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Knosher

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(54) **DOUBLE IMPATIENS PLANT NAMED**
'BALFIECOBL'

(51) **Int. Cl.**⁷ **A01H 5/00**

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(58) **Field of Search** **Plt./317**

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

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of Double Impatiens plant named 'Balfiecobl', characterized by its numerous orange-colored fully double flowers; upright and mounded plant habit; and freely basal-branching habit.

(21) Appl. No.: **09/475,996**

(22) Filed: **Dec. 31, 1999**

1 Drawing Sheet

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of Double Impatiens plant, botanically known as *Impatiens walleriana*, and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name Balfiecobl.

The new Impatiens is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Elburn, Ill. The objective of the breeding program was to develop new Double Impatiens cultivars with freely-branching vigorous growth habit, numerous large fully double flowers, and attractive flower and foliage colors.

The new Impatiens originated from a cross made by the Inventor of the proprietary selection of *Impatiens walleriana* identified as code number 3020-3-1-1 as the male, or pollen parent, with the proprietary selection of *Impatiens walleriana* identified as code number 526-1-1 as the female, or seed parent. The cultivar Balfiecobl was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a flowering plant within the progeny of the stated cross in a controlled environment in Elburn in 1997.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal cuttings taken at Elburn has shown that the unique features of this new Impatiens are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations of asexual reproduction.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

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

1. Numerous orange-colored fully double flowers.
2. Upright and mounded plant habit.
3. Freely basal-branching habit.

The new Impatiens can be compared to the cultivar, Salmon Sunrise, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 9,691. However, in side-by-side comparisons conducted by the Inventor in Elburn, plants of the new Impatiens differ from plants of the cultivar Salmon Sunrise in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new Impatiens have larger flowers than plants of the cultivar Salmon Sunrise.

2. Flowers of plants of the new Impatiens have more petaloids and are more fully double than flowers of plants of the cultivar Salmon Sunrise.

3. Flower color of plants of the new Impatiens is more orange than the flower color of plants of the cultivar Salmon Sunrise.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying photograph illustrates the overall appearance of the new cultivar 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 more accurately describe the actual colors of the new Impatiens. The photograph comprises a top perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'Balfiecobl'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The cultivar Balfiecobl 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 following observations and measurements describe plants about 10 weeks after planting rooted cuttings and grown in 10-cm pots in West Chicago, Ill., under commercial practice in a double-layered acrylic-covered greenhouse with day temperatures about 21° C., night temperatures about 19° C., and light levels about 2,500 to 3,500 footcandles.

In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Botanical classification: *Impatiens walleriana* cultivar Balfiecobl.

Parentage:

Male parent.—Proprietary selection of *Impatiens walleriana* identified as code number 3020-3-1-1, not patented.

Female parent.—Proprietary selection of *Impatiens walleriana* identified as code number 526-1-1, not patented.

Propagation:

Type cutting.—Terminal cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—About 7 days with 18° C.

Time to develop roots.—About 21 days with 18° C.

Rooting habit.—Fibrous, fine, freely branching.

Plant description:

Plant form.—Upright and mounded.

Growth and branching habit.—Vigorous. Freely basal-branching with about six lateral branches at the base, dense and bushy growth. Appropriate for 10 and 12.5-cm containers.

Crop time.—About 5 to 7 weeks are required to produce finished flowering plants from rooted cuttings in a 10-cm container.

Plant height.—About 13.9 cm.

Lateral branches.—Diameter: About 10.3 mm. Internode length: About 3 cm. Color: 147D with streaks of 183C.

Foliage description.—Leaves simple, generally symmetrical, abundant, alternate. Length: About 6.4 cm. Width: About 3.5 cm. Shape: Ovate. Apex: Acuminate. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Crenate with ciliation. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: Fully expanded foliage, upper surface: 137A. Fully expanded foliage, lower surface: 137D with blotches of 183C. Venation, both surfaces: 145C. Petiole: Length: About 2.1 cm. Diameter: About 3 mm. Color: 145C.

Flower description:

Flower type and habit.—Numerous and consistently double orange-colored flowers. Flower buds open similar to a rose in fullness. Freely and continuously flowering. Flowers arise from leaf axils. Usually

about 11 flowers and flower buds per lateral branch and about 66 flowers and flower buds per plant. Flowers positioned above the foliage and typically face outward and upright. Flowers not persistent.

Flowering season.—Year-round under greenhouse conditions. In the garden, flowering is continuous from spring until fall.

Flower size.—Diameter: About 4.9 cm. Depth (height): About 2.9 cm.

Flower buds.—Length: About 1.7 cm. Diameter: About 1.1 cm. Shape: Rounded to ovoid.

Petals.—Quantity/arrangement: About 40 per flower; imbricate. Length: About 2.7 cm. Width: About 2.1 cm. Shape: Rounded to cordate. Apex: Rounded or emarginate. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire. Texture: Smooth, iridescent. Color: When opening, upper surface: 34A. When opening, lower surface: 41C. Fully opened, upper surface: Between 39A and 41B. Fully opened, lower surface: Between 39C and 41D.

Peduncles.—Length: About 1.8 cm. Angle: Upright or outward. Strength: Moderately strong. Color: Between 160A and 146D.

Reproductive organs.—None observed.

Disease resistance: Under commercial conditions, resistance to pathogens common to Double Impatiens has not been observed.

Seed development: Seed production has not been observed.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of Double Impatiens plant named 'Balfiecobl', as illustrated and described.

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