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(54) **CALLA LILY PLANT NAMED ‘LE CHIQUE’**

(50) Latin Name: *Zantedeschia sprengeri*
Varietal Denomination: **Le Chique**

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(51) **Int. Cl.**
A01H 5/02 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
USPC **Plt./490**

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
USPC **Plt./490**
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

PUBLICATIONS

UPOV—International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants: PLUTO Plant Variety Database; May 19, 2016; cultivar name—‘Le Chique’ (1 pg).*

* cited by examiner

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

‘Le Chique’ is a new variety of calla lily having inflorescences with a dark pink-colored spathe that produces 5-25 inflorescences per tuber. The inflorescence stems are about 30 cm in height. The leaves are green with whitish spots and have a leathery texture.

2 Drawing Sheets

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Botanical classification: *Zantedeschia sprengeri*.
Varietal denomination: ‘LE CHIQUE’.

BACKGROUND OF THE NEW PLANT

The present invention comprises a new and distinct cultivar of calla lily, botanically known as *Zantedeschia sprengeri* and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name ‘Le Chique’.

‘Le Chique’ is a product of a planned breeding program, which had the objective of creating *Zantedeschia* hybrids for pot flower production in a wide range of colors with a large, classic flower shape. The breeding program began in 1989, and the new cultivar is a seedling selected from the crossing of a *Zantedeschia sprengeri* seedling referred to as Z010367 (female parent, unpatented) with a *Zantedeschia sprengeri* selection referred to as C04008 (male parent, unpatented). ‘Le Chique’ was selected in 2007 by the inventor in ‘t Zand, The Netherlands as one flowering plant within the progeny of the stated cross.

The first act of asexual reproduction of ‘Le Chique’ by tissue culture was performed by the inventor in September of 2009 in ‘t Zand, The Netherlands. Subsequent asexual reproductions by tissue culture at the same location have demonstrated that the combination of characteristics as herein disclosed for the new cultivar are retained and reproduced true to type through successive generations of asexual reproduction.

The following observations, measurements and comparisons describe plants grown in a 14 cm pot at 12-14 weeks after planting in ‘t Zand, The Netherlands under greenhouse

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conditions, which approximate those generally used in horticultural practice. Color references are made to The 2001 R.H.S. Colour Chart of The Royal Horticultural Society of London, except where general color terms of ordinary significance are used.

The present invention has not been evaluated under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary with variations in environment without a change in the genotype of the plant.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and determined to be basic characteristics of ‘Le Chique’ which, in combination, distinguish this calla lily as a new and distinct cultivar:

1. Dark pink-colored spathe;
2. Compact growth habit; and
3. High inflorescence production.

Further, when compared to calla lily plant named ‘Samur’ (unpatented), maculation in the leaves is present in ‘Le Chique’, but absent in ‘Samur’. Additionally, the upper surface spathe color of ‘Samur’ varies between Red-Purple Group RHS 68B and 68D, whereas the upper surface spathe color of ‘Le Chique’ varies between Greyed-Purple Group RHS 186A and 186B.

Table 1 provides similarities and differences of ‘Le Chique’ to its parents, *Zantedeschia sprengeri* seedling Z010367 and selection C04008.

TABLE 1

'Le Chique'	Similarities	Differences
Z010367	Spathe shape	Spathe color (Between Purple Group RHS 77B and RHS N77B)
C04008	Plant height	Number of inflorescences (3-12)
	Number of inflorescences	Spathe shape (Funnel)
	Spathe color	Plant height (5-45 cm)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The accompanying photographic drawings illustrate the new variety at 12-14 weeks after planting, with the colors being as nearly true as is possible with color illustrations of this type:

FIG. 1 is a photograph of an overhead view of a plant of the new variety; and

FIG. 2 is a photograph of a group of multiple plants of the new variety.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANT

THE PLANT

Size:

Height of the leaf canopy above the soil.—5-35 cm.

Height of top of inflorescence above the soil.—10-35 cm.

Diameter.—18-50 cm.

Form: Erect.

Number of inflorescences per tuber:

Size 14-16 cm in diameter.—5-8 inflorescences.

Size 16-18 cm in diameter.—6-18 inflorescences.

Size 18-20 cm in diameter.—10-25 inflorescences.

Branches:

Character.—Many (from 3-10); like the variety 'Odessa' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 18,833).

Color.—Between Yellow-Green Group RHS 144A and 144B.

Leaves:

Size.—Width: 1.5-11 cm. Length: 7-25 cm.

Number per plant.—30-50.

Shape.—Lanceolate.

Color.—Upper surface: Green Group RHS 137A to 137B, with transparent White Group RHS 155A and N155A spots. Lower surface: Green Group RHS 138A to 138B, with transparent White Group RHS 155A and N155A spots.

Apex.—Acuminate.

Base.—Attenuate.

Margin.—Undulate; having a color of Green Group RHS 137A to 137B.

Veins.—Configuration: Pinnate. Color: Green Group RHS 143A to 143B.

Surface quality.—Leathery.

Petiole.—Length: 4-20 cm. Diameter: 9 mm. Color: The base is White Group RHS 155A, and the upper part is Green Group RHS 143A and 143B.

Roots:

Color.—White.

Branching.—Similar to other Zantedeschia varieties.

THE INFLORESCENCE AND SEEDS

Spathe:

Size.—Length (measured from base opening to tip): 4-8 cm. Width: 3-6 cm. Height: 4-8 cm.

Color.—Upper surface: Varies between Greyed-Purple Group RHS 186A and 186B. Lower surface: Varies between Green Group RHS 142A and 142B.

Vein color.—Between Greyed-Purple Group RHS 186A and 186B.

Shape.—Cupped.

Apex.—Acute.

Base.—Rounded.

Texture.—Smooth (upper and lower surfaces).

Spadix:

Size.—Length: 25-45 mm. Diameter: 3-8 mm.

Color.—Between Yellow Group RHS 7A and 7C.

Position relative to spathe.—Upright.

Peduncle:

Size.—Length: 7-35 cm. Diameter: 6-10 mm.

Color.—The upper part is between Yellow-Green Group RHS 144A and 144B, and the lower part is Green-White Group RHS 157C.

Texture.—Smooth.

Reproductive organs:

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

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

Perianth.—Conspicuous.

Stamens.—Presence: Not visible before pollen release.

Number: More than 20. Pollen amount: Abundant and similar to 'Picasso' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 15,282), but not quantifiable due to minute pollen size. Color: Between White Group RHS 155A and 155B.

Anther.—Shape: Round. Length: Less than 1 mm. Color: Between Yellow Group RHS 7A and 7C.

Filament.—Length: Less than 1 mm. Color: Between White Group RHS 155A and 155B.

Pistil.—Number: 15 to 30. Length beyond perianth: About 1 mm.

Stigma.—Shape: Round. Size: Less than 1 mm.

Style.—Length: Less than 1 mm. Color: Between Yellow Group RHS 5A and 5B.

Ovaries.—Texture: Smooth. Length: Between 1 to 10 mm. Width: Between 1 to 10 mm. Color: Top color is between Yellow-Green Group RHS 150B and 150C, bottom color is from White Group RHS 155B to Green-White Group RHS 157C.

Seeds:

Length.—4-7 mm.

Width.—3-6 mm.

Color.—Between Yellow-Green Group RHS 150A and 151A.

Amount.—Between 1-60.

Fruit:

Amount.—Multiple berries produced.

Shape.—Irregular.

Color.—Main color varies between Yellow-Green Group RHS 145A to 145C with a secondary color as

a spot surrounding the stigma that varies between Red-Purple Group RHS 59C to 60A.

GENERAL

Disease resistance: No unusual susceptibility to diseases noticed to date.

Pest resistance: No unusual susceptibility to pests noticed to date.

Heat tolerance: No heat tolerance.

Hardiness: Not hardy.

Flowering: Tubers planted in a greenhouse in The Netherlands in February produce inflorescences in April. Tubers

planted outdoors in The Netherlands in May produce inflorescences in July. In general, the time from planting to first flowering takes eight weeks. However, tubers stored for a longer period before planting may flower earlier — up to five weeks after planting.

Lastingness: About two weeks on the plant.

Fragrance: None.

I claim:

1. A new and distinct variety of calla lily plant named 'Le Chique' as herein described and illustrated.

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Fig. 1



Fig. 2