reproductions carried out in Stuttgart, Germany. Data was collected in April 2017 on 7-month old plants grown in a plastic greenhouse. Color references are to The R.H.S. Colour Chart of The Royal Horticultural Society of London (R.H.S.), 5th edition (2007).

In August 2014, ‘KLEDG17297’ was first vegetatively propagated by vegetative stem cuttings in Stuttgart, Germany. ‘KLEDG17297’ was found to reproduce true to type in successive generations of asexual propagation in Stuttgart, Germany via vegetative stem cuttings.

Classification:
Family.—Caryophyllaceae.
Botanical.—*Dianthus* sp.
Common.—Pot carnation.
Designation.—‘KLEDG17297’.

Parentage:
Mutation parent.—‘KLEDG12163’ (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 24,707).

SUMMARY OF ‘KLEDG17297’

Plant:
Plant form.—Upright, potted plant.
Plant height.—14.0 cm to 16.0 cm.
Plant diameter or spread.—16.0 cm to 18.0 cm.
Propagation type.—Vegetative stem cuttings.
Time to produce a rooted young plant.—14 to 16 days.
Rooting habit (shape).—Lanceolate.

The following are the most outstanding and distinguishing characteristics of ‘KLEDG17297’ when grown under normal horticultural practices in Stuttgart, Germany.

- 1. Dark-pink semi-double flowers with purple eyes; and
- 2. An upright habit.

Lateral branches:
Length.—Approximately 13.0 cm.
Diameter.—0.2 cm to 0.4 cm.
Internode length.—2.0 cm to 3.0 cm.
Number of internodes per branch/stem.—5 to 7.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

This new *Dianthus* plant is illustrated by the accompanying photograph of a plant approximately 8-months old and grown in a greenhouse in Stuttgart, Germany. The photograph shows the whole plant, including the flowers and foliage and buds of ‘KLEDG17297’ and was taken in May

Node length.—0.1 cm to 0.3 cm.
Node diameter.—0.2 cm to 0.3 cm.
Texture.—Smooth.
Color.—RHS 145B (Yellow-green).
Branch/stem appearance.—Solid.

Foliage:
Arrangement.—Opposite.
Length.—4.0 cm to 6.0 cm.
Width.—0.3 cm to 0.5 cm.
Shape.—Lanceolate.
Apex.—Acute.
Base.—Obtuse.
Margin.—Entire.
Texture (both upper and lower surfaces).—Smooth.
Immature leaf color.—Upper surface: RHS 138A (Green). Lower surface: RHS 138A (Green).
Mature leaf color.—Upper surface: RHS N137A (Green). Lower surface: RHS N137A (Green).
Venation pattern.—Palmate.
Venation color.—Upper surface: RHS N137A (Green). Lower surface: RHS N137A (Green).
Petiole.—Absent; leaves are sessile.

Flowers:
Flower type and habit.—Round, semi-double, numerous small sprays.
Fragrance.—Present.
Natural flowering season.—Spring to fall.
Position of flowers relative to the foliage.—Moderately above.
Number of flowers per spray.—4 to 6.
Inflorescence spray diameter.—2.5 cm to 4.5 cm.
Flower longevity on the plant.—14 to 18 days.
Buds.—Length: 1.0 cm to 1.5 cm. Diameter: 0.4 cm to 0.6 cm. Shape: Elliptic. Color: RHS 138A (Green) and RHS 144A (Yellow-green). Extrusion of the styles at the bud stage: Absent.
Corolla.—Quantity of petals per flower: 8 to 10. Corolla height: 1.0 cm to 1.5 cm. Corolla diameter: 2.0 cm to 2.5 cm. Petal length: 2.0 cm to 2.5 cm. Petal width: 1.0 cm to 1.3 cm. Petal shape: Spoon-shaped. Petal apex: Obtuse. Petal base: Acute. Petal margin: Crenate. Depth of petal margin: Medium-deep and up to 0.1 cm. Petal texture (both upper and lower surfaces): Smooth. Petal color: Immature: Upper surface: RHS N74B (Red-purple) with RHS N77A (Purple) eyes. Lower surface: RHS N78A (Purple). Mature: Upper surface: RHS N78C (Purple) with RHS 71A (Red-purple) eyes. Lower surface: RHS 75A (Purple).
Calyx.—Quantity of sepals per flower: Composed of 5 sepals. Shape: Campanulate. Calyx height: 0.8 cm to 1.2 cm. Calyx diameter (at the apex): 0.4 cm to 0.6 cm. Sepal texture (both upper and lower surfaces): Smooth. Sepal apex: Acute. Sepal margin: Smooth.

Sepal color: Upper surface: RHS 137A (Green). Lower surface: RHS 137D (Green).
 Peduncles:
Length.—1.0 cm to 1.2 cm from the first nodium to the bud; approximately 13.0 cm from the soil line to bud.
Diameter.—0.1 cm to 0.2 cm.
Strength.—Strong.
Texture.—Smooth.
Color.—RHS 137A (Green).
 Reproductive organs:
Stamens.—Quantity per flower: Moderate. Filament length: 0.8 cm to 1.0 cm. Filament color: RHS 157B (Green-white). Anther length: 0.1 cm. Anther diameter: 0.05 cm. Anther color: RHS N155B (White). Pollen amount: Absent.
Pistils.—Not observed.
 Fruit and seed set: Seed is sometimes observed, but no information on the seed is available.
 Disease and pest/insect resistance: No disease and pest/insect resistance observed.

COMPARISON OF 'KLEDG17297' WITH PARENTAL LINE AND KNOWN VARIETY

'KLEDG17297' is distinguished from the mutation parent as described in Table 1.

TABLE 1

Comparison with Parental Line		
Characteristic	'KLEDG17297'	Mutation Parent 'KLEDG12163'
Flower color	Dark-pink with purple eyes	Pink with purple eyes

'KLEDG17297' can be compared to the commercial *Dianthus* variety 'KLEDG18305' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 31,109). Differences between the varieties are described in Table 2.

TABLE 2

Comparison with Similar Variety		
Characteristic	'KLEDG17297'	'KLEDG18305'
Flower color	Dark-pink with purple eyes	Pink with purple rings
Flower type	Semi-double	Single
Flowering time	Very early	Early-medium

We claim:

1. A new and distinct variety of *Dianthus* plant designated 'KLEDG17297' as illustrated and described herein.

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