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

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- (54) **BEGONIA PLANT NAMED ‘Dobeicofikior’**
- (50) Latin Name: *Begonia boliviensis* X *Begonia tuberhybrida*
Varietal Denomination: **Dobeicofikior**
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- (51) **Int. Cl.**
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- (52) **U.S. Cl.**
USPC **Plt./347**
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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Begonia* plant named ‘Dobeicofikior’, characterized by its relatively compact, semi-upright and mounded plant habit; vigorous growth habit and moderate growth rate; strong branching habit; dark green-colored leaves; freely and continuously flowering habit; and large double-type flowers with petals that are vivid orange in color and petaloids that are lighter orange in color.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical designation: *Begonia boliviensis* X *Begonia tuberhybrida*.
Cultivar denomination: ‘DOBEICOFIKIOR’.

STATEMENT REGARDING PRIOR DISCLOSURES BY INVENTOR AND APPLICANT/ASSIGNEE

An European Community Plant Breeder’s Rights application for the instant plant was filed by the Applicant/Assignee, Dümme Group B.V. of De Lier, The Netherlands on Oct. 26, 2023, application number 2023/2274. Foreign priority is claimed to this application.

The Inventor and Applicant/Assignee assert that no sales, offers for sale or public distribution of the instant plant 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/Assignee. Inventor and Applicant/Assignee claim a prior art exception under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)(1) for disclosures 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 *Begonia* plant, botanically known as *Begonia boliviensis* X *Begonia tuberhybrida*, commercially referred to as a Hybrid *Begonia* and hereinafter referred to by the name ‘Dobeicofikior’.

The new *Begonia* plant is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in De Lier, The Netherlands. The objective of the breeding program was to develop new freely flowering *Begonia* plants with strong branches and attractive flowers.

The new *Begonia* plant originated from a cross-pollination made by the Inventor during the autumn of 2018 of a

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proprietary selection of *Begonia* x *boliviensis* X *Begonia tuberhybrida* identified as code number BG15-000030-039, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with a proprietary selection of *Begonia* x *boliviensis* X *Begonia tuberhybrida* identified as code number BG15-000049-005, not patented, as the male or pollen, parent. The new *Begonia* 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 De Lier, The Netherlands during the spring of 2019.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Begonia* plant by vegetative tip cuttings in a controlled greenhouse environment in De Lier, The Netherlands since the autumn of 2019 has shown that the unique features of this new *Begonia* plant are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

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

1. Relatively compact, semi-upright and mounded plant habit.
2. Vigorous growth habit and moderate growth rate.
3. Strong branching habit.
4. Dark green-colored leaves.
5. Freely and continuously flowering habit.
6. Large double-type flowers with petals that are vivid orange in color and petaloids that are lighter orange in color.

Plants of the new *Begonia* can be compared to plants of the female parent selection. In side-by-side comparisons, plants of the new *Begonia* differ primarily from plants of the female parent selection in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Begonia* are more freely branching than plants of the female parent selection.
2. Flowers of plants of the new *Begonia* have vivid orange-colored petals and petaloids that are lighter orange in color whereas flowers of plants of the female parent selection are apricot in color.
3. Plants of the new *Begonia* have longer flower pedicels than plants of the female parent selection.

Plants of the new *Begonia* can be compared to plants of the male parent selection. In side-by-side comparisons, plants of the new *Begonia* differ primarily from plants of the male parent selection in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Begonia* are more upright than plants of the male parent selection.
2. Plants of the new *Begonia* have larger flowers than plants of the male parent selection.

Plants of the new *Begonia* can be compared to plants of *Begonia boliviensis* X *Begonia tuberhybrida* 'T'CONIA Bacio Peach', not patented. In side-by-side comparisons, plants of the new *Begonia* differ primarily from plants of 'T'CONIA Bacio Peach' in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Begonia* are more vigorous and larger than plants of 'T'CONIA Bacio Peach'.
2. Plants of the new *Begonia* are more freely branching than plants of 'T'CONIA Bacio Peach'.
3. Plants of the new *Begonia* have broader leaves than plants of 'T'CONIA Bacio Peach'.
4. Plants of the new *Begonia* have larger flowers with larger petaloids than plants of 'T'CONIA Bacio Peach'.
5. Flowers of plants of the new *Begonia* have vivid orange-colored petals and petaloids that are lighter orange in color whereas flowers of plants of 'T'CONIA Bacio Peach' are soft yellow to peach in color.
6. Plants of the new *Begonia* have longer flower pedicels than plants of 'T'CONIA Bacio Peach'.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying colored photograph illustrates the overall appearance of the new *Begonia* plant 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 *Begonia* plant. The photograph is a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'Dobeicofikior' grown in a container.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

Plants used for the aforementioned photograph and following observations and measurements were grown in 12-cm containers during the summer in a glass-covered greenhouse in De Lier, The Netherlands. During the production of the plants, day temperatures ranged from 20° C. to 35° C., night temperatures ranged from 17° C. to 25° C. and minimum light levels were 135 watt/m². Plants were twelve weeks old when the photograph and the description were taken. In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, Fifth Edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Botanical classification: *Begonia boliviensis* X *Begonia tuberhybrida* 'Dobeicofikior'.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Begonia boliviensis* X *Begonia tuberhybrida* identified as code number BG15-000030-039, not patented.

Male, or pollen, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Begonia boliviensis* X *Begonia tuberhybrida* identified as code number BG16-000049-005, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—By vegetative tip cuttings.

Time to initiate roots, summer.—About 18 days at temperatures about 22° C. to 30° C.

Time to initiate roots, winter.—About 21 days at temperatures about 20° C. to 22° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, summer.—About 22 to 25 days at temperatures about 22° C. to 30° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, winter.—About 25 to 28 days at temperatures about 20° C. to 22° C.

Root description.—Medium in thickness, fibrous; whitish grey in color, actual color of the roots is dependent on substrate composition, water quality, fertilizer type and formulation, substrate temperature and physiological age of roots; plants of the new *Begonia* have not been observed to form tubers.

Rooting habit.—Moderately freely branching; medium density.

Plant description:

Plant form and growth habit.—Relatively compact, semi-upright to mounded plant habit; freely basal branching with about three primary lateral branches each with about three to five secondary lateral branches; vigorous growth habit and moderate growth rate.

Plant height, soil level to top of foliar plane.—About 23.5 cm.

Plant height, soil level to top of floral plane.—About 26 cm.

Plant width.—About 35 cm.

Lateral branch description.—Length: About 16 cm. Diameter: About 1 cm. Internode length: About 2.5 cm. Texture and luster: Pubescent; semi-glossy. Aspect: Mostly upright. Strength: Moderately strong, flexible. Color, developing and developed: Close to 174B.

Leaf description.—Arrangement: Alternate, simple. Length: About 10 cm. Width: About 6 cm. Shape: Lanceolate. Apex: Narrowly acute. Base: Oblique. Margin: Serrate; sinuses medium in depth and divergent. Texture and luster, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent; semi-glossy. Venation pattern: Palmate; reticulate. Color: Developing leaves, upper surface: Close to 143A. Developing leaves, lower surface: Close to 143C. Fully expanded leaves, upper surface: Close to 139A; venation, close to 144B. Fully expanded leaves, lower surface: Close to 178C; venation, close to 144B. Petioles: Length: About 6 cm. Diameter: About 5 mm. Texture and luster, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; semi-glossy. Strength: Moderately strong; flexible. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 164A.

Flower description:

Flowering habit.—Double-type flowers arranged in axillary cymes; freely flowering habit with typically about two to three flowers per inflorescence and about 39 open flowers and flower buds per plant at one time; flowers face mostly upright to outwardly to slightly nodding.

Fragrance.—None detected.

Natural flowering season.—Plants begin flowering about eight weeks after planting; long flowering period, in the garden plants flower freely and continuously from the late spring throughout the summer in Northern Europe and can be flowered year-round in greenhouses under short nyctoperiods.

Flower longevity.—Depending on temperature, individual flowers last about four to five weeks on the plant; flowers persistent.

Inflorescence height.—About 6 cm.

Inflorescence diameter.—About 10 cm.

Flower buds.—Length: About 2.5 cm. Diameter: About 2 cm. Shape: Ovoid. Texture and luster: Smooth, glabrous; semi-glossy. Color: Close to 30A.

Flower size.—Diameter: About 7 cm to 7.5 cm. Depth (height): About 6.5 cm.

Petals.—Quantity per flower and arrangement: Typically four to five per flower arranged in a single whorl. Length: About 3.8 cm. Width: About 3.5 cm. Shape: Obovate. Apex: Rounded and emarginate. Base: Cuneate and truncate. Margin: Entire; not undulate. Texture and luster, upper surface: Smooth, glabrous; matte. Texture and luster, lower surface: Smooth, glabrous; semi-glossy. Color: When opening, upper surface: Close to 28A; towards the base, close to 2B. When opening, lower surface: Close to 30B; towards the base, close to 2D. Fully opened, upper surface: Close to 28B; towards the base, close to 2A; venation, close to 27C; color does not change with subsequent development. Fully opened, lower surface: Close to 36C; venation, close to 27C; color does not change with subsequent development.

Petaloids.—Quantity per flower and arrangement: Typically 40 per flower arranged in about six to eight whorls. Length: About 3.5 cm. Width: About 2.5 cm. Shape: Obovate. Apex: Rounded, obtuse. Base: Cuneate. Margin: Entire; slightly undulate. Texture and luster, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, gla-

brous; semi-glossy. Color: When opening, upper surface: Close to 29A. When opening, lower surface: Close to 29B. Fully opened, upper surface: Close to 29B; towards the base, close to 6B; color becoming closer to 29B overall with subsequent development. Fully opened, lower surface: Close to 29B; color becoming closer to 29C with subsequent development.

Sepals.—Quantity per flower and arrangement: Typically two to five per flower arranged in one to two whorls. Length: About 1.5 cm. Width: About 7 mm. Shape: Narrowly obovate. Apex: Rounded and emarginate. Base: Cuneate and truncate. Margin: Entire. Texture and luster, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; semi-glossy. Color: When opening, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 144A. Fully opened, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 144A.

Peduncles.—Length: About 12 cm. Diameter: About 4 mm. Aspect: Semi-upright. Strength: Moderately strong; flexible. Texture and luster: Smooth, glabrous; glossy. Color: Close to 181A.

Pedicels.—Length: About 4.5 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Aspect: Upright to outwardly. Strength: Moderately strong; flexible. Texture and luster: Smooth, glabrous; glossy. Color: Close to 181A.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: None observed as all stamens transformed into petaloids. Pistils: Quantity per flower: About three. Pistil length: About 1 cm. Stigma diameter: About 5 mm. Stigma shape: Bilobed, curled. Stigma color: Close to 17C. Style length: About 4.5 mm. Style color: Close to 15A. Ovary color: Close to 145A. Seeds: Plants of the new *Begonia* have been observed to produce seeds, however, seeds are “dust-like” and too minute to quantify and describe.

Pathogen & pest resistance: To date, resistance to pathogens and pests common to *Begonia* plants has not been observed on plants of the new *Begonia*.

Temperature tolerance: Plants of the new *Begonia* have been observed to tolerate temperatures ranging from about 10° C. to about 35° C.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Begonia* plant named ‘Dobefkofior’ as illustrated and described.

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