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(54) **CALIBRACHOA PLANT NAMED**  
**'WESCAROSE'**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A distinct cultivar of Calibrachoa plant named 'Wescarose', characterized by its cascading and uniform growth habit; freely branching habit; large flower size; numerous intense purple red-colored flowers; and good weather tolerance.

**1 Drawing Sheet**

**1**

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

The present Invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of Calibrachoa plant, botanically known as *Calibrachoa hybrida*, and hereinafter referred to by the name 'Wescarose'.

The new Calibrachoa is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Sudlohn-Oeding, Germany. The new Calibrachoa originated from a cross made by the Inventor of a proprietary selection of Calibrachoa identified as code number 97-126, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with a proprietary selection of Calibrachoa identified as code number 97-122, not patented, as the male, or pollen, parent. The new Calibrachoa was selected by the Inventor in 1999 on the basis of its large flower size. Plants of the new Calibrachoa differ from plants of the parent selections primarily in flower color and flower size.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal cuttings taken at Sudlohn-Oeding, Germany, has shown that the unique features of this new Calibrachoa are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

Plants of the cultivar Wescarose have not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in environment such as temperature, light intensity, daylength, and fertility level without, however, any variance in genotype.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be the unique characteristics of 'Wescarose'. These characteristics in combination distinguish 'Wescarose' as a new and distinct cultivar:

1. Cascading and uniform growth habit.
2. Freely branching habit, dense and bushy.
3. Large flower size.
4. Numerous intense purple red-colored flowers.
5. Good weather tolerance.

Plants of the cultivar Wescarose can be compared to plants of the Calibrachoa cultivar Carillon Pink, not patented. However in side-by-side comparisons conducted by the Inventor in Sudlohn-Oeding, Germany, plants of the new

**2**

Calibrachoa and the cultivar Carillon Pink differ in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new Calibrachoa are more freely flowering than plants of the cultivar Carillon Pink.
2. Plants of the new Calibrachoa have larger flowers with larger sepals than plants of the cultivar Carillon Pink.
3. Flower throat color of plants of the new Calibrachoa is more intense yellow than flower throat color of plants of the cultivar Carillon Pink.
4. Plants of the new Calibrachoa are taller than plants of the cultivar Carillon Pink.

Plants of the cultivar Wescarose can also be compared to plants of the pink-flowered Calibrachoa cultivar Wespink, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. Ser. No. 09/592,377. However in side-by-side comparisons conducted by the Inventor in Sudlohn-Oeding, Germany, plants of the new Calibrachoa and the cultivar Wespink differ in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new Calibrachoa are more compact and more uniform than plants of the cultivar Wespink.
2. Plants of the new Calibrachoa have shorter internodes and are denser and bushier than plants of the cultivar Wespink.
3. Flower throat color of plants of the new Calibrachoa is more intense yellow than flower throat color of plants of the cultivar Wespink.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH**

The accompanying colored photograph illustrates the overall appearance of the new cultivar, 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 Calibrachoa. The photograph comprises a side perspective view of a typical plant of 'Wescarose'.

**DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION**

In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 1995 edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used. Plants grown in containers were used for the

following description. Plants were grown under conditions which closely approximate commercial production conditions during the spring in Sudlohn-Oeding, Germany. Plants used for the photographs and for the description were about 10 to 12 weeks from planting rooted cuttings.

Botanical classification: *Calibrachoa hybrida* cultivar Wescarose.

Parentage:

*Female parent*.—Proprietary selection of *Calibrachoa hybrida* identified as 97-126, not patented.

*Male parent*.—Proprietary selection of *Calibrachoa hybrida* identified as 97-122, not patented.

Propagation:

*Type cutting*.—Terminal vegetative cuttings.

*Time to initiate roots*.—About two to three weeks at 20° C.

*Time to develop roots*.—About three to four weeks at 20° C.

*Root description*.—Numerous, fine, fibrous, and well-branched.

Plant description:

*Form*.—Annual flowering plant; initially upright then cascading; uniform, rounded appearance, plants eventually become spherical in overall shape. Freely branching with lateral branches forming at every node.

*Usage*.—Appropriate for hanging baskets, window boxes and patio containers.

*Plant height (from soil level to top of plant plane)*.—About 20 cm.

*Plant length (from soil level to lateral branches apices)*.—About 70 to 90 cm.

*Plant diameter (area of spread)*.—About 30 to 50 cm.

*Stem description*.—Main branches, length: About 60 to 80 cm. Main branches, diameter: About 2.6 mm. Main branches, internode length: About 1.5 cm. Lateral branches, length: About 35 cm. Lateral branches, diameter: About 1.5 mm. Lateral branches, internode length: About 1.5 cm. Texture: Dense white pubescence. Strength: Strong, wiry. Color: 143C with slight anthocyanin, 166A.

*Foliage description*.—Leaves simple, generally symmetrical and long persisting; sessile. Arrangement: Alternate. Length: About 3 cm. Width: About 9 mm. Shape: Oblanceolate. Apex: Rounded. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire. Aspect: Mostly flat. Texture: Sparse white pubescence. Color: Young foliage, upper surface: 146B. Young foliage, lower surface: 146C. Mature foliage, upper surface: 146A; veins, 146C. Mature foliage, lower surface: 146C, veins, 146C.

Flower description:

*Flower type and habit*.—Large-sized flowers; flowers face upright or outward; single, axillary. Flowers persistent. Freely flowering with flowers forming at every axil.

*Natural flowering season*.—Spring until frost in the autumn; flowering continuous.

*Flower longevity on the plant*.—About one week.

*Flower size*.—Diameter: About 3.3 cm. Depth (height): About 1.75 cm. Tube length: About 1.5 cm. Throat diameter, distal end: About 8 mm. Tube diameter, proximal end: About 3.5 mm.

*Flower buds (just showing color)*.—Length: About 2.3 cm. Diameter: About 5 mm. Shape: Oblong. Color: Apex, 71A; mid-section, 79A; base, 12C to 13C.

*Corolla*.—Arrangement/appearance: Single whorl of five petals, fused into flared trumpet. Petal length from throat: About 1.5 cm. Petal width: About 1.5 cm. Petal shape: Roughly spatulate with obtuse apex. Petal margin: Entire. Petal texture: Smooth, satiny. Color: Petal, upper surface, when opening: 74A. Petal, lower surface, when opening: 74B. Petal, upper surface, opened flower: 66A, fading to 71D; veins, 71A. Petal, lower surface, opened flower: 66C; veins, 166A. Flower throat (inside): 13A; veins, 166A. Flower eye or ring, about 3 to 5 mm in diameter at top of throat: 61A to 61B. Flower tube (outside): 13C; veins, 166A.

*Sepals*.—Arrangement/appearance: Single whorl of five sepals, star-shaped. Length: About 1.6 cm. Width: About 3.7 mm. Shape: Narrowly lanceolate. Apex: Acute. Margin: Entire. Texture: White pubescence. Color, both surfaces: 146A.

*Peduncles*.—Length: About 1 cm. Width: About 1 mm. Strength: Flexible and wiry, flowers held upright or outward. Color: 146A with slight anthocyanin, 166A, towards the sepals.

*Reproductive organs*.—Stamens: Quantity per flower: 5. Filament color: 144B. Anther shape: Four-parted, oval. Anther length: About 1.3 mm. Anther color: 8B. Pollen amount: Moderate. Pollen color: 8B. Pistils: Quantity per flower: 1. Pistil length: About 9 mm. Stigma shape: Oval. Stigma color: Immature: 144A. Mature: 144A to 144B. Style length: About 8 mm. Style color: 144B. Ovary color: 144B to 144C.

*Seed*.—Seed production has not been observed.

Disease resistance: Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* have not been noted to be resistant to pathogens common to *Calibrachoa*.

Weather tolerance: Plants of the new *Calibrachoa* are tolerant to rain and wind.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Calibrachoa* plant named 'Wescarose', as illustrated and described.

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