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(12) **United States Plant Patent**
Warren et al.

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(54) **CALLA LILY PLANT NAMED ‘HOT CHOCOLATE’**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./263**

(58) **Field of Search** **Plt./263**

(50) Latin Name: *Zantedeschia species*
Varietal Denomination: **Hot Chocolate**

(56) **References Cited**

PUBLICATIONS

(75) Inventors: **Andrew G. F. Warren**, Tauranga (NL);
Jacobus J. P. Spaans, Tauranga (NL)

UPOV-ROM GTITM Computer Database, 2003/04, GTI
Jouve Retrieval Software, citation for ‘Hot Chocolate’.*

(73) Assignee: **Bloomz Ltd.** (NZ)

* cited by examiner

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
patent is extended or adjusted under 35
U.S.C. 154(b) by 47 days.

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(22) Filed: **Mar. 6, 2003**

(57) **ABSTRACT**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

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A calla lily plant particularly distinguished by dark purple
spathe and maculated leaves.

(51) **Int. Cl.**⁷ **A01H 5/00**

4 Drawing Sheets

1

2

Genus and species: *Zantedeschia species*.
Variety denomination: ‘Hot Chocolate’.

FIG. 4 shows a close-up of the leaf tip illustrating the
margin colors.

BACKGROUND OF THE NEW PLANT

DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW CULTIVAR

The present invention comprises a new and distinct cul-
tivar of calla lily, botanically known as *Zantedeschia* spp,
and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name ‘Hot Choco-
late’. The new cultivar is asexually reproduced from veg-
etative cuttings and tissue culture resulting from the cross of
the seed parent ‘Cameo’xthe pollen parent, a dark purple
seedling that is an unnamed and unpatented proprietary line.
The seed parent, ‘Cameo,’ differs from the observed plant,
‘Hot Chocolate’ in that the spathe is an apricot-salmon color.
‘Hot Chocolate’ has medium green arrow-shaped leaves
while the pollen parent, the unnamed dark purple seedling,
has more oval shaped and darker green leaves.

The following detailed descriptions set forth the distinc-
tive characteristics of ‘Hot Chocolate’. The data which
defines these characteristics were collected from asexual
reproductions carried out in New Zealand. The plant history
was taken on 2 year old plants based on a 4 cm diameter
tuber under New Zealand Spring conditions. Color refer-
ences are primarily to the R.H.S. Colour Chart of The Royal
Horticultural Society of London (RHS).

‘Hot Chocolate’ is a product of a planned breeding
program intended to create new calla lily plants with a deep
burgundy spathe.

THE PLANT

Classification:

Botanical.—*Zantedeschia* spp.

Commercial.—Calla lily.

Variety.—‘Hot Chocolate’.

The new cultivar was created in 1998 in Tauranga New
Zealand and has been asexually reproduced repeatedly
by vegetative cuttings and tissue culture in New Zealand
over a 3 year period. The present invention has been found
to retain its distinctive characteristics through successive
propagations; and this novelty is firmly fixed.

Size:

Form.—Erect.

Height of the leaf canopy above the soil.—60–80 cm.

Height of top of inflorescence above the soil.—60–90
cm.

Diameter.—30–50 cm.

Number of inflorescence per tuber size.—Tuber diam-
eter 3 cm 1–2. Tuber diameter 4 cm 3–4. Tuber
diameter 5 cm 4–6.

DESCRIPTION OF PHOTOGRAPH

This new calla lily plant is illustrated by the accompa-
nying photographs which show blooms, buds, and foliage of
the plant in full color, the colors shown being as true as can
be reasonably obtained by conventional photographic pro-
cedures.

Branches:

Character.—Strong.

Color.—Upper is green RHS 146B; lower is dark
purple RHS 184A; base is white RHS 155B.

Average number.—3–4.

FIG. 1 shows the mature inflorescence;

FIG. 2 shows the overall plant habit;

FIG. 3 shows the leaf; and

Leaves:

Size.—Width 15–18 cm; length 25–30 cm.

Shape.—Sagittate.

Color.—Upper is green RHS 137C; lower is green RHS 137C.

Maculation (leaf spots).—Medium density; white RHS 155C.

Apex.—Acute to apiculate.

Margin.—Moderately wavy.

Margin color.—Green RHS 137B with dark purple RHS 187A border.

Veins.—Pinnate.

Surface quality.—Leathery.

Petiole (leaf stalk):

Length.—40–50 cm.

Color.—Base is dark purple RHS 184A; upper is green RHS 144B.

Roots:

Color.—White.

Branching.—Not branched, attached to the top of the tuber at the apices.

Disease resistance.—No susceptibility noted to date.

Pest resistance.—No susceptibility noted to date.

THE INFLORESCENCE

Spathe (flower body):

Size.—Length 8–10 cm; width 6–8 cm.

Color.—Upper is dark purple RHS 187A; lower is black RHS 202A.

Veins.—Present, black RHS 202A.

Spadix (reproductive organs):

Size.—Length 4–5 cm; diameter 0.6–1.0 cm.

Color.—Base is dark purple RHS 187A; Upper is dark purple RHS 187B.

Position relative to spathe.—Upright.

Peduncle (flower stem):

Size.—60–80 cm.

Color.—Dark purple RHS 187A; upper is grey-green RHS 189A.

Reproductive organs:

Location of female organs.—Basal position of the spadix.

Location of male organs.—Upper position of the spadix.

Perianth (the floral envelope — calyx and corolla).—Conspicuous.

Stamens.—Not visible before pollen release.

Pistil.—20–40 per spadix; dark purple RHS 187A.

Miscellaneous:

Time to produce a finished flowering plant.—6–8 weeks.

Lastingness.—1–3 weeks.

Fragrance.—None.

Fruit production.—20–40 berries.

Color.—Predominantly dark purple RHS 187A.

COMPARISON WITH KNOWN CULTIVARS

When the instant plant is compared to ‘Schwarzwalder’ (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 11,001) the foliage is sagittate while ‘Schwarzwalder’ is ovate. Additionally, the peduncle of ‘Hot Chocolate’ is purple while ‘Schwarzwalders’ peduncles are green.

I claim:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of calla lily plant as shown and described herein.

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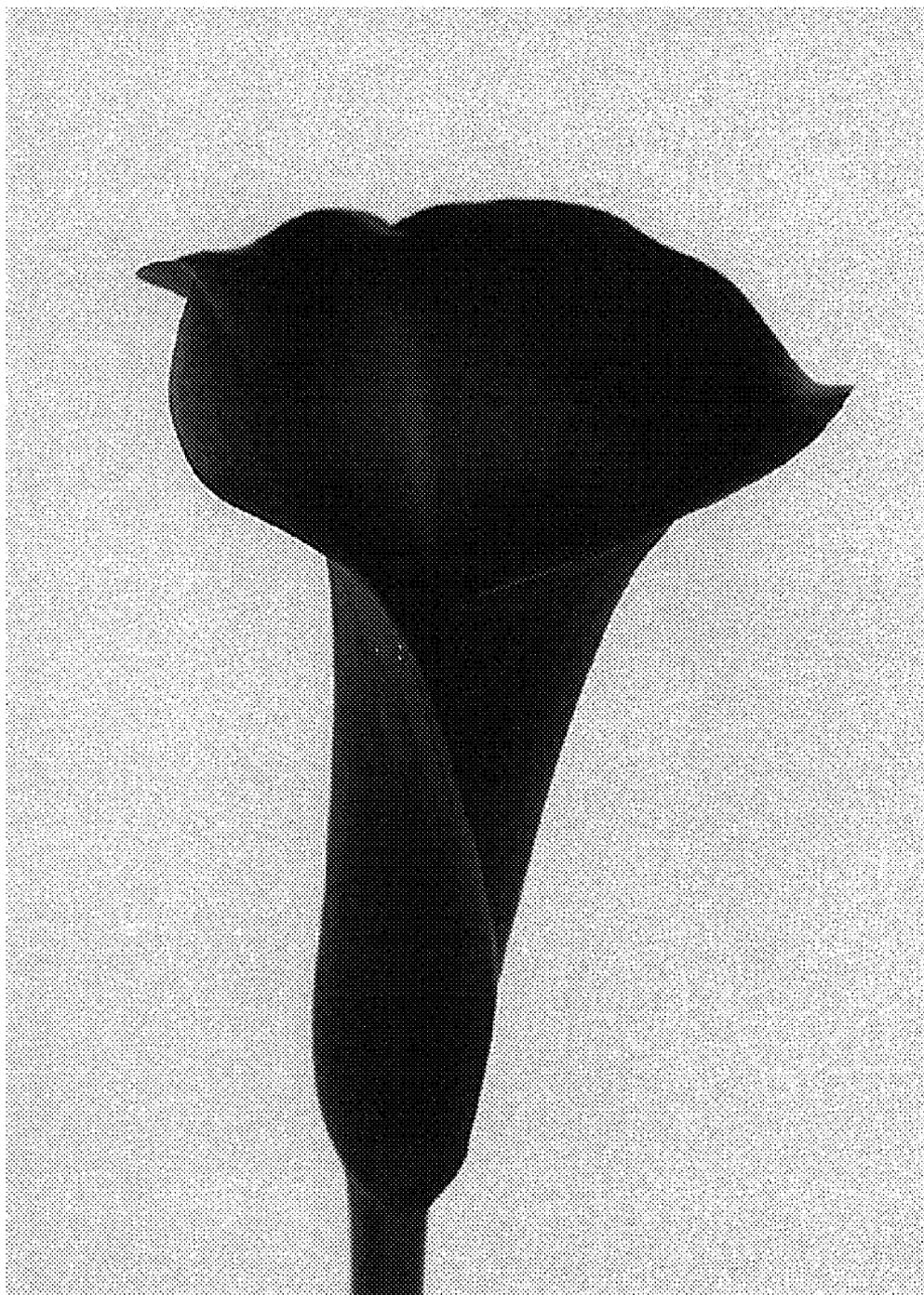


FIG. 1

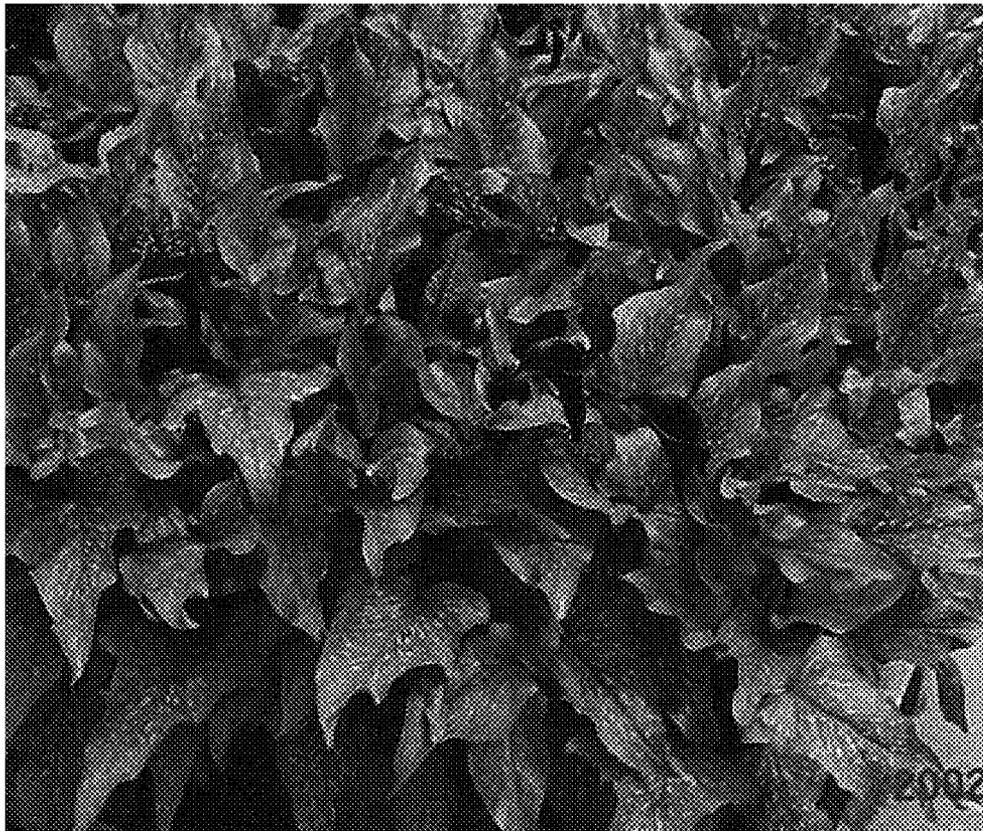


FIG. 2

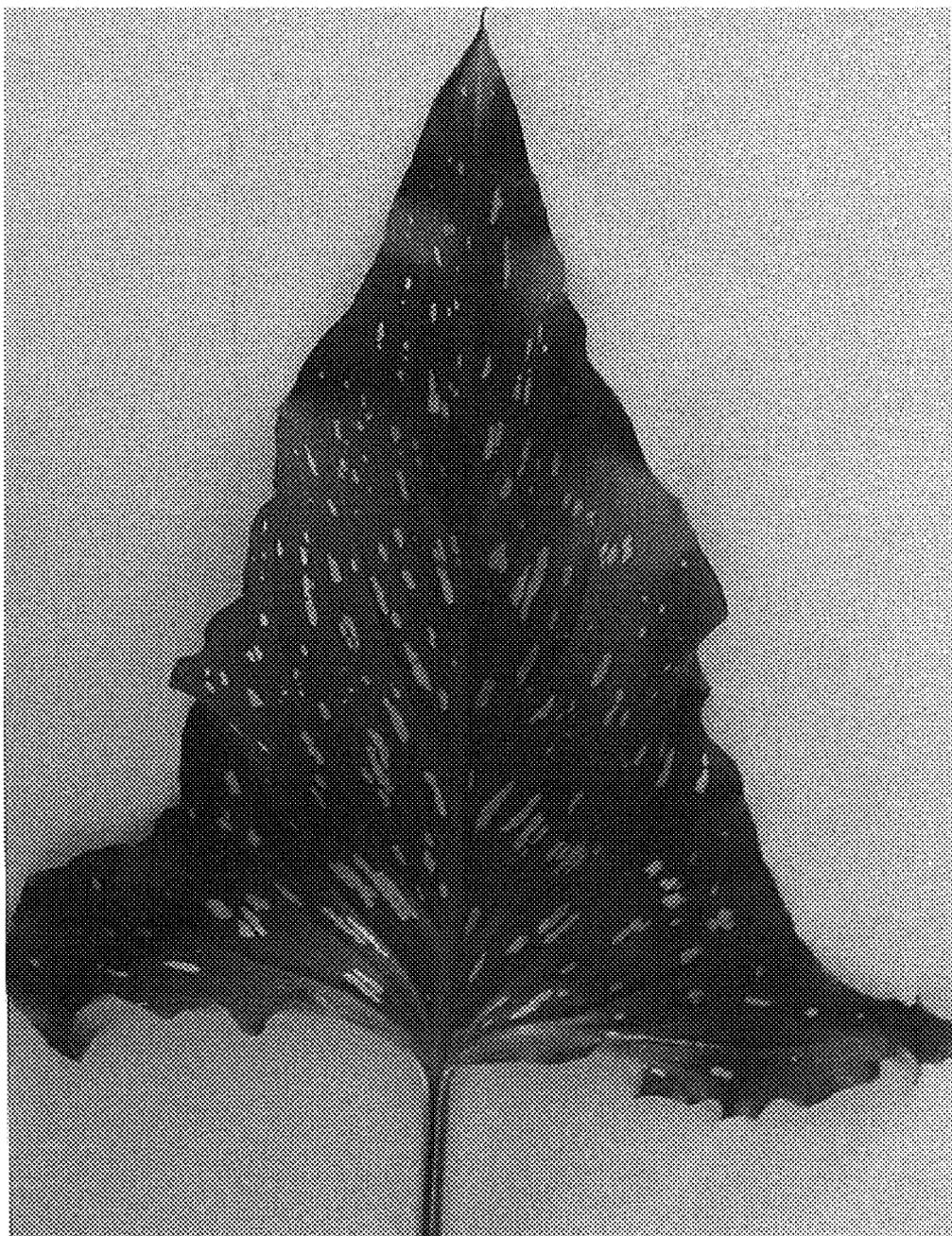


FIG. 3

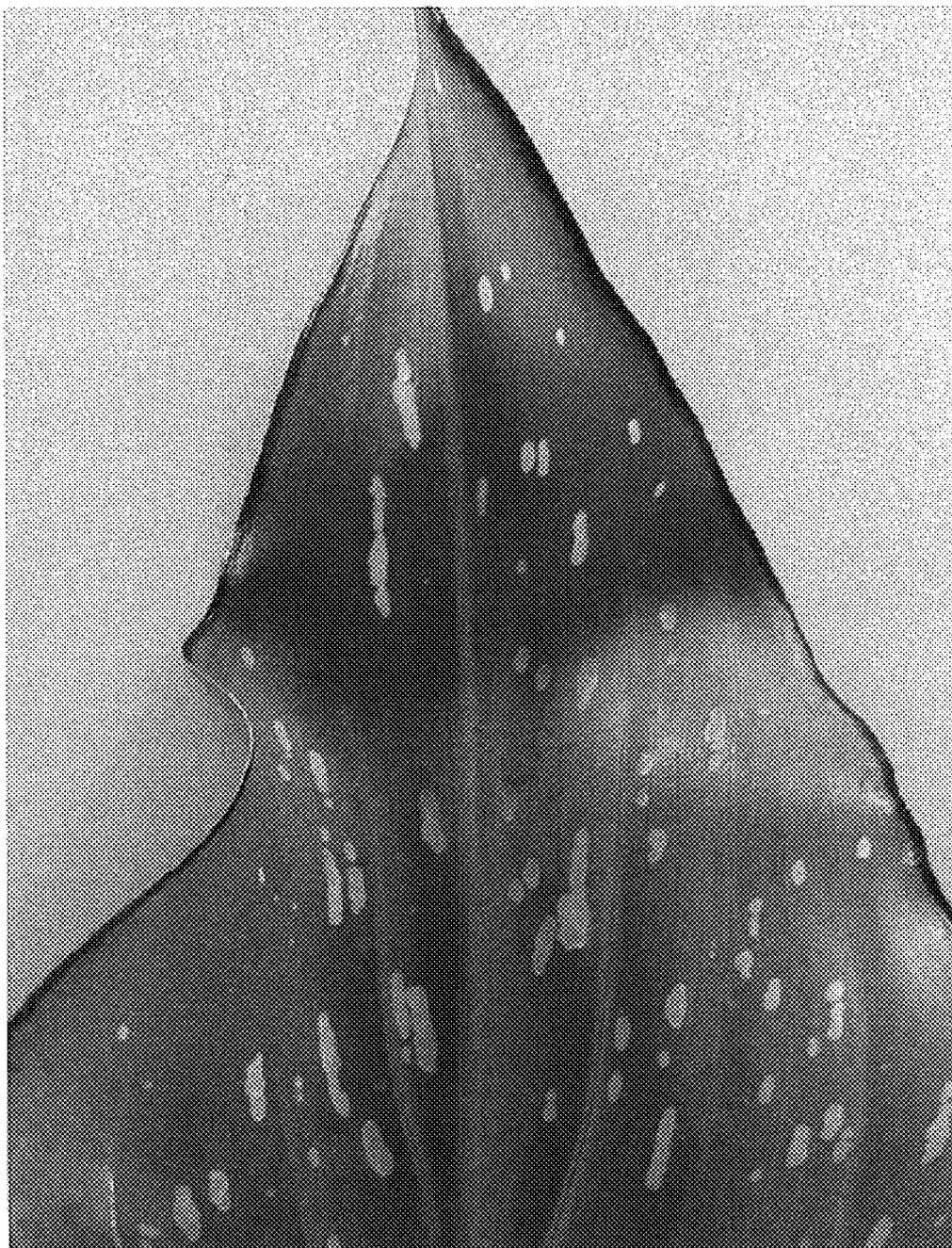


FIG. 4 .