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Barnes

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- (54) **CALIBRACHOA PLANT NAMED**
'BBCAL87705'
- (50) Latin Name: *Calibrachoa* sp.
Varietal Denomination: **BBCAL87705**
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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 'BBCAL87705', 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; violet and dark purple-colored petals with a light yellow fading to white-colored star-shaped pattern and bright yellow-colored centers; and good garden performance.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical designation: *Calibrachoa* sp.
Cultivar denomination: 'BBCAL87705'.

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 'BBCAL87705'.

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. 15, 2015 of a proprietary seedling selection of *Calibrachoa* sp. identified as code number 15CB414-01, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with a proprietary seedling selection of *Calibrachoa* sp. identified as code number 15C688-02, not patented, 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

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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 'BBCAL87705'. These characteristics in combination distinguish 'BBCAL87705' 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. Violet and dark purple-colored petals with a light yellow fading to white-colored 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 outwardly spreading than and not as upright as plants of the female parent selection.
2. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* are more freely branching than plants of the female parent selection.
3. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* and the female parent selection differ in flower color as flowers of plants of the female parent selection are violet in color with yellow-colored star-shaped pattern and centers.
4. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* have good garden performance whereas plants of the female parent selection have poor garden performance.

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

1. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* are more outwardly spreading than and not as upright as plants of the male parent selection.
2. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* and the male parent selection differ in flower color as flowers of plants of the male parent selection are dark violet in color with yellow-colored star-shaped pattern and centers.
3. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* have good garden performance whereas plants of the male parent selection have poor garden performance.

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* are more freely flowering than plants of 'USCALI11'.
3. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* and 'USCALI11' differ in flower color as flowers of plants of 'USCALI11' are light red purple in color.
4. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* have good garden performance and are more tolerant to pathogens common to *Calibrachoa* plants than plants of 'USCALI11'.

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* are more freely flowering than plants of 'USCALI51'.
3. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* and 'USCALI51' differ in flower color as flowers of plants of 'USCALI51' are violet in color without a star-shaped pattern.
4. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* have good garden performance and are more tolerant to pathogens common to *Calibrachoa* plants than plants of 'USCALI51'.

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 'BBCAL87705' grown in a container.

The photograph at the top of the sheet is a close-up view of a typical flowering plant of 'BBCAL87705'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photographs and following observations and measurements describe plants grown during the early spring in 10-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. 'BBCAL87705'.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary seedling selection of *Calibrachoa* sp. identified as code number 15CB414-01, not patented.

Male, or pollen, parent.—Proprietary seedling selection of *Calibrachoa* sp. identified as code number 15C688-02, not patented.

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 four to five primary lateral branches each with about three to four secondary branches; dense and bushy appearance.

Plant height, soil level to top of foliar plane.—About 11 cm.

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

Plant diameter.—About 19 cm by 20 cm.

Lateral branch description:

Length.—About 12.5 cm.

Diameter.—About 1.5 mm.

Internode length.—About 9 mm.

Strength.—Strong.

Aspect.—About 45° to 65° from stem axis.

Texture and luster.—Minute pubescence; matte.

Color, developing.—Close to 146C.

Color, developed.—Close to 146B.

Leaf description:

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

Length.—About 2.6 cm.

Width.—About 1.3 cm.

Shape.—Elliptical to oval.

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 146B. Fully expanded leaves, upper surface: Close to 137A; venation, close to 147B. Fully expanded leaves, lower surface: Close to 147B; venation, close to 147C.

Petioles.—Length: About 3 mm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Strength: Moderately strong. Texture and luster, upper and lower surfaces: Minute pubescence; matte. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 146C.

Flower description:

Flower type and flowering habit.—Single salverform flowers arising from leaf axils; freely flowering habit with typically more than 150 flowers and flower buds developing per plant; flowers face upright to outwardly and nodding.

Fragrance.—None detected.

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

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

Flower buds.—Length: About 2.2 cm. Diameter: About 6 mm. Shape: Oblong, elongate. Texture and luster: Minute pubescence; matte. Color: Close to N187D.

Flower diameter.—About 3 cm by 3.2 cm.

Flower length (height).—About 2.4 cm.

Flower throat diameter.—About 6 mm by 10 mm.

Flower tube length.—About 1.7 cm.

Flower tube diameter.—About 5 mm.

Corolla.—Arrangement: Five fused petals opening into a flared trumpet. Petal lobe length (from throat): About 1.4 cm. Petal lobe width: About 1.6 cm. Petal shape: Fan-shaped. Petal apex: Rounded; recurving with development. Petal margin: Entire; slightly undulate. Petal texture and luster, upper surface: Smooth, glabrous, satiny; matte to slightly glossy. Petal texture and luster, lower surface: Smooth, glabrous; matte. Throat texture and luster: Smooth, glabrous; glossy. Tube texture and luster: Minute pubescence; matte. Color: Petal lobe, when opening, upper surface: Close to 86B. Petal lobe, when opening, lower surface: Close to 85D. Petal lobe, fully opened, upper surface: Close to 83A; occasionally at

the edges, close to NN155D; towards the center, close to N79A; star-shaped pattern, close to 4A distally becoming closer to NN155D; venation, close to 83A; lobe color becoming closer to N87A and towards the center, close to N79B, with development. Petal lobe, fully opened, lower surface: Close to N82D; star-shaped pattern, close to 85D; venation, close to N77B; color becoming closer to 76A to 76B with development. Throat: Close to 9A, yellow color fusing distally into the light yellow-colored star pattern; venation, close to N79B. Tube: Close to 8D; venation, close to 195B.

Calyx.—Arrangement: One star-shaped calyx tube with five sepals fused towards the base and arranged in a single whorl. Length: About 1.5 cm. Diameter: About 1.7 cm. Sepal length: About 1.1 cm. Sepal width: About 3 mm. Sepal shape: Lanceolate to ligulate. Sepal apex: Acute. Sepal margin: Entire. Sepal texture and luster, upper and lower surfaces: Minute pubescence; matte. Sepal color, when developing, upper surface: Close to N137A. Sepal color, when developing, lower surface: Close to N137B. Sepal color, developed, upper and lower surfaces: Close to N137A.

Peduncles.—Length: About 1.5 cm. Diameter: About 1 mm. Angle: About 45° to 55° from stem axis. Strength: Strong. Texture and luster: Minute pubescence; matte. Color: Close to 146B.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: Quantity: Five per flower. Filament length: About 8 mm. Filament color: Close to 145C. Anther size: About 1 mm by 1 mm. Anther shape: Round. Anther color: Close to 9C. Pollen amount: Scarce. Pollen color: Close to 5B. Pistils: Quantity: One per flower. Pistil length: About 1.1 cm. Style length: About 8 mm. Style color: Close to 145D. Stigma diameter: Less than 1 mm. Stigma shape: Round. Stigma color: Close to 144B. Ovary color: Close to 144D. 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 9 to 11.

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 'BBCAL87705' as illustrated and described.

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