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**Geibel**

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(54) **PELARGONIUM PLANT NAMED**  
**'PACICEBERG'**

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

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct Zonal Geranium plant named 'Paciceberg', characterized by its upright and uniformly rounded plant habit; moderately vigorous growth habit; freely basal branching habit; dark green-colored leaves; early and freely flowering habit; and large pure white-colored semi-double flowers held above the foliar plane on strong peduncles.

**1 Drawing Sheet**

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Botanical designation: *Pelargonium*×*hortorum*.  
Cultivar denomination: 'PACICEBERG'.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

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

The new Zonal Geranium plant is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Dresden, Germany. The objective of the breeding program is to develop new uniform Zonal Geranium plants with early flowering habit and numerous attractive flowers.

The new Zonal Geranium plant originated from a cross-pollination made by the Inventor in Dresden, Germany during the summer of 2010 of two unnamed proprietary selections of *Pelargonium*×*hortorum*, not patented. The new Zonal Geranium plant was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a flowering plant from within the progeny of the stated cross-pollination in a controlled greenhouse environment in Dresden, Germany during the spring of 2011.

Asexual reproduction of the new Zonal Geranium plant by vegetative terminal cuttings in a controlled greenhouse environment in Dresden, Germany since January, 2012 has shown that the unique features of this new Zonal Geranium plant are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

Plants of the new Zonal Geranium 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.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be the unique characteristics of 'Pacice-

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berg'. These characteristics in combination distinguish 'Paciceberg' as a new and distinct Zonal Geranium plant:

1. Upright and uniformly rounded plant habit.
2. Moderately vigorous growth habit.
3. Freely basal branching habit.
4. Dark green-colored leaves.
5. Early and freely flowering habit.
6. Large pure white-colored semi-double flowers held above the foliar plane on strong peduncles.

Plants of the new Zonal Geranium differ primarily from plants of the parent selections in plant habit as plants of the new Zonal Geranium are more uniform than plants of the parent selections.

Plants of the new Zonal Geranium can be compared to plants of the *Pelargonium*×*hortorum* 'North Star', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 9,971. In side-by-side comparisons, plants of the new Zonal Geranium differ from plants of 'North Star' in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new Zonal Geranium are larger and more vigorous than plants of 'North Star'.
2. Plants of the new Zonal Geranium are denser than plants of 'North Star'.
3. Plants of the new Zonal Geranium have larger leaves with longer petioles than plants of 'North Star'.
4. Plants of the new Zonal Geranium have larger flowers than plants of 'North Star'.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH**

The accompanying colored photograph illustrates the overall appearance of the new Zonal Geranium 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 Zonal Geranium plant.

The photograph comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'Paciceberg' grown in a container.

**DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION**

The aforementioned photograph and following observations, measurements and values describe plants grown in

19-cm containers during the summer in a glass-covered greenhouse in Dresden, Germany and under cultural practices typical of commercial Zonal Geranium production. During the production of the plants, day temperatures averaged 18° C., night temperatures averaged 16° C. and light levels ranged from 15 kilolux to 100 kilolux. Plants were three months old when the photograph was taken and nine months old when the detailed description was taken. In the detailed 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* 'Paciceberg'.

Parentage:

*Female, or seed, parent.*—Unnamed proprietary selection of *Pelargonium x hortorum*, not patented.

*Male or pollen parent.*—Unnamed proprietary selection of *Pelargonium x hortorum*, not patented.

Propagation:

*Type.*—By vegetative terminal cuttings.

*Time to initiate roots, summer.*—About 18 days at temperatures about 20° C.

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

*Time to produce a rooted young plant, summer.*—About four weeks at temperatures about 20° C.

*Time to produce a rooted young plant, winter.*—About four weeks at temperatures about 18° C.

*Root description.*—Fine, fibrous; white in color.

*Rooting habit.*—Freely branching; dense.

Plant description:

*Plant and growth habit.*—Upright and uniformly rounded plant habit; inverted triangle; densely foliated; moderately vigorous growth habit; moderate growth rate; freely basal branching habit with numerous lateral branches developing per plant; pinching is not required.

*Plant height, to top of umbels.*—About 35 cm.

*Plant height, to top of foliar plane.*—About 26 cm.

*Plant width.*—About 50 cm.

*Lateral branches.*—Length: About 13 cm. Diameter: About 1 cm. Internode length: About 1 cm. Texture: Densely pubescent. Color: Close to 145A.

Leaf description:

*Arrangement.*—Alternate and opposite; simple.

*Length.*—About 4.5 cm.

*Width.*—About 7.5 cm.

*Shape.*—Rounded; roughly reniform.

*Apex.*—Rounded.

*Base.*—Cordate, open.

*Margin.*—Crenate.

*Venation pattern.*—Palmate.

*Texture, upper and lower surfaces.*—Pubescent; velvety; leathery.

*Color.*—Developing and fully expanded leaves, upper surface: Close to 137A; venation, close to 137A.

Developing and fully expanded leaves, lower surface: Close to 137C; venation, close to 144A. Zonation pattern: Intensity: Faint. Color: Close to darker than 137A.

*Petioles.*—Length: About 5.5 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent; rough. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 144A.

Flower description:

*Flower arrangement and flowering habit.*—Semi-double flowers arranged in roughly hemispherical umbels arising from apical leaf axils; umbels displayed above the foliar plane on strong peduncles; flowers face upright to outwardly; freely flowering habit; about 19 flowers per umbel with numerous umbels developing per plant.

*Fragrance.*—None detected.

*Flowering season.*—Early flowering habit, plants begin flowering about 75 days after planting; in the garden in Germany, flowering begins in April and continues until frost in the autumn.

*Flower longevity.*—Flowers last about six to ten days on the plant; umbels last about three to four weeks on the plant; flowers persistent.

*Umbel height.*—About 6 cm.

*Umbel diameter.*—About 9.5 cm.

*Flower diameter.*—About 4.8 cm.

*Flower depth (height).*—About 2 cm.

*Flower buds.*—Length: About 9 mm. Diameter: About 5 mm. Shape: Shell-shaped. Color: Close to 144A.

*Petals.*—Quantity per flower: About seven; petals imbricate. Length: About 2.5 cm. Width: About 1.9 cm. Shape: Obovate. Apex: Rounded. Base: Cuneate. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color: When opening and fully opened, upper surface: Close to 155D; venation, close to 155D; color does not change with development. When opening and fully opened, lower surface: Close to 155D; venation, close to 155D; color does not change with development.

*Petaloids.*—Quantity per flower: None to about three at the center of the flower. Length: About 1 cm. Width: About 2 mm. Shape: Irregularly shaped. Apex: Acute to rounded. Base: Cuneate. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth to crinkled, glabrous. Color: When opening and fully opened, upper surface: Close to 155D; venation, close to 155D; color does not change with development. When opening and fully opened, lower surface: Close to 155D; venation, close to 155D; color does not change with development.

*Sepals.*—Quantity per flower: Five arranged in a single whorl. Length: About 1 cm. Width: About 2 mm. Shape: Lanceolate. Apex: Acute. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper surface: Smooth, glabrous. Texture, lower surface: Pubescent. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 144A.

*Peduncles (umbel stems).*—Length: About 17 cm. Diameter: About 4 mm. Strength: Strong. Angle: Mostly upright. Texture: Pubescent. Color: Close to 146B.

*Pedicels (individual flower stems).*—Length: About 2.6 cm. Diameter: About 1 mm. Strength: Moderately strong; flexible. Texture: Pubescent. Color: Close to 144A.

*Reproductive organs.*—Androecium: Stamen quantity per flower: About ten. Anther length: About 2 mm. Anther shape: Tubular. Anther color: Close to 146D. Pollen amount: Abundant. Pollen color: Close to 168A Gynoecium: Pistil quantity per flower: One. Pistil length: About 9 mm. Stigma shape: Five-parted. Stigma color: Close to 155D. Style length: About 3 mm. Style color: Close to 155D. Ovary

color: Close to 147C. Seeds and fruits: Seed and fruit development have not been observed on plants of the new Zonal Geranium.

Disease & pest resistance: Plants of the new Zonal Geranium have not been observed to be resistant to pathogens and pests common to Zonal Geraniums.

Temperature tolerance: Plants of the new Zonal Geranium have been observed to tolerate temperatures ranging from about 1° C. to about 35° C. to 40° C.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct Zonal Geranium plant named 'Paciceberg' as illustrated and described.

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