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Trees et al.

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(54) **EUPHORBIA PLANT NAMED ‘BALBREWITE’**

(50) Latin Name: *Euphorbia hypericifolia*
Varietal Denomination: **Balbrewite**

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(58) **Field of Classification Search** **Plt./302**
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Euphorbia* plant named ‘Balbrewite’, characterized by its white-colored flower bracts, dark yellow-green colored foliage, and moderately vigorous, compact-mounded growth habit, is disclosed.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Latin name of genus and species of plant claimed: *Euphorbia hypericifolia*.

Variety denomination: ‘Balbrewite’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of *Euphorbia* plant botanically known as *Euphorbia hypericifolia* and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name ‘Balbrewite’.

The new cultivar originated in a controlled breeding program in Arroyo Grande, Calif. during June 2006. The objective of the breeding program was the development of *Euphorbia* cultivars with continuous flowering, and a well-branched, compact-mounded growth habit.

The new *Euphorbia* cultivar was the result of a self-pollination followed by embryo rescue of Diamond Frost ‘Inneuphdia’, U.S. Plant Pat. No. 17,567, characterized by its white-colored flower bracts, dark yellow-green colored foliage, and compact, upright and outwardly spreading growth habit. The new cultivar was discovered and selected as a single flowering plant within the progeny of the above stated self-pollination and embryo rescue during December 2006 in a controlled environment at Arroyo Grande, Calif.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal stem cuttings since December 2006 at Arroyo Grande, Calif. and West Chicago, Ill. has demonstrated that the new cultivar reproduces true to type with all of the characteristics, as herein described, firmly fixed and retained through successive generations of such asexual propagation.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following characteristics of the new cultivar have been repeatedly observed and can be used to distinguish ‘Balbrewite’ as a new and distinct cultivar of *Euphorbia* plant:

- 1. White-colored flower bracts;
- 2. Dark yellow-green colored foliage; and
- 3. Moderately vigorous, compact-mounded growth habit.

Of the many commercially available *Euphorbia* cultivars, the most similar in comparison to the new cultivar is the parent Diamond Frost ‘Inneuphdia’, U.S. Plant Pa. No. 17,567. However, in a side by side comparison conducted in

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West Chicago, Ill., plants of the new cultivar were shown to have more inflorescences than plants of ‘Inneuphdia’. The new cultivar had approximately 100 inflorescences per plant while those of the parent had approximately 60 inflorescences per plant.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying photographs show, as nearly true as it is reasonably possible to make the same in color illustrations of this type, typical flower and foliage characteristics of the new cultivar. Colors in the photographs differ slightly from the color values cited in the detailed description, which accurately describes the colors of ‘Balbrewite’. The plants were grown in 4.5 inch pots for 7 weeks in a greenhouse at West Chicago, Ill.

FIG. 1 illustrates a side view of the overall growth and flowering habit of ‘Balbrewite’.

FIG. 2 illustrates a close-up view of an individual inflorescence of ‘Balbrewite’.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The new cultivar has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions to date. Accordingly, it is possible that the phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in the environment, such as temperature, light intensity, and day length, without, however, any variance in genotype.

The chart used in the identification of colors described herein is The R.H.S. Colour Chart of The Royal Horticultural Society, London, England, 2001 edition, except where general color terms of ordinary significance are used. The color values were determined in August 2009 under natural light conditions in West Chicago, Ill.

The following descriptions and measurements describe plants produced from cuttings from stock plants and grown in a glass-covered greenhouse under conditions comparable to those used in commercial practice. The plants were grown at West Chicago, Ill. in 4.5 inch pots for 7 weeks utilizing a soilless growth medium. Greenhouse temperatures were maintained at approximately 70° F. to 77° F. (21° C. to 25° C.) during the day and approximately 65° F. to 68° F. (18° C. to

20° C.) during the night. Greenhouse light levels of 2,500 footcandles to 6,000 footcandles were maintained during the day. Measurements and numerical values represent averages of typical plants.

Botanical classification: *Euphorbia hypericifolia* cultivar 5
Balbrewite.

Parentage:

Female and male parents.—Diamond Frost ‘Inneuph-
dia’, U.S. Plant Pat. No. 17,567.

Propagation: 10

Type cutting.—Terminal stem.

Time to initiate roots.—Approximately 14 to 18 days.

Time to produce a rooted cutting.—Approximately 21 to
28 days.

Root description.—Fine, fibrous, white in color. 15

Rooting habit.—Freely branching.

Plant description:

Commercial crop time.—Approximately 5 to 7 weeks
from a rooted cutting to finish in a 10 cm pot.

Growth habit and general appearance.—Moderately 20
vigorous, compact and mounded.

Size.—Height from soil level to top of plant plane:
Approximately 24.7 cm. Width: Approximately 36.0
cm.

Branching habit.—Freely branching with numerous 25
secondary and tertiary branching. Pinching improves
basal branching. Quantity of main branches per plant:
Approximately 6.

Branch.—Shape: Round in cross section. Strength:
Strong. Length: Approximately 24.9 cm. Diameter: 30
Approximately 3.0 mm. Length of central internode:
Approximately 4.4 cm. Texture: Smooth, glabrous.
Color of young stem: 146A. Color of mature stem:
146A with an overlay of 187A at nodes.

Foliage description: 35

General description.—Quantity of leaves per main
branch: Approximately 8. Fragrance: None. Form:
Simple. Arrangement: Opposite.

Leaves.—Shape: Elliptical. Margin: Entire. Apex:
Acute. Base: Attenuate. Venation pattern: Pinnate, 40
arcuate. Length of mature leaf: Approximately 4.9
cm. Width of mature leaf: Approximately 1.5 cm.
Texture of upper and lower surfaces: Sparsely pubes-
cent. Color of upper surface of young foliage: 146A
with indistinguishable venation. Color of lower sur- 45
face of young foliage: 146B with midveins of 146C.
Color of upper surface of mature foliage: 147A with
indistinguishable venation. Color of lower surface of
mature foliage: 147B with midveins of 147C.

Petiole.—Length: Approximately 2.1 cm. Diameter: 50
Approximately 1.0 mm. Texture: Sparsely pubescent.
Color: 146A with a faint overlay of 187A nearest
stem.

Flowering description:

Flowering habit.—‘Balbrewite’ is freely flowering 55
under outdoor growing conditions with substantially
continuous blooming from spring through autumn
and year-round in greenhouse environment.

Lastingness of individual flower on the plant.—Ap-
proximately 10 days.

Inflorescence description:

General description.—Type: Compound terminal
cymes. Quantity per plant: Approximately 100. Fra-
grance: None. Length (height): Approximately 1.7
cm. Width: Approximately 3.0 cm. Quantity of fully
open flowers per inflorescence: Approximately 3.

Peduncle.—Shape: Round in cross section. Strength:
Strong, flexible. Aspect: Vertical or 45° angle to stem.
Length: Approximately 5.0 cm. Diameter: Approxi-
mately 1.0 mm. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color:
146A.

Flower description:

Type.—Cyathia, persistent.

Bud.—Quantity per inflorescence: Approximately 2.

Bud just before opening.—Shape: Ovoid. Length:
Approximately 2.0 mm. Width: Approximately 1.5
mm. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: 143A.

Cyathia.—Shape: Cup-shaped. Length: Approximately
5.5 mm. Width: Approximately 2.0 mm. Texture:
Smooth, glabrous. Color: 143A.

Floral bracts.—Quantity: 2, opposite. Shape: Elliptical
to lanceolate. Appearance: Dull. Margin: Entire.
Apex: Rounded to acute. Base: Attenuate. Length:
Approximately 1.0 cm. Width: Approximately 2.0
mm. Texture of upper and lower surfaces: Glabrous,
smooth. Color of upper and lower surfaces: Purer
white than 155D.

Nectaries.—Quantity: 4 at rim of cyathium. Shape:
Ovoid With lunate petaloid appendage. Length:
Approximately 1.0 mm. Width: Approximately 1.0
mm. Color: 143A with purer white than 155D at peta-
loid apex.

Cyathia pedicels.—Strength: Strong. Aspect: Erect or
approximately 45° from vertical. Length: Approxi-
mately 4.0 mm. Diameter: Less than 1 mm. Texture:
Smooth, glabrous. Color: 146B.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Stamen quantity:
3 to 4 fully developed per cyathium. Stamen length:
Approximately 4.0 mm. Filament color:

Colorless, transparent. Anther shape: Bilobed. Anther
length: Less than 1 mm. Anther color: 158C with a central
area of 187A. Pollen amount: Scarce. Pollen color: 158D.
Gynoecium: Pistil quantity: 1 per cyathium. Pistil length:
Approximately 2.0 mm to 3.0 mm to base of ovary; base of
ovary is attached to a stalk that can expand to 3.0 mm in a fully
mature cyathium. Stigma shape: 6 parted. Stigma length:
Less than 1 mm. Stigma color: 155D. Style length: Approxi-
mately 1.0 mm. Style color: 155D. Ovary diameter: Approxi-
mately 1.0 mm. Ovary color: 143A. Stalk color: Colorless,
transparent.

Seed and fruit production: Neither seed nor fruit production
has been observed.

Disease and pest resistance: Resistance to pathogens and
pests common to *Euphorbia* has not been observed.

What is claimed is:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Euphorbia* plant named
‘Balbrewite’, substantially as herein shown and described.



FIG. 1



FIG. 2