

[54] PHILODENDRON PLANT NAMED RED WINE

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[57] ABSTRACT

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A philodendron plant named Red Wine particularly characterized by its very large and round leaves which are grey brown when immature and a very dark green when mature; compact growth habit and form; close and symmetrical internodes on mature plants, rigid stalks and erect leaves on immature plants, and by its efficient propagation by tissue culture.

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2 Drawing Sheets

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The present invention comprises a new and distinct cultivar of philodendron plant named Red Wine.

7. In immature plants, leaves are relatively erect and carried on rigid stalks thereby making the plant convenient to wrap and ship.

The new cultivar was discovered growing among several hundred random seedlings obtained in approximately September of 1977 from Bamboo Nursery, Opapka, Fla. The plants were approximately 3-4" long with roots, but not rooted in soil, and were indistinguishable one from the other at the time of purchase. The parentage of the new cultivar was not known at the time of acquisition, nor is it now known.

8. The sheathing around the petioles is an attractive, generally deep rose on the exterior to a light rose pink.

9. No flowers to date have been noted.

When the seedlings were grown to mature plants by applicant in Melle, Belgium, in the greenhouses of applicant, the novel characteristics of the new cultivar were readily evident. Asexual reproduction by me of the new cultivar by tissue culture beginning in approximately 1982 in Melle, Belgium, and repeated asexual reproduction thereafter, has demonstrated that Red Wine retains its distinctive characteristics through successive propagation.

10. The edges of the leaves have a clearly visible but very narrow band, less than 1 mm, around the entire edge, with the band appearing to be translucent infused with a brown-rose color.

In the accompanying color photographic drawings, sheet 1 is a top perspective view of a plant of Red Wine, approximately ten (10) months old. Sheet 2 is a close up perspective view of Red Wine, showing more clearly its compact form and foliage colors.

The following characteristics in combination distinguish Red Wine from other philodendron cultivars of this general type.

The following observations and measurements are based on plants of Red Wine twelve (12) months in age grown in Melle, Belgium in greenhouses in accordance with standard commercial practices. Color values are based on The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart (R.H.S.), with the color values being taken in mid-September at approximately 10:00 a.m. under natural light conditions.

FORM CHARACTERISTICS

1. The leaves are very large and round, having generally the shape of the philodendron cultivar named Pilatonense, illustrated on page 220 of Exotica 3, 1970 Edition, Roehrs Company, East Rutherford, N.J. The leaf shape is very different than the more typical elliptical leaf shape prevalent in many philodendrons.

Leaf shape:

Mature.—Generally round, with bottom of leaf being concavely shaped at petiole connector; undulating or wavy in direction of length, particularly at edge.

2. Dark green foliage.

Immature.—Generally ovate, with bottom of leaf at petiole connector being essentially a continuous edge or slightly concave.

3. Propagates very efficiently by tissue culture, a very important characteristic for commercial philodendrons.

Tip.—Cuspidate.

4. Compact growth habit and form, from beginning to maturity, thereby allowing the plant to be sold in 4" and larger pots with the same degree of compactness. It is therefore excellent both for indoor decorating and outdoor planting.

Base.—Concavely shaped relative to rib; auriculate.

5. Close and symmetrical internodes on mature plants, approximately 4-5 cm apart, thereby providing the compact form indicated. The internode spacing is similar to the well-known cultivar Emerald Duke.

Margin.—Smooth, with the edges of the leaves having a very narrow but visible band (less than 1 mm) around the entire edge.

Venation.—Present.

6. Relatively slow grower, reaching approximately 36 inches in diameter and three (3) feet above edge of 25 cm pot in approximately twelve (12) months, starting from a three (3) month old 10 cm plantlet obtained from tissue culture.

Leaf attachment: Stalked.

Leaf arrangement: Alternate.

Petiole: Rigid, extending generally more vertical than horizontal in center of plant; normally grooved except occasionally flat on inner surface.

Internode spacing: About 5-6 cm on mature plant at top.