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Kobayashi

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(54) **NEW GUINEA *IMPATIENS* PLANT NAMED ‘DONGIWIROPE’**

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(50) Latin Name: *Impatiens hawkeri*
Varietal Denomination: **Dongiwiropo**

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
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(71) Applicant: **DUMMEN GROUP B.V.**, De Lier
(NL)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
USPC **Plt./317, 318.1, 319**
See application file for complete search history.

(72) Inventor: **Ruth Kobayashi**, Carlsbad, CA (US)

(73) Assignee: **DUMMEN GROUP B.V.**, De Lier
(NL)

Primary Examiner — Susan McCormick Ewoldt

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — C. Anne Whealy

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Impatiens* plant named ‘Dongiwiropo’ characterized by its upright to outwardly spreading and mounding plant habit; moderately vigorous to vigorous growth habit; freely branching habit; dense and full appearance; dark green-colored leaves; freely and early flowering habit; medium-sized semi-double to double-type coral-colored flowers that have a ruffled rosette appearance; and good garden performance.

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2 Drawing Sheets

1

2

Botanical designation: *Impatiens hawkeri*.
Cultivar denomination: ‘DONGIWIROPE’.

STATEMENT REGARDING PRIOR
DISCLOSURES BY INVENTOR &
APPLICANT/ASSIGNEE

The Inventor and Applicant assert that no publications nor advertisements relating to sales, offers for sale or public distribution occurred more than one year prior to the effective filing date of this application. Any information about the claimed plant would have been obtained from a direct or indirect disclosure from the Inventor and/or Applicant. Inventor and Applicant claim a prior art exception under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)(1) for disclosure and/or sales prior to the filing date but less than one year prior to the effective filing date.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of New Guinea *Impatiens* plant, botanically known as *Impatiens hawkeri* and hereinafter referred to by the name ‘Dongiwiropo’.

The new *Impatiens* plant is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Koka, Ethiopia and Encinitas, Calif. The objective of the breeding program is to create new freely-branching, early and freely flowering New Guinea *Impatiens* plants with large attractive flowers and good garden performance.

The new *Impatiens* plant originated from a self-pollination made by the Inventor in November, 2017 in Koka, Ethiopia of *Impatiens hawkeri* ‘Duewildrwh’, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 30,745. The new *Impatiens* 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 Encinitas, Calif. in April, 2018.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Impatiens* plant by terminal vegetative cuttings in a controlled greenhouse environment in Encinitas, Calif. since June, 2018 has shown that the unique features of this new *Impatiens* plant are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Plants of the new *Impatiens* have not been observed under all possible combinations of environmental conditions and cultural practices. The phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in environmental conditions such as temperature, daylight 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 ‘Dongiwiropo’. These characteristics in combination distinguish ‘Dongiwiropo’ as a new and distinct *Impatiens* plant:

1. Upright to outwardly spreading and mounding plant habit.
2. Moderately vigorous to vigorous growth habit.
3. Freely branching habit; dense and full appearance.
4. Dark green-colored leaves.
5. Freely and early flowering habit.
6. Medium-sized semi-double to double-type coral-colored flowers that have a ruffled rosette appearance.
7. Good garden performance.

Plants of the new *Impatiens* can be compared to plants of the parent, ‘Duewildrwh’. Plants of the new *Impatiens* differ primarily from plants of ‘Duewildrwh’ in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Impatiens* are more compact than plants of 'Duewildrwh'.
2. Plants of the new *Impatiens* are more freely branching than plants of 'Duewildrwh'.
3. Flowers of plants of the new *Impatiens* are peach in color whereas flowers of plants of 'Duewildrwh' are white in color.

Plants of the new *Impatiens* can be compared to plants of *Impatiens hawkeri* 'Doimwirored', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 31,564. In side-by-side comparisons, plants of the new *Impatiens* differ primarily from plants of 'Doimwirored' in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Impatiens* are more upright than plants of 'Doimwirored'.
2. Plants of the new *Impatiens* have slightly smaller flowers than plants of 'Doimwirored'.
3. Flowers of plants of the new *Impatiens* are peach in color whereas flowers of plants of 'Doimwirored' are dark red in color.

Plants of the new *Impatiens* can also be compared to plants of *Impatiens hawkeri* 'Duemagpin', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 25,035. In side-by-side comparisons, plants of the new *Impatiens* differ primarily from plants of 'Duemagpin' in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Impatiens* are not as vigorous as plants of 'Duemagpin'.
2. Plants of the new *Impatiens* have smaller flowers than plants of 'Duemagpin'.
3. Flowers of plants of the new *Impatiens* are semi-double to double-types whereas flowers of plants of 'Duemagpin' are single-types.
4. Flowers of plants of the new *Impatiens* are peach in color whereas flowers of plants of 'Duemagpin' are soft pink in color.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying colored photographs illustrate the overall appearance of the new *Impatiens* 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 *Impatiens* plant.

The photograph on the first sheet (FIG. 1) is a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'Dongiwiropé' grown in a container.

The photograph on the second sheet (FIG. 2) is a close-up view of a typical flower of 'Dongiwiropé'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photographs and following observations, measurements and values describe plants grown during the summer and autumn in winter and early spring in 16.5-cm containers in a polyethylene-covered greenhouse in Encinitas, Calif. and under cultural practices typical of commercial New Guinea *Impatiens* production. During the production of the plants, day temperatures averaged 25° C., night temperatures averaged 18° C. and light levels ranged from 4,000 to 4,500 lux. Plants were 13 weeks old when the photographs were taken and 17 weeks old when the description was taken. In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 2015 Edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Botanical classification: *Impatiens hawkeri* 'Dongiwiropé'.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—*Impatiens hawkeri* 'Duewildrwh', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 30,745.

Male, or pollen, parent.—*Impatiens hawkeri* 'Duewildrwh', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 30,745.

Propagation:

Type.—By terminal vegetative cuttings.

Time to initiate roots, summer and winter.—About five to seven days at temperatures about 27° C. and night temperatures about 20° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, summer and winter.—About three weeks at day temperatures about 27° C. and night temperatures about 20° C.

Root description.—Fine, fibrous; typically white in color, actual color of the roots is dependent on substrate composition, water quality, fertilizers, substrate temperature and age of roots.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching; dense.

Plant description:

Plant and growth habit.—Upright to outwardly spreading and mounding plant habit; broad inverted triangle in overall shape; freely branching habit with lateral branches potentially developing at every node; dense and full appearance; moderately vigorous to vigorous growth habit and moderate to rapid growth rate.

Plant height.—About 28 cm.

Plant diameter.—About 55 cm.

Lateral branch description:

Length.—About 21 cm.

Diameter.—About 1.75 cm.

Internode length.—About 5.25 cm.

Strength.—Strong, stout; flexible.

Aspect.—Initially upright to outwardly spreading.

Texture and luster.—Smooth, glabrous; glossy.

Color, developing and fully developed.—Close to 144A variably overlain with close to 183A.

Leaf description:

Arrangement.—Typically in whorls; simple.

Length.—About 7.5 cm.

Width.—About 3.25 cm.

Shape.—Ovate to elliptic.

Apex.—Acuminate.

Base.—Attenuate to cuneate.

Margin.—Serrate with ciliation.

Texture and luster, upper and lower surfaces.—Smooth, glabrous; semi-glossy.

Venation pattern.—Pinnate; arcuate.

Color.—Developing leaves, upper surface: Initially, close to 146A becoming closer to 147A. Developing leaves, lower surface: Initially, close to 146B becoming closer to 147B. Fully expanded leaves, upper surface: Darker green than N189A; venation, close to between 144A and 146A. Fully expanded leaves, lower surface: Close to 147B; midvein, close to between 144A and 146A and lateral venation, close to 146A.

Petiole length.—About 3.75 cm.

Petiole diameter.—About 3.5 mm.

Petiole texture and luster, upper and lower surfaces.—Smooth, glabrous; semi-glossy.

Petiole color, upper and lower surfaces.—Close to between 144B and 146C.

Flower description:

Flower type and flowering habit.—Semi-double to double-type, medium-sized ruffled rounded rectangular axillary flowers; freely flowering habit, typically about five to seven open flowers and flower buds per lateral branch; flowers positioned above and beyond the foliar plane, flowers typically face mostly upright to outwardly.

Flower longevity.—Flowers typically last about four to seven days on the plant under greenhouse conditions; petals self-cleaning, gynoecium persistent.

Fragrance.—None detected.

Natural flowering season.—Year-round under greenhouse conditions; in the garden, flowering from spring until fall in California; early flowering habit, plants typically begin flowering about eleven weeks after planting.

Flower buds.—Length: About 1 cm. Diameter: About 7.5 mm. Shape: Ovoid; rosebud-like when opening. Texture and luster: Smooth, glabrous; glossy. Color: Close to 144A.

Flower diameter.—About 5 cm by 6 cm.

Flower depth.—About 1.75 cm.

Petals.—Quantity and arrangement: Six to ten per flower in one to two whorls. Length, banner petals: About 2.5 cm. Length, lateral petals: About 2.75 cm. Length, lower petals: About 2.6 cm. Width, banner petal: About 3.4 cm. Width, lateral petals: About 3 cm. Width, lower petals: About 2.6 cm. Shape, all petals: Obcordate to broadly obcordate. Apex, all petals: Emarginate. Base, all petals: Cuneate to attenuate. Margin, all petals: Mostly entire with occasional and random indentations; undulate and ruffled and frilled appearance. Texture and luster, all petals, upper surface: Smooth, glabrous; velvety; slightly glossy; iridescent. Texture and luster, all petals, lower surface: Smooth, glabrous; slightly glossy; iridescent. Color, all petals: When opening, upper surface: Close to 38A and towards the margins, close to 56A. When opening, lower surface: Close to 56A to 56B. Fully opened, upper surface: Close to 38A; towards the margins, close to 56A and towards the base, close to 157D; venation, similar to lamina; color becoming closer to 38A to 38B increasingly tinged with close to 52A and towards

the base, close to 157D with subsequent development. Fully opened, lower surface: Close to 56A to 56B; venation, close to 146A; color does not change with subsequent development.

Sepals.—Quantity and arrangement: Three in a single whorl; one modified into an elongated spur. Lateral sepal length: About 1.2 cm. Lateral sepal width: About 7.5 mm. Spur sepal length: About 1.5 cm. Spur sepal width: About 1 cm. Sepal shape: Deltoid to ovate. Sepal apex: Acuminate. Sepal base: Truncate. Sepal margin: Entire. Sepal texture and luster, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; semi-glossy. Sepal color, upper surface: Close to 144C to 144D. Sepal color, lower surface: Close to 144B to 144C. Spur length: About 1 cm. Spur diameter: At flower, about 7.5 mm; at apex, less than 1 mm. Spur texture and luster: Smooth, glabrous; semi-glossy. Spur color: Close to 144C to 144D.

Peduncles.—Length: About 3 cm. Diameter: About 1.5 mm. Angle: About 45° from stem axis. Strength: Strong; flexible. Texture and luster: Smooth, glabrous; semi-glossy to glossy. Color: Close to 144A to 144B.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: Quantity: Five fused at anthers; filaments free. Anther size: About 1 mm by 0.75 mm. Anther shape: Oblong. Anther color: Close to N155B. Pollen amount: None observed. Pistils: Quantity per flower: One. Pistil length: About 3 mm. Stigma shape: Crested. Stigma color: Close to 144A. Style color: Close to 144A. Ovary color: Close to 144A.

Seeds and fruits.—To date, seed and fruit production has not been observed on plants of the new *Impatiens*.

Pathogen & pest resistance: To date, plants of the new *Impatiens* have not been observed to be resistant to pathogens and pests common to *Impatiens* plants.

Garden performance: Plants of the new *Impatiens* have been observed to have good garden performance and tolerate temperatures ranging from about 5° C. to about 40° C.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Impatiens* plant named 'Dongi-wirope' as illustrated and described.

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FIG. 1



FIG. 2