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Eveleens

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- (54) **ALSTROEMERIA PLANT NAMED ‘TESPASSION’**
- (50) Latin Name: *Alstroemeria hybrida*
Varietal Denomination: **Tespasion**
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- (52) **U.S. Cl.**
USPC **Plt./309**
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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**
A new and distinct cultivar of *Alstroemeria* plant named ‘Tespasion’, characterized by its upright, somewhat outwardly spreading and uniformly mounded plant habit; sturdy and strong plant form; moderately vigorous growth habit; freely branching habit and relatively short internodes; dense and bushy appearance; large and numerous white to light purple-colored flowers with darker purple-colored center and held above the foliar plane on relatively short flower pedicels; and good garden performance.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical designation: *Alstroemeria hybrida*.
Cultivar denomination: ‘TESPASSION’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of *Alstroemeria* plant, botanically known as *Alstroemeria hybrida*, grown typically as a potted garden *Alstroemeria*, and hereinafter referred to by the name ‘Tespasion’.

The new *Alstroemeria* plant is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Heerhugowaard, The Netherlands. The objective of the breeding program is to create new freely-flowering potted garden *Alstroemeria* plants with uniform plant habit and attractive flower coloration.

The new *Alstroemeria* plant originated from a cross-pollination made by the Inventor in Heerhugowaard, The Netherlands in April, 2006 of a proprietary selection of *Alstroemeria hybrida* identified as code number B 1052, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with a proprietary selection of *Alstroemeria hybrida* identified as code number Pa8014x012, not patented, as the male, or pollen, parent. The new *Alstroemeria* plant was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a single flowering plant from within the progeny of the stated cross-pollination in a controlled greenhouse environment in Heerhugowaard, The Netherlands in April, 2007.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Alstroemeria* plant by rhizome divisions in a controlled greenhouse environment in Heerhugowaard, The Netherlands since September, 2007 has shown that the unique features of this new *Alstroemeria* plant are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* have not been observed under all possible environmental conditions and cultural practices. The phenotype may vary somewhat with variations

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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 ‘Tespasion’. These characteristics in combination distinguish ‘Tespasion’ as a new and distinct *Alstroemeria* plant:

1. Upright, somewhat outwardly spreading and uniformly mounded plant habit.
2. Sturdy and strong plant form; moderately vigorous growth habit.
3. Freely branching habit and relatively short internodes; dense and bushy appearance.
4. Large and numerous white to light purple-colored flowers with darker purple-colored center and held above the foliar plane on relatively short flower pedicels.
5. Good garden performance.

Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* can be compared to plants of the female parent selection. Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* differ from plants of the female parent selection primarily in flower color as plants of the female parent selection have purple-colored flowers with yellow-colored centers.

Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* can be compared to plants of the male parent selection. Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* differ from plants of the male parent selection primarily in flower color as plants of the male parent selection have white blushed with pink-colored flowers.

Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* can be compared to plants of the *Alstroemeria hybrida* ‘Tescrada Improved’, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 24,127. In side-by-side comparisons, plants of the new *Alstroemeria* differ primarily from plants of ‘Tescrada Improved’ in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* have narrower outer flower segments than plants of ‘Tescrada Improved’.
2. Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* and ‘Tescrada Improved’ differ in flower color as plants of ‘Tescrada Improved’ have white and red purple-colored flowers.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying colored photograph illustrates the overall appearance of the new *Alstroemeria* plant showing the

colors as true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored reproductions of this type. Colors in the photograph may differ slightly from the color values cited in the detailed botanical description which accurately describe the colors of the new *Alstroemeria* plant.

The photograph comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'Tespasion' grown in a container.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photograph and following observations and measurements describe plants of the new *Alstroemeria* grown during the winter and early spring in 4.6-liter containers in a glass-covered greenhouse in De Kwakel, The Netherlands. During the production of the plants, day and night temperatures averaged 12° C. and light levels averaged 7,000 lux. Plants were 22 weeks old when the photograph and description were taken. 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: *Alstroemeria hybrida* 'Tespasion'.
Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Alstroemeria hybrida* identified as code number B 1052, not patented.

Male, or pollen, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Alstroemeria hybrida* identified as code number Pa8014x012, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—By rhizome divisions.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, summer.—About seven weeks at 20° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, winter.—About eight weeks at 16° C.

Root description.—Fibrous and fleshy; white in color.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching; medium density.

Rhizome length.—About 3.8 cm.

Rhizome diameter.—About 7 mm.

Rhizome texture.—Smooth.

Rhizome color.—Close to 195A to 195B.

Plant description:

Plant and growth habit.—Herbaceous perennial; upright, somewhat outwardly spreading and uniformly mounded plant habit; broad inverted triangle; freely branching habit with about 20 primary lateral branches developing per plant; relatively short internodes, dense and bushy appearance; sturdy and strong plant form; moderately vigorous growth habit.

Plant height.—About 24.7 cm.

Plant diameter (area of spread).—About 39 cm.

Lateral branch description:

Aspect.—Mostly upright to somewhat outwardly spreading.

Length.—About 12.4 cm.

Diameter.—About 6 mm.

Internode length.—About 6 mm.

Strength.—Moderately strong.

Texture.—Smooth, glabrous; waxy cuticle.

Color.—Close to 144B; waxy cuticle, close to 145A.

Foliage description:

Arrangement.—Alternate; below the peduncles in a single whorl; simple.

Length.—About 6 cm.

Width.—About 2.4 cm.

Shape.—Ovate; twisting.

Apex.—Acuminate to slightly apiculate.

Base.—Cuneate.

Margin.—Entire.

Texture, upper and lower surfaces.—Smooth, glabrous.

Venation pattern.—Parallel.

Color.—Developing leaves, upper surface: Facing downward, close to 138A. Developing leaves, lower surface: Facing upright, close to 137B. Fully expanded leaves, upper surface: Facing downward, close to between 137C and 191A; venation, close to 143A. Fully expanded leaves, lower surface: Facing upright, close to N137A; venation, close to 137A.

Petioles.—Length: About 2.2 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm by 8 mm. Color: Close to between 143A and 144A.

Flower description:

Flower type and habit.—Single zygomorphic flowers arranged in compound umbels; flowers face mostly outwardly to upright; perianth segments separate; freely flowering habit with about 16 flowers developing per inflorescence and about 300 flowers developing per plant.

Natural flowering season.—Plants begin flowering about eight weeks after planting; flowering continuous from summer into the autumn in The Netherlands.

Fragrance.—None detected.

Flower longevity on the plant.—About ten days; flowers not persistent.

Flower buds.—Length: About 3.6 cm. Diameter: About 1.5 cm. Shape: Obovate. Color: Close to 143A and 145B.

Umbel height.—About 12.4 cm.

Umbel diameter.—About 17.6 cm.

Flower diameter (horizontal).—About 7.2 cm.

Flower length (vertical).—About 7.8 cm.

Flower depth (height).—About 6.8 cm.

Perianth.—Arrangement: Six segments arranged in two whorls, each whorl with two lateral and one median segments. Size, inner perianth: Length, lateral segments: About 7.2 cm. Width, lateral segments: About 2.8 cm. Length, median segments: About 6.4 cm. Width, median segments: About 2.8 cm. Size, outer perianth: Length, lateral segments: About 6.6 cm. Width, lateral segments: About 4.4 cm. Length, median segments: About 6.9 cm. Width, median segments: About 4.4 cm. Shape, inner perianth, lateral and median segments: Oblanceolate. Shape, outer perianth, lateral and median segments: Flabellate. Apex, inner perianth, lateral and median segments: Abruptly acute. Apex, outer perianth, lateral and median segments: Emarginate with small abruptly acute apex. Base, inner perianth, lateral and median segments: Narrowly cuneate. Base, outer perianth, lateral and median segments: Long cuneate. Margin, inner perianth, lateral and median segments: Margin, outer perianth, lateral and median segments: Towards the apex, finely serrate; towards the base, entire. Texture, inner and outer perianths, lateral and median segments: Smooth, glabrous; slightly velvety. Color, inner perianth: When opening, lateral segments, upper surface: Close to NN155C; towards the base, close to 157C and 157D; towards the apex, close to 75A and 76A; distal to central blotch, close to 70A and 72A; narrowly elliptic-shaped spots, close to

N186C. When opening, median segments, upper surface: Close to NN155C; towards the base, close to 157D; towards the apex, close to 75A; distal to central blotch, close to 70A and 72A; narrowly elliptic-shaped spots, close to N186C. When opening, lateral segments, lower surface: Close to NN155C; towards the base, close to 157C; towards the apex, close to 75A and 76A; distal to central blotch, close to 70A; narrowly elliptic-shaped spots, close to 197C. When opening, median segments, lower surface: Close to 157D; towards the base, close to 157B and 157C; towards the apex, slightly tinged with close to 75C; distal to central blotch, close to 70A; narrowly elliptic-shaped spots, close to 197C. Fully opened, lateral and median segments, upper surface: Close to NN155C and NN155D; towards the apex, close to 76A and 77B; distal to central blotch, close to darker than 72A; narrowly elliptic-shaped spots, close to N186C. Fully opened, lateral and median segments, lower surface: Close to NN155C and NN155D; towards the apex, close to 76A and 77B; distal to central blotch, close to darker than 77A; narrowly elliptic-shaped spots, close to 197C. Color, outer perianth: When opening, lateral and median segments, upper surface: Close to NN155C; towards the base, close to 157D; towards the apex, close to 75A and 77B; apex, close to 143A; distal to central blotch, close to 70A and 71A. When opening, lateral and median segments, lower surface: Close to NN155A; towards the base, close to 157B to 157D; towards the apex, close to 75A and 75B; apex, close to 143A; distal to central blotch, close to 71A. Fully opened, lateral segments, upper surface: Towards the apex, close to 76A; towards the base, close to 76D; distal to central blotch, close to darker than 77A; apex, close to 143A to 143B. Fully opened, median segment, upper surface: Towards the apex, close to 76A; towards the

base, close to 76D and NN155C; distal to central blotch, close to darker than 77A; apex, close to 143A to 143B. Fully opened, lateral and median segments, lower surface: Towards the apex, close to 76A; towards the base, close to 76D; distal to central blotch, close to darker than N79B; apex and midvein, close to 143A.

Pedicels.—Length: About 1.6 cm. Diameter: About 2.5 mm. Strength: Moderately strong. Angle: About 20° from vertical. Texture: Smooth, glabrous; waxy cuticle. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 143A; waxy cuticle, close to 145A.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: Quantity per flower: Six. Filament length: About 3.6 cm. Filament color: Close to 76A; towards the base, close to 145D. Anther shape: Double reniform. Anther length: About 4 mm. Anther color: Close to 146D. Pollen amount: Abundant. Pollen color: Close to darker than 122A. Pistils: Quantity per flower: One. Pistil length: About 4.2 cm. Style length: About 3.5 cm. Style color: Close to 77B; towards the base, close to 157D. Stigma shape: Triparted; parts, club-shaped, curved. Stigma color: Close to 77B. Ovary color: Close to 146B.

Fruits and seeds.—Fruit and seed development have not been observed on plants of the new *Alstroemeria*.

Disease & pest resistance: Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* have not been observed to be resistant to pathogens and pests common to *Alstroemeria* plants.

Garden performance: Plants of the new *Alstroemeria* have been observed to have good garden performance and to tolerate wind, rain, high temperatures of about 35° C. and to be hardy to USDA Hardiness Zone 8.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Alstroemeria* plant named 'Tespassion' as illustrated and described.

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