



APPLICATIONS UNDER EXAMINATION

POLKA DOT PLANT

**POLKA DOT PLANT**  
*(Hypoestes phyllostachya)*

**Proposed denomination:** 'G14158'  
**Trade name:** Hippo Red Imp  
**Application number:** 20-10244  
**Application date:** 2020/05/20  
**Applicant:** GardenGenetics LLC, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, United States of America  
**Agent in Canada:** BioFlora Inc., St. Thomas, Ontario  
**Breeder:** Irene E. Palmer, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, United States of America  
 Michael S. Uchneat, Uchneat, Micheal S., Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, United States of America

**Variety used for comparison:** 'Splash Select Red'

**Summary:** *The plants of 'G14158' are smaller than those of 'Splash Select Red'. The leaf blade of 'G14158' is shorter than that of 'Splash Select Red'. The rugosity of the leaf of 'G14158' ranges from weak to medium whereas that for 'Splash Select Red' is strong. The petiole of 'G14158' is shorter than that of 'Splash Select Red'.*

**Description:**

PLANT: vegetatively propagated, annual type, upright bushy growth habit, medium degree of branching

STEM: dark brown green (RHS 146A) developing to dark brown (RHS 187A) with age, very strong intensity of anthocyanin colouration, absent or very sparse pubescence, medium to thick, ribbed shape

LEAF: opposite arrangement along stem

LEAF BLADE: ovate, acute apex, obtuse to truncate base, entire to very weakly crenate margin, very shallow margin incisions, rugosity ranging from weak to medium, variegation present

LEAF BLADE (UPPER SIDE): dark purple red (RHS 187C) with dark grey green (closest to RHS N189A) in splotchy pattern, sparse pubescence overall with medium density along midrib

LEAF BLADE (LOWER SIDE): dark brown (closest to RHS 200A) with medium brown purple (RHS 185B) in splotchy pattern, absent or very sparse pubescence overall with sparse along midrib

PETIOLE: very strong intensity of anthocyanin colouration

**Origin and Breeding:** 'G14158' originated as a naturally-occurring branch mutation discovered and developed by the breeders in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, USA. The branch mutation was discovered from an unnamed proprietary selection on August 15, 2014. The new variety was selected based on its growth habit, branching habit and leaf colour. Asexual reproduction of 'G14158' was first conducted by vegetative cuttings in August of 2014 in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, USA.

**Tests and Trials:** The comparative trial for 'G14158' was conducted in a polyhouse during the summer of 2022 at Bioflora Inc., in St. Thomas, Ontario. The trial included a total of 20 plants for each of the candidate and reference variety. All plants were grown from rooted cuttings and transplanted into 15 cm pots on April 6, 2022. Most observations and measurements were taken from 10 plants or parts of 10 plants of each variety on July 5, 2022. All colour determinations were made using the 2015 Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) Colour Chart. Mean differences were significant at the 5% confidence probability level based on a paired Student's t-test.

**Comparison table for 'G14158'**

	'G14158'	'Splash Select Red'*
<i>Plant height (cm)</i>		
mean	15.3	22.5
std. deviation	1.27	1.45

*Plant width (cm)*

mean	23.5	29.2
std. deviation	2.21	1.83

*Leaf blade length (cm)*

mean	6.8	8.0
std. deviation	0.33	0.63

*Petiole length (cm)*

mean	2.8	5.0
std. deviation	0.26	0.69

\*reference variety



Polka Dot Plant: 'G14158' (left) with reference variety 'Splash Select Red' (right)



Polka Dot Plant: 'G14158' (left) with reference variety 'Splash Select Red' (right)



Polka Dot Plant: 'G14158' (left) with reference variety 'Splash Select Red' (right)