



US00PP23832P2

(12) **United States Plant Patent**
Kanaya

(10) **Patent No.:** **US PP23,832 P2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Aug. 13, 2013**

(54) **CALIBRACHOA PLANT NAMED**
‘SUNCALPINK’

(50) Latin Name: *Calibrachoa* sp.
Varietal Denomination: **Suncalpink**

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 3 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **13/374,298**

(22) Filed: **Dec. 20, 2011**

(51) **Int. Cl.**
A01H 5/00 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
USPC **Plt./413**

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
USPC **Plt./413**
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Calibrachoa* plant named ‘Suncalpink’, characterized by its compact, upright, outwardly spreading and mounding plant habit; vigorous growth habit; freely branching and flowering plant habit; early and long flowering period; numerous single red purple-colored flowers; and good garden performance.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical designation: *Calibrachoa* sp.
Cultivar denomination: ‘SUNCALPINK’.

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 ‘Suncalpink’.

The new *Calibrachoa* plant is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Higashiomi, Shiga, Japan. The objective of the breeding program is to develop new compact, mounding and freely branching *Calibrachoa* plants with attractive and uniquely colored flowers.

The new *Calibrachoa* plant originated from a cross-pollination conducted by the Inventor in Higashiomi, Shiga, Japan in April, 2008 of a proprietary selection of *Calibrachoa* sp. identified as code number S10, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with a proprietary selection of *Calibrachoa* sp. identified as code number 6800-305, not patented, as the male, or pollen, parent. The new *Calibrachoa* 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 Higashiomi, Shiga, Japan in September, 2009.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Calibrachoa* plant by vegetative cuttings in a controlled greenhouse environment in Higashiomi, Shiga, Japan since September, 2009 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 environmental conditions 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 ‘Suncalpink’.

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These characteristics in combination distinguish ‘Suncalpink’ as a new and distinct *Calibrachoa* plant:

1. Compact, upright, outwardly spreading and mounding plant habit.
2. Vigorous growth habit.
3. Freely branching and flowering plant habit.
4. Early and long flowering period.
5. Numerous single red purple-colored flowers.
6. Good garden performance.

Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* can be compared to plants of the female parent selection. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* differ primarily from plants of the female parent selection in the following characteristics:

1. Leaves of plants of the new *Calibrachoa* are oblanceolate to spatulate in shape whereas leaves of plants of the female parent selection are close to orbicular in shape.
2. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* and the female parent selection differ in flower color as plants of the female parent selection have peach-colored flowers.

Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* can be compared to plants of the male parent selection. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* differ primarily from plants of the male parent selection in the following characteristics:

1. Leaves of plants of the new *Calibrachoa* are oblanceolate to spatulate in shape whereas leaves of plants of the male parent selection are lanceolate to spatulate in shape.
2. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* and the male parent selection differ in flower color as plants of the male parent selection have dark red purple-colored flowers.

Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* can also be compared to plants of *Calibrachoa* ‘Suncalpi’, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 22,392. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Higashiomi, Shiga, Japan, plants of the new *Calibrachoa* and ‘Suncalpi’ differed primarily in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* were more trailing than plants of ‘Suncalpi’.

2. Leaves of plants of the new *Calibrachoa* were oblanceolate to spatulate in shape whereas leaves of plants of 'Suncalpi' were narrowly elliptic in shape.
3. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* were more freely flowering than plants of 'Suncalpi'.
4. Plants of the *Calibrachoa* had smaller flowers than plants of 'Suncalpi'.
5. Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* and 'Suncalpi' differed slightly in flower color.

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 top of the sheet comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'Suncalpink' grown in a container.

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

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photographs and following observations, measurements and values describe plants grown during the early summer in 15-cm containers in an outdoor nursery in Higashiomi, Shiga, Japan and under cultural practices typical of commercial *Calibrachoa* production. During the production of the plants, day temperatures averaged 23° C. and night temperatures averaged 13° C. Plants were four months old when the photographs and the description were taken. In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 2001 Edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Botanical classification: *Calibrachoa* sp. 'Suncalpink'.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Calibrachoa* sp. identified as code number S10, not patented.

Male, or pollen, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Calibrachoa* sp. identified as code number 6800-305, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—By vegetative cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—About one week at 15° C. to 20° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant.—About three weeks at 15° C. to 20° C.

Root description.—Fibrous; white in color.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching.

Plant description:

Plant and growth habit.—Compact, upright, outwardly spreading and mounding plant habit; freely branching habit with numerous lateral branches developing per plant; pinching enhances lateral branch development; vigorous growth habit.

Plant height.—About 18 cm.

Plant diameter.—About 43.2 cm.

Lateral branch description:

Length.—About 15.5 cm.

Diameter.—About 1 mm.

Internode length.—About 1.2 cm.

Strength.—Strong.

Aspect.—Upright to outwardly.

Texture.—Pubescent.

Color.—Close to 143C.

Foliage description:

Arrangement.—Alternate, simple.

Length.—About 3 cm.

Width.—About 9.9 mm.

Shape.—Oblanceolate to spatulate.

Apex.—Obtuse.

Base.—Cuneate.

Margin.—Entire.

Texture, upper and lower surfaces.—Pubescent.

Venation pattern.—Pinnate; reticulate.

Color.—Developing leaves, upper surface: Close to 137B. Developing leaves, lower surface: Close to 137D. Fully expanded leaves, upper surface: Close to 137B; venation, close to 144B. Fully expanded leaves, lower surface: Close to 138B; venation, close to 144C.

Petiole.—Length: About 3.5 mm. Diameter: About 0.4 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 144B.

Flower description:

Flower arrangement and habit.—Single salverform flowers arising from upper leaf axils; freely flowering habit with usually about 161 flowers per plant; flowers face upright or outwardly.

Fragrance.—None detected.

Natural flowering season.—Early flowering habit, plants of the new *Calibrachoa* initiate and develop flowers about three weeks after planting; long flowering period, flowering commences naturally during the spring and plants flower continuously throughout the summer until late autumn in Japan.

Flower longevity.—Individual flowers last about seven to ten days on the plant; flowers not persistent.

Flower diameter.—About 3 cm.

Flower length (depth).—About 2.7 cm.

Throat diameter.—About 7.3 mm.

Tube length.—About 1.6 cm.

Tube diameter, base.—About 3 mm.

Flower bud.—Shape: Cylindrical. Length: About 2.5 cm. Diameter: About 1 cm. Color: Close to N57D.

Corolla.—Arrangement: Five petals fused at the base and opening into a flared trumpet. Petal length from throat: About 1.3 cm. Petal width: About 1.4 cm. Petal shape: Spatulate. Petal apex: Obtuse. Petal margin: Entire. Petal texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Throat texture: Smooth, glabrous. Tube texture: Pubescent. Color: Petal, when opening, upper surface: Close to N74B. Petal, when opening, lower surface: Close to 72D. Petal, fully opened, upper surface: Close to N74B; venation, close to N74B. Petal, fully opened, lower surface: Close to 75A. Throat: Close to 5A. Tube: Close to 4B.

Calyx.—Arrangement: One star-shaped calyx tube with five sepals fused at the base. Sepal length: About 5.9 mm to 8.9 mm. Sepal width: About 1.9 mm. Sepal shape: Narrowly elliptic. Sepal apex: Acute. Sepal margin: Entire. Sepal texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent. Sepal color: Immature and mature,

upper surface: Close to 143A. Immature and mature,
lower surface: Close to 143B.

Peduncles.—Length: About 1.6 cm. Diameter: About
0.6 mm. Angle: Upright to outwardly. Strength:
Strong. Texture: Pubescent. Color: Close to 141D. 5

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: Quantity: Five per
flower. Stamen length: About 7.5 mm to 11.4 mm.
Anther shape: Ellipsoidal. Anther size: About 1.3 mm
by 1.4 mm. Anther color: Close to 5B. Pollen amount:
Moderate. Pollen color: Close to 6A. Pistils: Quan- 10
tity: One per flower. Pistil length: About 10.8 mm.
Style color: Close to 143C. Stigma shape: Trans-
versely ellipsoidal. Stigma color: Close to 143B.
Ovary color: Close to 140B.

Seeds and fruits.—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 to
tolerate wind, rain and temperatures ranging from about 5°
C. to about 35° C.

Pathogen & pest resistance: Plants of the new *Calibrachoa*
have not been observed to be resistant to pests and patho-
gens common to *Calibrachoa* plants.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Calibrachoa* plant named ‘Sun-
calpink’ as illustrated and described.

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