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Drewlow

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(54) **KALANCHOE PLANT NAMED 'FOREVER MAXI ORANGE GLOW'**

(51) **Int. Cl.⁷** **A01H 5/00**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./340**

(58) **Field of Search** **Plt./340**

(50) Latin Name: *Kalanchoe blossfeldiana*
Varietal Denomination: **Forever Maxi Orange Glow**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

(73) Assignee: **Oglevee Ltd.**, Connellsville, PA (US)

A new and distinct cultivar of *Kalanchoe* plant named 'Forever Maxi Orange Glow', characterized by its upright, dense and uniform plant habit; freely branching growth habit; numerous large dark orange red-colored flowers; dark green-colored leaves; and excellent postproduction longevity.

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **10/377,502**

1 Drawing Sheet

(22) Filed: **Feb. 28, 2003**

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Botanical classification/cultivar designation: *Kalanchoe blossfeldiana* cultivar Forever Maxi Orange Glow.

distinguish 'Forever Maxi Orange Glow' as a new and distinct cultivar:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Upright, uniform and dense plant habit.
2. Freely branching growth habit.
3. Numerous large dark orange red-colored flowers.
4. Dark green-colored leaves.
5. Excellent postproduction longevity.

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of *Kalanchoe* plant, botanically known as *Kalanchoe blossfeldiana*, and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name 'Forever Maxi Orange Glow'.

Plants of the new *Kalanchoe* differ from plants of the female parent selection primarily in plant habit and flower color.

The new *Kalanchoe* is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Ashtabula, Ohio. The objective of the breeding program was to create new freely-branching and freely-flowering *Kalanchoe* cultivars with attractive leaf and flower coloration.

Plants of the new *Kalanchoe* can be compared to plants of the male parent, the cultivar Tico Orange. In side-by-side comparisons conducted by the Inventor in Lompoc, Calif., plants of the new *Kalanchoe* differed from plants of the cultivar Tico Orange in the following characteristics:

The new *Kalanchoe* originated from a cross-pollination made by the Inventor in November, 1996 of a proprietary selection of *Kalanchoe blossfeldiana* identified as code number 93-223-8, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with the *Kalanchoe blossfeldiana* cultivar Tico Orange, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 8,997, as the male, or pollen, parent. The cultivar Forever Maxi Orange Glow was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a flowering plant within the progeny of the stated cross-pollination in a controlled environment in Ashtabula, Ohio.

1. Plants of the new *Kalanchoe* were taller and more upright than plants of the cultivar Tico Orange.
2. Plants of the new *Kalanchoe* had darker green-colored lateral branches than plants of the cultivar Tico Orange.
3. Plants of the new *Kalanchoe* had larger flowers than plants of the cultivar Tico Orange.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Kalanchoe* by terminal vegetative cuttings taken at Ashtabula, Ohio, since October, 1997, has shown that the unique features of this new *Kalanchoe* are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

Plants of the new *Kalanchoe* can also be compared to plants of the *Kalanchoe* cultivar Nevada, not patented. In side-by-side comparisons conducted by the Inventor in Lompoc, Calif., plants of the new *Kalanchoe* differed from plants of the cultivar Nevada in the following characteristics:

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

1. Plants of the new *Kalanchoe* were shorter, but broader than plants of the cultivar Nevada.
2. Plants of the new *Kalanchoe* had darker green-colored lateral branches than plants of the cultivar Nevada.
3. Plants of the new *Kalanchoe* had broader and more rounded leaves than plants of the cultivar Nevada.
4. Plants of the new *Kalanchoe* had larger flowers than plants of the cultivar Nevada.
5. Flower color of plants of the new *Kalanchoe* was slightly darker than flower color of plants of the cultivar Nevada.

The cultivar Forever Maxi Orange Glow has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in environment such as temperature, daylength 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 'Forever Maxi Orange Glow'. These characteristics in combination

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying colored photograph illustrates the overall appearance of the new Kalanchoe, 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 Kalanchoe. The photograph comprises a side perspective view of a typical potted plant of 'Forever Maxi Orange Glow'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

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. Plants used for the aforementioned photograph and for the description were grown during the winter in Lompoc, Calif., in a fiberglass-covered greenhouse. During the production of the plants, day temperatures ranged from 20 to 22° C.; night temperatures ranged from 16 to 18° C.; and light levels ranged from 3,000 to 4,000 footcandles. Rooted cuttings were planted in 15-cm containers and received long day/short night conditions (more than 14 hours of light) for about one week; plants then received natural short day/long night conditions (minimum 14 hours darkness) until flowering. Plants were about 12 weeks from the start of the short day/long night treatment when the photograph and the description were taken.

Botanical classification: *Kalanchoe blossfeldiana* cultivar Forever Maxi Orange Glow.

Parentage:

Female or seed parent.—Proprietary selection of *Kalanchoe blossfeldiana* identified as code number 93-223-8, not patented.

Male, or pollen, parent.—*Kalanchoe blossfeldiana* cultivar Tico Orange, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 8,997.

Propagation:

Type cutting.—Terminal vegetative cuttings.

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

Time to produce a rooted cutting.—Summer: About 21 days at 21° C. Winter: About 23 days at 21° C.

Root description.—Fine, fibrous, freely branching, and grayed white in color.

Plant description:

Form.—Upright, uniform and dense plant habit. Freely flowering with numerous compound cymes. Inverted triangle; mounded crown. Appropriate for 10 to 15-cm containers; vigorous growth habit.

Plant height at flowering.—About 18 to 20 cm.

Plant diameter at flowering.—About 28 to 30 cm.

Branching habit.—Freely branching habit; typically eight to ten lateral branches develop per plant. Pinching (removal of terminal apex) is not required but will enhance lateral branch development.

Lateral branch description.—Length: About 12 to 18 cm. Diameter: About 4 to 5 cm. Internode length: About 1 to 1.5 cm. Aspect: About 35 to 40° from vertical. Strength: Strong. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: 146A.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Opposite, simple. Length: About 10 to 11 cm. Width: About 5 to 6 cm. Shape: Ovate. Apex: Obtuse. Base: Rounded. Mar-

gin: Crenate, shallow lobed. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Coriaceous, glabrous and succulent. Venation pattern: Pinnate. Color: Developing leaves, upper surface: 146A. Developing leaves, lower surface: 146B. Fully expanded leaves, upper surface: 147A. Fully expanded leaves, lower surface: 147B. Venation, upper surface: 147A. Venation, lower surface: 147B. Petiole length: About 1.5 cm. Petiole diameter: About 5 mm. Petiole texture: Smooth, glabrous. Petiole color, upper surface: 147A. Petiole color, lower surface: 147B.

Flower description:

Flower type and habit.—Single flowers arranged in axillary compound dichasial cymes. Freely flowering; more than 30 flowers per lateral branch and more than 250 flowers per plant. Flowers not persistent. Flowers not fragrant. Flowers face mostly upright.

Natural flowering season.—Plants of the new Kalanchoe initiate and develop flowers under short day/long night conditions or during the late autumn/winter/early spring. Flower initiation and development can also be induced under artificial short day/long night conditions (at least 14 hours of darkness).

Time to flower.—Under short day/long night photoinductive conditions, about 9.5 to 10 weeks are required. Actual time to flower is primarily dependent upon temperature and light intensity.

Post-production longevity.—Excellent post-production longevity; plants maintain good foliage and flower substance for at least four weeks under interior environmental conditions. Individual flowers last about two weeks on the plant.

Flower diameter.—About 2 cm.

Flower height.—About 1.5 cm.

Flower buds.—Shape: Oblong. Length: About 1.4 cm. Width: About 4 mm. Color: 146C, towards apex, 34B.

Petals.—Quantity: Four fused at base. Length: About 1 cm. Width: About 9 mm. Shape: Ovate to rounded. Apex: Cuspidate. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Glabrous, smooth, satiny. Color: When opening, upper surface: 33A. When opening, lower surface: 34D. Fully opened, upper surface: 40A; color becoming closer to 33B with development. Fully opened, lower surface: 34C; color becoming closer to 33D with development.

Sepals.—Quantity: Four fused at base. Length: About 7 mm. Width: About 2 mm. Shape: Lanceolate. Apex: Acuminate. Base: Rounded. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Glabrous, smooth. Color: Immature, upper surface: 146C. Immature, lower surface: 146D. Mature, upper and lower surfaces: 146D.

Peduncles.—Length: About 1.5 cm. Diameter: About 4 mm. Angle: About 45° from vertical. Strength: Strong, flexible. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: 146A.

Pedicels.—Length: About 4 mm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Angle: About 45° from vertical. Strength: Strong, flexible. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: 146A.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: Quantity per flower: Eight. Anther shape: Elliptic; flat. Anther size: Less than 1 mm. Anther color: Yellowish green. Pollen amount: Abundant. Pollen color: Close to 12A. Pis-

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tils: Quantity per flower: Four. Style length: About 4 mm. Style color: Light yellow green. Stigma shape: Flat, rounded. Stigma color: Close to 155D. Ovary color: 146C.

Seed.—Length: Less than 1 mm. Diameter: Less than 1 mm. Color: Close to 166C.

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

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Temperature tolerance: Plants of the new Kalanchoe have been observed to tolerate low temperatures of 10° C. and high temperatures of 35° C.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of Kalanchoe plant named 'Forever Maxi Orange Glow', as illustrated and described.

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