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Hofmann

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(54) **NEW GUINEA IMPATIENS PLANT NAMED**
'FISNICS LIRED'

(52) **U.S. CL.** **Plt./318**

(58) **Field of Search** **Plt./318**

(50) Latin Name: *Impatiens hawkeri*
Varietal Denomination: **Fisnics Lired**

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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 New Guinea Impatiens plant
named 'Fisnics Lired', characterized by its outwardly
spreading and uniformly mounded plant habit; medium
growth habit; freely branching and freely flowering habit;
dark green-colored foliage; and large, rounded and red-
colored flowers that are positioned above and beyond the
foliage.

(21) Appl. No.: **10/452,985**

(22) Filed: **Jun. 3, 2003**

(51) **Int. Cl.**⁷ **A01H 5/00**

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical classification/cultivar designation: *Impatiens hawkeri* cultivar Fisnics Lired.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present Invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of New Guinea Impatiens plant, botanically known as *Impatiens hawkeri*, and hereinafter referred to by the name 'Fisnics Lired'.

The new Impatiens is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Hilscheid, Germany and Galder, Gran Canaria, Spain. The objective of the breeding program is to develop new medium-sized Impatiens cultivars with an early to medium flowering response and large rounded flowers with attractive coloration.

The new Impatiens originated from a cross-pollination made by the Inventor during the spring of 1999 of the *Impatiens hawkeri* cultivar Fisnics Scarlet Blush, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 13,227, as the female, or seed, parent with the *Impatiens hawkeri* cultivar Danharfuch, not patented, as the male, or pollen, parent. The cultivar Fisnics Lired was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a flowering plant within the progeny of the stated cross-pollination in a controlled environment in Galder, Gran Canaria, Spain in April, 2000.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal cuttings taken in Galder, Gran Canaria, Spain, since July, 2000, has shown that the unique features of this new Impatiens are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

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

1. Outwardly spreading and uniformly mounded plant habit; medium growth habit.
2. Freely branching and freely flowering habit.
3. Dark green-colored foliage.

4. Large, rounded and red-colored flowers that are positioned above and beyond the foliage.

Plants of the new Impatiens can be compared to plants of the female parent, the cultivar Fisnics Scarlet Blush. In side-by-side comparisons conducted by the Inventor in Hilscheid, Germany, plants of the new Impatiens differed from plants of the cultivar Fisnics Scarlet Blush in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new Impatiens were smaller than plants of the cultivar Fisnics Scarlet Blush.
2. Plants of the new Impatiens and the cultivar Fisnics Scarlet Blush differed in leaf coloration.
3. Flowers of plants of the new Impatiens were red in color whereas flowers of plants of the cultivar Fisnics Scarlet Blush were orange red in color.

Plants of the new Impatiens can be compared to plants of the male parent, the cultivar Danharfuch. In side-by-side comparisons conducted by the Inventor in Hilscheid, Germany, plants of the new Impatiens differed from plants of the cultivar Danharfuch in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new Impatiens and the cultivar Danharfuch differed in leaf and leaf venation coloration.
2. Flowers of plants of the new Impatiens were red in color whereas flowers of plants of the cultivar Danharfuch were dark purple pink in color.

Plants of the new Impatiens can also be compared to plants of the cultivar Balcebscapi, disclosed in U.S. Plant patent application Ser. No. 10/359,751. In side-by-side comparisons conducted by the Inventor in Hilscheid, Germany, plants of the new Impatiens differed from plants of the cultivar Balcebscapi in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new Impatiens were taller than plants of the cultivar Balcebscapi.
2. Plants of the new Impatiens had darker green-colored leaves than plants of the cultivar Balcebscapi.
3. Leaves of plants of the new Impatiens had longer petioles than leaves of plants of the cultivar Balcebscapi.
4. Plants of the new Impatiens had larger flowers than plants of the cultivar Balcebscapi.
5. Flowers of plants of the new Impatiens were red in color whereas flowers of plants of the cultivar Balcebscapi were orange red in color.

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 *Impatiens*. The photograph comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'Fisnics Lired' grown in a container.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The cultivar *Fisnics Lired* has 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 photograph, following observations and measurements describe plants grown in Hillscheid, Germany, under commercial production practice in a glass-covered greenhouse. Rooted young plants were planted in 12-cm containers in late February and the aforementioned photograph and following observations and measurements were taken about 11 weeks later in early May. During the production of the plants, day temperatures were about 18 to 22° C. and night temperatures were about 16 to 18° C. 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: *Impatiens hawkeri* cultivar *Fisnics Lired*.

Parentage:

Female parent.—*Impatiens hawkeri* cultivar *Fisnics Scarlet Blush*, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 13,227.

Male parent.—*Impatiens hawkeri* cultivar *Danharfuch*, not patented.

Propagation:

Type cutting.—Terminal tip cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—Summer: About 8 to 10 days at 24° C. Winter: About 12 to 15 days at 21° C.

Time to produce a rooted cutting.—Summer: About 15 days at 24° C. Winter: About 18 to 20 days at 21° C.

Root description.—Numerous, fibrous, and freely branching; 158D to 179D in color.

Plant description:

General appearance.—Outwardly spreading and uniformly mounded plant growth habit; medium growth habit; freely branching habit, dense and bushy appearance; freely flowering. Moderately vigorous.

Crop time.—From a rooted cutting, about 10 weeks are required to produce finished flowering plants in 12-cm containers.

Plant height.—About 19.5 cm.

Plant diameter or spread.—About 40.5 cm.

Lateral branches.—Quantity per plant: About 9. Length: About 15 to 18 cm. Diameter: About 6 to 7 mm. Internode length: About 4.5 to 7 cm. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: 181A.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Primarily in whorls. Length: About 12 to 13 cm. Width: About 4.5 to 5 cm. Shape: Elliptic. Apex: Acuminate. Base:

Acute. Margin: Serrulate with ciliation. Texture: Smooth, very slightly rugose; glabrous. Color: Developing foliage, upper surface: 137A. Developing foliage, lower surface: 138B. Fully expanded foliage, upper surface: 139A. Fully expanded foliage, lower surface: 138B. Venation, upper surface: 145C; towards the base, 181D. Venation, lower surface: 53B to 53C. Petiole: Length: About 2 to 2.5 cm. Diameter: About 3 mm. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color, upper surface: 54C to 182C. Color, lower surface: 53D.

Flower description:

Flower type and flowering habit.—Single, large, rounded, and red-colored flowers. Freely and continuously flowering; usually about 8 to 9 flowers and flower buds per lateral branch. Flowers positioned above and beyond the foliage; flowers typically face parallel to the leaf canopy. Petals not persistent; gynoecium persistent. Flowers not fragrant.

Flower longevity.—Flowers last about 8 to 9 days on the plant.

Flowering season.—Year-round under greenhouse conditions. Plants begin flowering about 9.5 to 10 weeks after planting.

Flower buds.—Length: About 2.4 cm. Diameter: About 1.6 cm. Shape: Ovoid. Color: 45C.

Flower length.—About 7 to 7.2 cm.

Flower width.—About 6.8 to 7 cm.

Flower depth.—About 1 cm.

Petals.—Quantity: Five per flower, imbricate. Length: Banner petals: About 2.8 to 3.2 cm. Lateral and base petals: About 3 to 3.5 cm. Width: Banner petal: About 5 to 5.3 cm. Lateral and base petals: About 3.8 to 4.3 cm. Shape: Cordate. Apex: Moderately lobed. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire. Aspect: Mostly flat. Texture: Smooth; velvety. Color: When opening, upper surface: 45B. When opening, lower surface: 45C. Fully opened, upper surface: 46B; towards the base, close to 74B; basal flare on banner petal, close to 74B. Fully opened, lower surface: 45C.

Spur.—Quantity: One per flower. Length: About 5 cm. Diameter: At apex: About 0.5 mm. At flower: About 2.5 mm. Aspect: Curved. Color: 53B to 53C.

Peduncles.—Length: About 4 to 4.5 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Strength: Strong, flexible. Color: 53D to 182A.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Stamen number: Five fused at anthers, hooded; filaments free. Anther length: About 6 mm. Anther shape: Obovate. Anther color: 43B. Pollen amount: Moderate. Pollen color: 8D. Gynoecium: Pistil quantity: One per flower. Pistil length: About 5 to 6 mm. Stigma color: 12D. Style color: 12D. Ovary: Five-celled. Ovary color: 143A.

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

Disease/pest resistance: Plants of the new *Impatiens* have not been observed to be resistant to pathogens and pests common to *Impatiens*.

Low temperature tolerance: Plants of the new *Impatiens* have been observed to tolerate night temperatures of 5° C. with 10° C. day temperatures.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of New Guinea *Impatiens* plant named 'Fisnics Lired', as illustrated and described.

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