

A New Bitter Gourd Cultivar ‘Hualien No. 8’¹

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Abstract

The bitter gourd ‘Hualien No. 8’ is a new F₁ hybrid cultivar. This novel cultivar shows traits of high growth vigor, early female flowering, high yield and good quality. The female and male parent of ‘Hualien No. 8’ were gathered from Hualien local area in 1998 and 2001, respectively. The superior hybrid line, WBP81, with characteristics of breeding objectives has been selected in 2009 after the combining ability test of F₁ hybrids. Afterwards, the comparative yield test, and the variety characteristics investigation were conducted. WBP81 was approved with the plant breeders’ rights (PBR) as a new cultivar named ‘Hualien No. 8’ (A02866) on Jan 18 in 2023. ‘Hualien No. 8’ is a monoecious cultivar with flower blooming in the morning. The flowering period starts around 40 days and 45 days after planting in spring and summer, respectively. The seeds of ‘Hualien No. 8’ are brown. The fruits of ‘Hualien No. 8’ are spindle-shaped, dark green and more warts in appearance. The fruit weight is 277 g in average.

Keywords: F₁ hybrids, wild bitter gourd, line, DUS test, female flower.

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