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(54) **CHRYSANTHEMUM PLANT NAMED 'DLFESKO2'**

(50) Latin Name: *Chrysanthemum X morifolium*  
Varietal Denomination: **DLFESKO2**

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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.

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(22) Filed: **Jun. 6, 2022**

**Related U.S. Application Data**

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(51) **Int. Cl.**  
*A01H 5/02* (2018.01)  
*A01H 6/14* (2018.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**  
USPC ..... **Plt./289**  
CPC ..... *A01H 6/1424* (2018.05)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**  
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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Chrysanthemum* plant named 'DLFESKO2', characterized by its upright plant habit; uniform growth habit; vigorous growth habit and rapid growth rate; durable and robust dark green-colored leaves; strong upright flowering stems; decorative-type inflorescences with bright yellow-colored ray florets; relative tolerance to high and low production temperatures; and good postproduction longevity.

**2 Drawing Sheets**

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Botanical designation: *Chrysanthemum X morifolium*.  
Cultivar denomination: 'DLFESKO2'.

**STATEMENT REGARDING PRIOR DISCLOSURES BY INVENTOR/APPLICANT & ASSIGNEE**

The Inventor/Applicant and Assignee assert that no publications nor advertisements relating to sales, offers for sale or public distribution occurred more than one year prior to the effective filing date of this application. Any information about the claimed plant would have been obtained from a direct or indirect disclosure from the Inventor/Applicant and/or the Assignee. Inventor/Applicant and Assignee claim a prior art exception under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)(1) for disclosure and/or sales prior to the filing date but less than one year prior to the effective filing date.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of *Chrysanthemum* plant, botanically known as *Chrysanthemum x morifolium*, typically grown as a cut flower *Chrysanthemum* and hereinafter referred to by the name 'DLFESKO2'.

The new *Chrysanthemum* plant is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Maasdijk, The Netherlands. The objective of the breeding program is to create new cut flower *Chrysanthemum* plants with unique and attractive inflorescences.

The new *Chrysanthemum* plant is a naturally-occurring whole plant mutation of *Chrysanthemum x morifolium* 'DLFESKO3', not patented. The new *Chrysanthemum* plant was discovered and selected as a single flowering plant from

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within a population of plants of 'DLFESKO3' in a controlled greenhouse environment in Maasdijk, The Netherlands in October, 2018.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Chrysanthemum* plant by vegetative terminal cuttings in a controlled greenhouse environment in Maasdijk, The Netherlands since October, 2018 has shown that the unique features of this new *Chrysanthemum* plant 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 'DLFESKO2'. These characteristics in combination distinguish 'DLFESKO2' as a new and distinct *Chrysanthemum* plant:

1. Upright plant habit; uniform growth habit.
2. Vigorous growth habit and rapid growth rate.
3. Durable and robust dark green-colored leaves.
4. Strong upright flowering stems.
5. Decorative-type inflorescences with bright yellow-colored ray florets.
6. Relatively tolerant to high and low production temperatures.
7. Good postproduction longevity.

Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* differ primarily from plants of the mutation parent, 'DLFESKO3', in ray floret color as ray florets of plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* are bright yellow in color whereas ray florets of plants of 'DLFESKO3' are light pink in color.

Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* differ primarily from plants of *Chrysanthemum X morifolium* 'DLFETRW1', disclosed in U.S. Plant patent application Ser. No. 17/833,



initiation and development can be induced under short day/long night conditions (at least 13.5 hours of darkness); uniform flowering habit and short response time, plants exposed to two weeks of long day/short night conditions after planting followed by photoinductive short day/long night conditions flower about 54 days later when grown as a disbud-type.

*Postproduction longevity*.—Good postproduction longevity; after a seven-day storage period, cut flowers will maintain good color and substance for about two weeks in an interior environment; inflorescences persistent.

*Quantity of inflorescences*.—Typically grown as a disbud-type, only the terminal inflorescence is allowed to develop.

*Inflorescence size*.—Diameter: About 11.6 cm. Depth (height): About 4.3 cm. Disc diameter: About 1.2 cm; inconspicuous.

*Receptacles*.—Height: About 8 mm. Diameter: About 1.5 cm. Shape: Broad flattened rhomboidal. Color: Close to 145C.

*Inflorescence buds*.—Height: About 8 mm. Diameter: About 1.4 cm. Shape: Flattened globular. Texture and luster: Moderately pubescent; slightly glossy. Color: Developing involucre bracts, close to 137B and 138A; developing ray florets, close to N144A.

*Ray florets*.—Quantity and arrangement: About 700 arranged in about 15 whorls. Length: About 3.8 cm, varying between 1 cm and 5.5 cm. Width: About 1.3 cm, varying between 0.2 cm and 2.4 cm. Shape: Tubular with flared apices; proximally, 72.5% of the floret fused. Apex: Five-parted, acute. Base: Fused. Margin: Free part, entire; not undulate. Aspect: About 40° from vertical, varying from 5° to 75° from vertical. Texture and luster, upper surface: Smooth, glabrous; slightly velvety; matte. Texture and luster, lower surface: Smooth, glabrous; slightly glossy. Color: When opening, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 157C; towards the apex, close to 150D. Fully opened, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 5C; venation, close to 5C; color does not change with subsequent development.

*Disc florets*.—Quantity and arrangement: About 130 randomly arranged at the center of the receptacle. Length: About 6 mm. Diameter: About 1.5 mm. Shape: Tubular; proximally, 80% of the floret is fused. Apex: Acute. Margin, free-part: Entire. Texture and luster, inner and outer surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; glossy. Color, when opening, inner and outer surfaces: Apex: Close to N144C. Mid-section

and towards the base: Close to 145D. Color, fully opened, inner and outer surfaces: Apex: Close to N144C. Mid-section and towards the base: Close to 145D.

*Involucre bracts*.—Quantity and arrangement: About 140 arranged in about five whorls. Length: About 1 cm. Width: About 4 mm. Shape: Narrowly oblong to narrowly ovate. Apex: Bluntly acute. Base: Cuneate. Margin: Entire. Texture and luster, upper surface: Smooth, glabrous; glossy. Texture and luster, lower surface: Moderately pubescent; slightly glossy. Color, upper surface: Close to 143A and 143B; lateral margins, translucent and close to 157C and apical margins tinged with close to N199A. Color, lower surface: Close to 137A and 137B; lateral margins, translucent and close to 157C and apical margins tinged with close to N199A.

*Peduncles*.—Length: About 1.3 cm. Diameter: About 6 mm. Strength: Strong. Aspect: Upright. Texture and luster: Densely pubescent; slightly glossy. Color: Close to 146B; at the ridges, close to 146B.

*Reproductive organs*.—Androecium: Present on disc florets only. Quantity: About five per floret. Filament length: About 2.5 mm. Filament color: Close to 145D. Anther size: About 0.75 mm by 2 mm. Anther shape: Narrowly oblong. Anther color: Close to 12A. Pollen amount: Scarce to moderate. Pollen color: Close to 13A. Gynoecium: Present on both ray and disc florets. Quantity: One per floret. Pistil length: About 6 mm. Style length: About 5 mm. Style color: Close to 151D. Stigma diameter: About 1 mm. Stigma shape: Cleft, decurrent. Stigma color: Close to 153C. Ovary color: Close to 144C.

*Seeds and fruits*.—To date, seed and fruit development have not been observed on plants of the new *Chrysanthemum*.

*Pathogen & pest resistance*: Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* have been observed to be resistant to *Fusarium* (*Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *chrysanthemi*). To date, plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* have not been observed to be resistant to pests and other pathogens common to *Chrysanthemum* plants grown under commercial conditions.

*Temperature tolerance*: Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* have been observed to tolerate temperatures ranging from about -12° C. to 35° C. and to be suitable for USDA Hardiness Zones 8 to 10.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Chrysanthemum* plant named 'DLFESKO2' as illustrated and described.

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FIG. 1

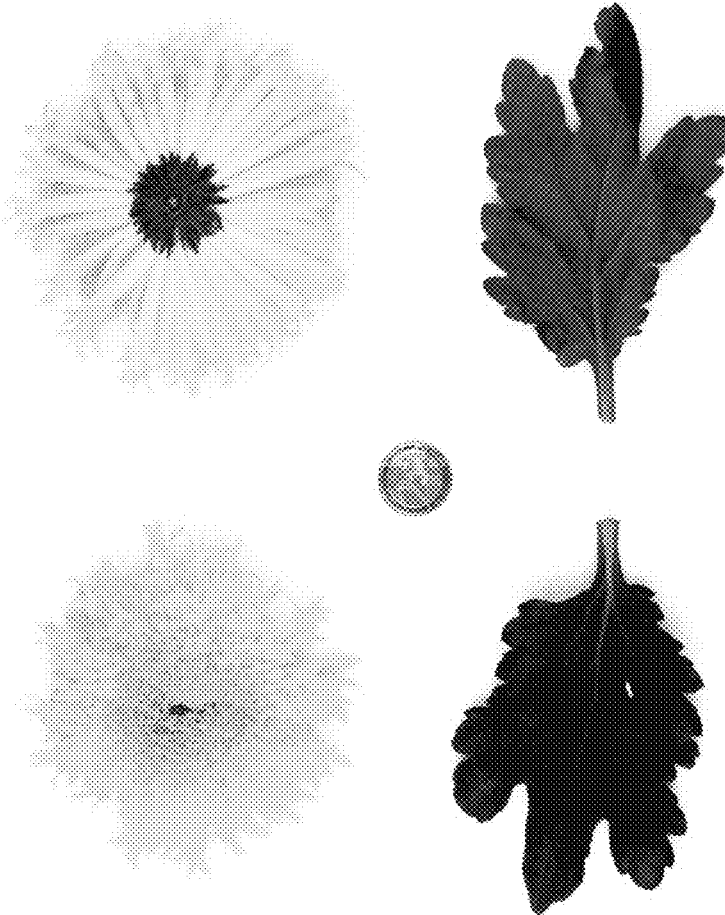


FIG. 2