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(54) **VERONICA PLANT NAMED ‘DOVERCANB’**

(50) Latin Name: *Veronica hybrida*  
Varietal Denomination: **Dovercanb**

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(51) **Int. Cl.**  
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*A01H 6/68* (2018.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**  
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(58) **Field of Classification Search**  
USPC ..... **Plt./226, 251**  
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Veronica* plant named ‘Dovercanb’, characterized by its relatively compact and upright plant habit; moderately vigorous growth habit and moderate growth rate; freely basal branching habit; freely flowering habit on first year’s growth; long and dense inflorescences with numerous violet-colored flowers; and good performance as a container and garden plant.

**2 Drawing Sheets**

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Botanical designation: *Veronica hybrida*.  
Cultivar denomination: ‘DOVERCANB’.

**PRIOR DISCLOSURES BY INVENTOR & 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 Nov. 4, 2022, application number 2022/2476. Foreign priority is not claimed to this application.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of *Veronica* plant, botanically known as *Veronica hybrida*, typically grown as a container or garden plant and herein after referred to by the name ‘Dovercanb’.

The new *Veronica* plant is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Aalsmeer, The Netherlands. The objective of the breeding program is to create new *Veronica* plants with attractive flowers arranged on long inflorescences and good container and garden performance.

The new *Veronica* plant originated from an open-pollination in April, 2017 of a proprietary selection of *Veronica hybrida* identified as code number VE16-000031-004, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with an unknown proprietary selection of *Veronica hybrida* as the male, or pollen, parent. The new *Veronica* plant was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a single flowering plant from within the progeny of the stated open-pollination in a controlled greenhouse environment in Aalsmeer, The Netherlands in June, 2018.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Veronica* plant by terminal stem cuttings in a controlled greenhouse environment in Aalsmeer, The Netherlands, since June, 2018 has shown

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that the unique features of this new *Veronica* plant are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

5 Plants of the new *Veronica* 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 and light intensity without, however, any variance in genotype.

10 The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be the unique characteristics of ‘Dovercanb’. These characteristics in combination distinguish ‘Dovercanb’ as a new and distinct *Veronica* plant:

- 15 1. Relatively compact and upright plant habit.
2. Moderately vigorous growth habit and moderate growth rate.
3. Freely basal branching habit.
4. Freely flowering habit on first year’s growth.
- 20 5. Long and dense inflorescences with numerous violet-colored flowers.
6. Good performance as a container and garden plant.

Plants of the new *Veronica* differ primarily from plants of the female parent selection primarily in flower color as plants of the new *Veronica* have violet-colored flowers whereas plants of the female parent selection have purple-colored flowers.

Plants of the new *Veronica* can be compared to plants of *Veronica longifolia* ‘Alllove’, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 21,478. In side-by-side comparisons, plants of the new *Veronica* differ primarily from plants of ‘Alllove’ in flower color as plants of the new *Veronica* have violet-colored flowers whereas plants of ‘Alllove’ have red purple-colored flowers. In addition, plants of the new *Veronica* are more compact than plants of ‘Alllove’.

35 **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS**

The accompanying colored photographs illustrate the overall appearance of the *Veronica* 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 actual colors of the new *Veronica* plant.

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

The photograph on the second sheet (FIG. 2) comprises close-up views of a typical inflorescence and the upper and lower surfaces of typical leaves of 'Dovercanb'.

#### DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

Plants used for the aforementioned photographs and following description were grown in 17-cm containers during the summer in a glass-covered greenhouse in Aalsmeer, The Netherlands and under cultural practices typical of commercial *Veronica* production. During the production of the plants, day temperatures averaged 21 C and night temperatures averaged 15 C. Plants were 16 weeks old when the photographs 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: *Veronica hybrida* 'Dovercanb'.

#### Parentage:

*Female, or seed, parent.*—Proprietary selection of *Veronica hybrida* identified as code number VE16-000031-004, not patented.

*Male, or pollen, parent.*—Unknown proprietary selection of *Veronica hybrida*, not patented.

#### Propagation:

*Type cutting.*—Terminal stem cuttings.

*Time to initiate roots, summer.*—About 16 days at temperatures about 26 C.

*Time to initiate roots, winter.*—About 21 days at temperatures about 23 C.

*Time to produce a rooted young plant, summer.*—About 24 days at temperatures about 23 C.

*Time to produce a rooted young plant, winter.*—About 28 days at temperatures about 18 C.

*Root description.*—Medium in thickness, fibrous; typically white to light yellow 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.

*Rooting habit.*—Moderately freely branching; medium density.

#### Plant description:

*Plant type.*—Herbaceous perennial.

*Plant and growth habit.*—Relatively compact and upright plant habit with long and dense inflorescences; overall plant shape, oblong to narrowly oblong; moderately vigorous growth habit and moderate growth rate.

*Plant height, soil level to top of foliar plane.*—About 18 cm.

*Plant height, soil level to top of floral plane.*—About 28 cm.

*Plant width.*—About 29 cm.

*Lateral branch description.*—Branching habit: Freely basal branching habit with about ten primary stems per plant each with up to four secondary branches; pinching is not required, but will enhance lateral

branching potential. Length (excluding inflorescence): About 19 cm. Diameter: About 4 mm. Internode length: About 3 cm. Strength: Strong. Aspect: Erect to about 20 degrees from vertical. Texture and luster: Pubescent; glossy. Color, developing: Close to 143C. Color, developed: Close to 143A.

#### Leaf description:

*Arrangement.*—Alternate, single.

*Length.*—About 8 cm.

*Width.*—About 3 cm.

*Shape.*—Lanceolate.

*Apex.*—Acute.

*Base.*—Obtuse.

*Margin.*—Serrate with shallow and divergent indentations.

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

*Venation pattern.*—Pinnate and reticulate.

*Color.*—When opening and fully expanded leaves, upper surface: Close to 137B; venation, close to 137B. When opening and fully expanded leaves, lower surface: Close to 137D; venation, close to 137B.

*Petioles.*—Length: About 8 mm. Diameter: About 3 mm. Strength: Moderately strong. Texture and luster, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; glossy. Color, upper surface: Close to 137B. Color, lower surface: Close to 137D.

#### Flower description:

*Flower arrangement and shape.*—Single campanulate flowers arranged on long and dense terminal racemes; flowers face mostly outwardly.

*Flowering habit.*—Freely flowering habit with about 57 flowers per inflorescence and about 2,821 flowers developing per plant during the flowering season.

*Fragrance.*—None detected.

*Natural flowering season.*—Long flowering period; plants flower continuously from June to August in The Netherlands; plants begin flowering about ten weeks after planting; flowers not persistent.

*Flower buds.*—Length: About 6 mm. Diameter: About 3 mm. Shape: Elliptic. Texture and luster: Smooth, glabrous; matte. Color: Close to 91A.

*Inflorescence height (length).*—About 12 cm.

*Inflorescence diameter.*—About 1.7 cm.

*Flower diameter.*—About 8 mm by 8 mm.

*Flower length.*—About 8 mm.

*Throat diameter.*—About 2 mm.

*Tube length.*—About 2 mm.

*Tube diameter.*—About 2 mm.

*Petals.*—Quantity and arrangement: Four in a single whorl; petals fused proximally. Length: About 3 mm. Width: About 5 mm. Shape: Obovate; concave. Apex: Obtuse. Margin: Entire; not undulate. Texture and luster, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; matte. Texture and luster, throat and tube: Smooth, glabrous; matte. Color: When opening, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 91A and 92A. Fully opened, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 91A and 92A; venation, close to 91A and 92A; color does not change with subsequent development. Throat and tube: Close to 91A and 92A; venation, close to 91A and 92A.

*Sepals.*—Quantity and arrangement: Four arranged in a single whorl and fused at the base. Length: About 2

mm. Width: About 1 mm. Shape: Deltoid. Apex: Acute. Base: Fused. Margin: Entire. Texture and luster, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; semi-glossy. Color: When opening and fully opened, upper surface: Close to 138A. When opening and fully opened, lower surface: Close to 138A.

*Peduncles*.—Length: About 7 cm. Diameter: About 3 mm. Aspect: Primary peduncles, upright; secondary peduncles, about 20 degrees from main peduncle axis. Strength: Moderately strong. Texture and luster: Pubescent; semi-glossy. Color: Close to 143A.

*Pedicels*.—Length: About 1 mm. Diameter: Less than 1 mm. Aspect: About 45 degrees from peduncle axis. Strength: Moderately strong. Texture and luster: Pubescent; semi-glossy. Color: Close to 143A.

*Flower bracts*.—Length: About 5 mm. Width: About 1 mm. Shape: Acicular. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: Close to N137A.

*Reproductive organs*.—Stamens: Quantity per flower: Two. Filament length: About 6 mm. Filament color: Close to 92A. Anther shape: Roughly oblong. Anther

size: About 1 mm by 2 mm. Anther color: Close to 92A and N155A. Pollen amount: Abundant. Pollen color: Close to 10C. Pistils: Quantity per flower: One. Pistil length: About 5 mm. Stigma diameter: Less than 1 mm. Stigma shape: Capitata. Stigma color: Close to 90B. Style length: About 3 mm. Style color: Close to 92B. Ovary color: Close to 143C.

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

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

Garden performance: Plants of the new *Veronica* have exhibited good garden performance and to be tolerant to rain, wind, temperatures ranging from about -35 C to about 30 C and to be suitable for USDA Hardiness Zones 4 through 9.

15 It is claimed:

20 1. A new and distinct *Veronica* plant named 'Dovercanb' as illustrated and described.

\* \* \* \* \*



FIG. 1

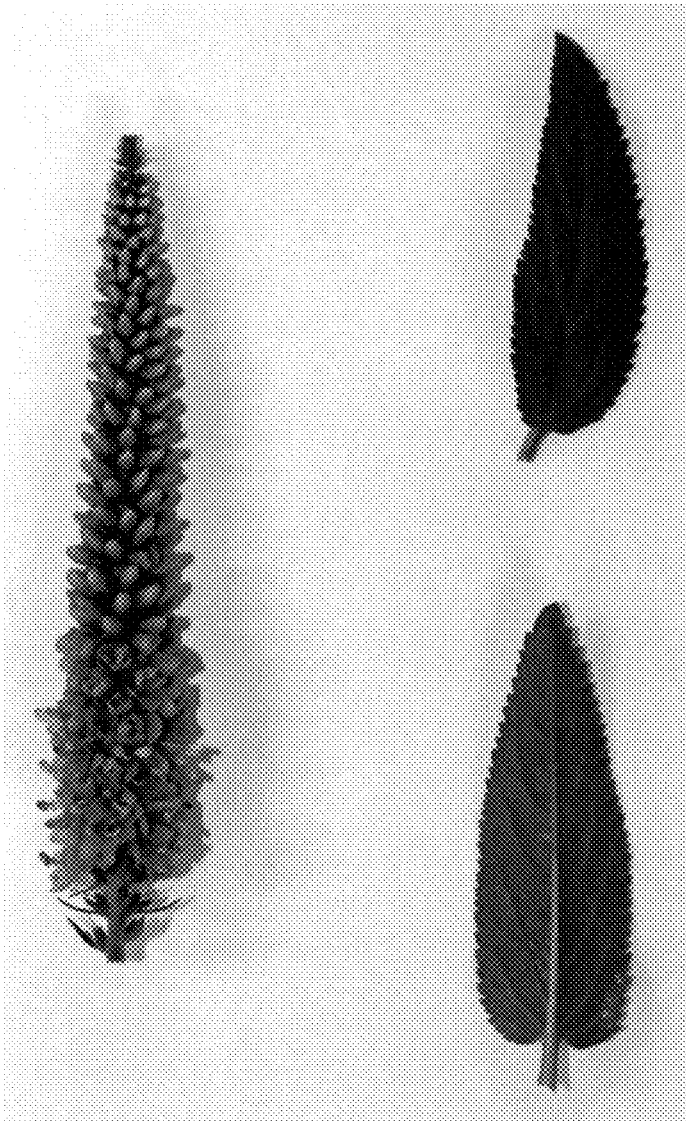


FIG. 2