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

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(54) **GERANIUM PLANT NAMED ‘CLIPS SCARL’**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **Plt./324**

(50) Latin Name: *Pelargonium*×*hortorum*  
Varietal Denomination: **Clips Scarl**

(58) **Field of Search** ..... **Plt./324**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

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

A new and distinct cultivar of *Geranium* plant named ‘Clips Scarl’, characterized by its upright, outwardly spreading and rounded growth habit; freely basal branching habit; dark green-colored leaves with a distinct zonation pattern; freely flowering habit with many flower umbels per plant; and flower umbels with numerous scarlet red-colored semi-double flowers.

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(51) **Int. Cl.**<sup>7</sup> ..... **A01H 5/00**

**1 Drawing Sheet**

**1**

**2**

Botanical classification/cultivar designation: *Pelargonium*×*hortorum* cultivar Clips Scarl.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of *Geranium* plant, botanically known as *Pelargonium*×*hortorum*, commercially known as a Zonal *Geranium*, and hereinafter referred to by the name ‘Clips Scarl’.

The new *Geranium* is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Gilroy, Calif. The objective of the breeding program is to develop new Zonal *Geranium* cultivars with good basal branching, freely flowering habit and attractive flower and foliage coloration.

The new *Geranium* originated from a cross-pollination made by the Inventor in April, 2000 of a proprietary *Pelargonium*×*hortorum* selection identified as code number 8521-3, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with a proprietary *Pelargonium*×*hortorum* selection identified as code number 8709-5, not patented, as the male, or pollen, parent. The cultivar Clips Scarl was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a flowering plant within the progeny from this cross-pollination in a controlled environment in Gilroy, Calif. in September, 2000.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal cuttings at Gilroy, Calif., since September, 2000 has shown that the unique features of this new *Geranium* are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations of asexual reproduction.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be the unique characteristics of ‘Clips Scarl’. These characteristics in combination distinguish ‘Clips Scarl’ as a new and distinct *Geranium* cultivar:

1. Upright, outwardly spreading and rounded growth habit.
2. Freely basal branching habit.
3. Dark green-colored leaves with a distinct zonation pattern.
4. Freely flowering habit with many large flower umbels per plant.

5. Flower umbels with numerous scarlet red-colored semi-double flowers.

In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Gilroy, Calif., plants of the new *Geranium* differed from plants of the female parent selection in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Geranium* had darker green-colored leaves than plants of the female parent selection.
2. Plants of the new *Geranium* and the female parent selection differed in flower color as plants of the female parent selection had lighter red-colored flowers.

In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Gilroy, Calif., plants of the new *Geranium* differed from plants of the male parent selection in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Geranium* were more vigorous than plants of the male parent selection.
2. Plants of the new *Geranium* and the male parent selection differed in flower color as plants of the male parent selection had salmon orange-colored flowers.

The new *Geranium* can be compared to the cultivar, Americana Coral, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 13,004. However, in side-by-side comparisons conducted in Gilroy, Calif., plants of the new *Geranium* differed from plants of the cultivar Americana Coral in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Geranium* had darker green-colored leaves than plants of the cultivar Americana Coral.
2. Plants of the new *Geranium* had darker colored flowers than plants of the cultivar Americana Coral.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS**

The accompanying colored photographs illustrate 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.

The photograph at the top of the sheet comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of ‘Clips Scarl’.

The photograph at the bottom of the sheet is a close-up view of typical flower umbels and leaves of ‘Clips Scarl’.

Flower and foliage 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 Geranium.

#### DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

Plants of the cultivar Clips Scarl have not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in environment such as temperature and light intensity, without, however, any variance in genotype. The aforementioned photographs and following observations and measurements describe plants grown in Gilroy, Calif., under commercial practice in a fiberglass-covered greenhouse during the late spring with day temperatures about 27 to 29° C., night temperatures about 16 to 18° C. and light levels about 2,000 foot-candles. Plants used for the photographs and description were about six months from planting rooted cuttings. 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.

Botanical classification: *Pelargonium x hortorum* cultivar Clips Scarl.

Parentage:

*Female parent.*—Proprietary *Pelargonium x hortorum* selection identified as code number 8521-3, not patented.

*Male parent.*—Proprietary *Pelargonium x hortorum* selection identified as code number 8709-5, not patented.

Propagation:

*Type cutting.*—Terminal cuttings.

*Time to initiate roots.*—About 12 to 14 days at 24° C.

*Time to develop roots.*—About four weeks at 18 to 24° C.

*Root description.*—Fibrous, fine; white in color.

*Rooting habit.*—Freely branching.

Plant description:

*General appearance.*—Upright, outwardly spreading and rounded growth habit.

*Growth and branching habit.*—Vigorous and very freely basal branching with about 14 lateral branches. Pinching, that is, removal of terminal apices, is typically not required.

*Plant height to top of foliage.*—About 21 cm.

*Plant height to top of flower umbels.*—About 36 cm.

*Plant width.*—About 50 cm.

*Lateral branches.*—Length: About 26 cm. Diameter: About 1.1 cm. Internode length: About 1.75 mm. Texture: Pubescent. Color: 144A.

*Foliage description.*—Arrangement: Alternate, simple. Length: About 5.5 cm. Width: About 9 cm. Shape: Reniform with slight round lobing. Apex: Rounded. Base: Cordate. Margin: Crenate, ruffled to sinuate. Venation: Palmate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Velvety; pubescent. Color: Developing and fully expanded foliage, upper surface: 147A; distinct zonation pattern about 1 cm wide and about 1 cm from the margin, 200A to 200B in color. Developing and fully expanded foliage, lower surface: 147B. Venation, upper and lower surfaces: 147B. Petiole: Length: About 6 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent. Color, upper and lower surfaces: 146A.

Flower description:

*Flower arrangement and type.*—Semi-double rounded flowers arranged in hemispherical umbels arising

from apical leaf axils. Umbels displayed above the foliage. At full flowering, usually about 20 open and developing umbels per plant. Flowers not persistent; umbels persistent. Flowers not fragrant.

*Flowering season.*—Year-round under greenhouse conditions. In the garden, flowering is continuous from spring until fall. Plants start flowering about eight weeks after planting.

*Flower longevity.*—Flowers last about one week on the plant.

*Umbels.*—Height: About 6 cm. Diameter: About 12.5 cm. Number of flowers and flower buds per umbel: Very freely flowering, about 68. Flower diameter: About 4.5 cm. Flower depth (height): About 2 cm.

*Flower buds.*—Length: About 1.9 cm. Diameter: About 1.1 cm. Shape: Ovoid. Color: 50A.

*Petals.*—Quantity/arrangement: About five petals in a single whorl with typically two to three petaloids per flower; imbricate. Length: About 2.5 cm. Width: About 2.1 cm. Shape: Obovate. Apex: Rounded. Base: Acute. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth; satiny. Aspect: Slightly cupped. Color: When opening, upper surface: Darker than 45B. When opening, lower surface: 50A. Fully opened, upper surface: Brighter than 44B; at the base, 155D; venation, 63A. Fully opened, lower surface: 43C; at the base, 155D; venation, 63A.

*Petaloids.*—Length: About 2 cm. Width: About 1.5 cm. Shape: Obovate. Apex: Emarginate. Base: Acute. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth; satiny. Aspect: Slightly cupped. Color: When opening, upper surface: Darker than 45B. When opening, lower surface: 50A. Fully opened, upper surface: Brighter than 44B; at the base, 155D; venation, 63A. Fully opened, lower surface: 43C; at the base, 155D; venation, 63A.

*Sepals.*—Quantity/arrangement: Five per flower in a single whorl; not imbricate on open flowers. Length: About 1 cm. Width: About 3 mm. Shape: Lanceolate. Apex: Acuminate. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent. Color, upper surface: 146A. Color, lower surface: Towards the apex, 146A; towards the base, 59B.

*Peduncle (umbel stem).*—Length: About 19.5 cm. Diameter: About 4 mm. Angle: About 30 to 45° from vertical. Strength: Strong. Texture: Pubescent. Color: 144A.

*Pedicle (individual flower stem).*—Length: About 3 cm. Diameter: About 1.5 mm. Angle: Erect to almost 90° from vertical. Strength: Strong. Texture: Pubescent. Color: 185A.

*Reproductive organs.*—Androecium: Anther quantity: About eight per flower. Anther size: About 1 by 2 mm. Anther shape: Oval. Anther color: 48A. Pollen amount: Scarce. Pollen color: 34B. Gynoecium: Pistil quantity: One per flower. Pistil length: About 8 mm. Stigma shape: Five-parted, star-shaped. Stigma color: 46A. Style length: About 2 mm. Style color: 46B. Ovary color: 138B.

*Seed/fruit.*—Seed and fruit development has not been observed.

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

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Geranium* plant named 'Clips Scarl', as herein illustrated and described.

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