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Koning

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(54) **ZAMIOCULCAS PLANT NAMED ‘King’**

(50) Latin Name: *Zamioculcas zamiifolia*
Varietal Denomination: **King**

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(52) **U.S. Cl.**
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(58) **Field of Classification Search**
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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Zamioculcas* plant named ‘KING’ is disclosed, characterized by fast-growing plants with large leaves placed at almost 90° to the stem. The new variety is a *Zamioculcas*, typically produced as an indoor ornamental plant.

2 Drawing Sheets

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Latin name of the genus and species: *Zamioculcas zamiifolia*.

Variety denomination: ‘KING’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The new *Zamioculcas* ‘King’ is a naturally-occurring branch mutation from an unnamed, unpatented selection of *Zamioculcas zamiifolia*. The new *Zamioculcas* was discovered and selected by the inventor at a nursery in Erica, the Netherlands in the year 2021.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by vegetative cuttings was first performed in May of 2022 in Erica, the Netherlands, and has shown *Zamioculcas* ‘King’ to be stable and true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The cultivar ‘KING’ has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in environment such as temperature, day length, 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 ‘KING’. These characteristics in combination distinguish ‘KING’ as a new and distinct *Zamioculcas* cultivar:

1. Leaves are occur at a novel angle, almost 90° angle to the stem, giving the plant a completely different look than the species itself.
2. Plants of the new cultivar grow much quicker than the species itself.
3. Large leaves.
4. Plants make more shoots per leaf-cutting.

PARENT COMPARISON

Plants of the new cultivar ‘KING’ are similar to the parent, an unpatented, unnamed, *Zamioculcas zamiifolia* in

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most horticultural characteristics. However, the new variety, ‘KING’ differs from the parent in the following characteristics:

1. Leaves of the new variety are placed at almost a 90° angle to the stem, while leaves of the parent variety are placed more upwards, at an angle of 40° to 60°.
2. Leaves of the new variety are larger than leaves of the parent.
3. Leaves of the new variety are long, elongated, with a pointed end. Leaves of the parent are shorter, less elongated, with a more rounded end.
4. Plants of the new variety produce many more shoots than plants of the parent variety.

COMMERCIAL COMPARISON

Zamioculcas zamiifolia ‘KING’ can be compared with the commercial variety *Zamioculcas zamiifolia* ‘HANSOTI13’, U.S. Plant Pat. No. 26,760. The two varieties are similar in most horticultural characteristics; however, the new variety differs in the following:

1. Leaves of the new variety are placed at almost a 90° angle to the stem, while leaves of this comparator are placed more upwards, at an angle of 40° to 60°.
2. Leaves of the new variety are larger than leaves of this comparator.
3. Leaves of the new variety are long, elongated, with a pointed end. Leaves of this comparator are shorter, less elongated, with a more rounded end.
4. Plants of the new variety produce many more shoots than plants of this comparator.

Zamioculcas zamiifolia ‘KING’ can be compared with the commercial variety *Zamioculcas zamiifolia* ‘Dowon’ U.S. Plant Pat. No. 30,035. The two varieties are similar in most horticultural characteristics; however, the new variety differs in the following:

1. Leaf color of the new variety is green to dark green, while leaf color of this comparator is dark purple.

2. Leaves of the new variety are placed at almost a 90° angle to the stem, while leaves of this comparator are placed more upwards, at an angle of 40° to 60°.
3. Leaves of the new variety are larger than leaves of this comparator.
4. Leaves of the new variety are long, elongated, with a pointed end. Leaves of this comparator are shorter, less elongated, with a more rounded end.
5. Plants of the new variety produce many more shoots than plants of this comparator.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying color photographs illustrate the overall appearance of the new *Zamioculcas* 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 colors of the new *Zamioculcas*.

FIG. 1. comprises a side perspective view of a typical plant of 'KING'.

FIG. 2 is a close-up view of typical foliage of 'KING'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photographs and following observations, measurements and values describe plants of the new *Zamioculcas* grown in Erica, the Netherlands, in a greenhouse. During the production of the plants, day temperatures ranged from 20° to 26° C., night temperatures ranged from 20° to 26° C., and light levels under diffuse plastic and 50% shade net.

Plants had been growing in 17 cm containers for about 45 weeks when the photographs and the description were taken. In the detailed description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 2015 Edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Botanical classification: *Zamioculcas zamiifolia* 'KING'.

PROPAGATION

Typical method: Vegetative leaf cuttings.

Time to initiate roots in summer: About 30 days at 24° C.

Time to initiate roots in winter: About 32 days at 24° C.

Time to produce a rooted plant: No young plant production; the leaf-cuttings are placed directly in the end-pot at 22° to 30° C., summer and winter.

Root description:

Structure.—Tubers.

Shape.—Irregular broad oblong-ovoid.

Length.—Average: 7.0 cm.

Diameter.—Average: 5.7 cm.

Texture.—Smooth, glabrous, matte, very fleshy.

Color.—Near RHS Greyed-Green 197D.

PLANT

Plant type: Perennial potted plant.

Plant habit: Compound leaves grow directly from the base, no branches present.

Plant shape: Broad obovate.

Plant height: About 41 cm.

Plant spread: About 54 cm.

Growth rate: Moderate.

Vigor: Moderately high.

Branching: Growing in clumps, compound leaves grow directly from base, no main branches and lateral branches present.

Number of clumps: Average 5 per plant.

Number of leaves per clump: Average 5.

FOLIAGE

Leaf:

Arrangement.—Alternate, compound, growing directly from the base.

Whole leaf shape.—Broad oblong, slightly carinate.

Whole leaf aspect.—Average angle of 15° to vertical.

Whole leaf length.—Average 36.7 cm.

Whole leaf width.—Average 25.8 cm.

Leaflet:

Shape.—Elliptic to narrow elliptic and lanceolate.

Aspect.—Average angle of near 90° to rachis.

Base.—Rounded to short attenuate.

Apex.—Acute with a mucronulate tip.

Margin.—Entire, non-undulate to moderately coarsely undulate.

Length.—14.4 cm.

Width.—4.1 cm.

Texture.—Both sides smooth, glabrous, leathery.

Rugosity.—Both sides non-rugose.

Luster.—Both sides highly glossy.

Pubescence.—None.

Color.—Young foliage upper side: RHS Yellow-Green

144A. Young foliage under side: RHS Yellow-Green

143C and 144B, main vein 147D. Mature foliage

upper side: RHS Green NN137A. Mature foliage

under side: RHS Yellow-Green 143A and 146A.

Venation.—Type: Pinnate. Color: Upper side: RHS

Yellow-Green 143B and 143C. Under side: RHS

Yellow-Green 144A.

Petiole:

Arrangement.—Leaves consisting of a rachis, leaflets connected to rachis with petiolules.

Average length.—Rachis: 35 cm (including geniculum). Petiolules: 0.6 cm.

Average diameter.—Rachis: 1 cm. Petiolules: Slightly flattened, average diameter horizontally: 0.5 cm, average diameter vertically: 0.4 cm.

Color.—Upper Side: Rachis: RHS Yellow-Green 146B, covered with a very thin waxy layer, colored near

Greyed-Green 191B. Petiolules: RHS Green 138A.

Under Side: Rachis: RHS Yellow-Green 146A to

146B, covered with a very thin waxy layer, colored

near Greyed-Green 191B. Petiolules: RHS Green

138A.

Strength.—Rachis and petiolules strong.

Texture.—Rachis and petiolules smooth and glabrous.

Luster.—Rachis matte; petiolules very slightly glossy.

Geniculum:

Length.—Approximately 10.6 cm.

Diameter.—Thickened at the base and slightly elliptic in cross-section, average diameter at widest: 3.1 cm, average diameter at narrowest: 2.7 cm.

Color.—Near RHS Yellow-Green 146A, covered with a very thin waxy layer, colored near Greyed-Green 191B.

Stipule:

Arrangement.—A leafy stipule of papery texture is present at the base of each main stem.

Shape.—Narrow ovate to lanceolate.

Length.—Average 10.8 cm.

Width.—Average 4.1 cm.

Top.—Mucronulate.

Base.—Broad cuneate.

Color.—Near RHS Greyed-Orange 177D, tinged Grey-Brown N199B, N199C and N199D.

OTHER CHARACTERISTICS

Flower: Not observed to date.

Disease resistance: Similar resistance and susceptibility to the normal diseases found in *Zamioculcas* have been observed.

Drought and cold tolerance: USDA hardiness zones 10 to 13. Tolerant from 5° to 40° C. Moderate tolerance to rain and wind.

Fruit/seed production: No fruits/seeds detected to date.

10 What is claimed is:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Zamioculcas* plant named 'KING' as herein illustrated and described.

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FIG. 1



FIG. 2