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Vandenberg

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

(51) **Int. Cl.**
A01H 5/00 (2006.01)

(50) Latin Name: *Chrysanthemum*×*morifolium*
Varietal Denomination: **Yoclaire**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./288**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** **Plt./288**
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

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

A new and distinct cultivar of *Chrysanthemum* plant named
'Yoclaire', characterized by its upright plant habit; dark
green-colored foliage; freely and uniformly flowering habit;
decorative-type inflorescences; attractive white-colored ray
florets; response time about 61 days; strong peduncles; and
good postproduction longevity.

(21) Appl. No.: **11/637,865**

1 Drawing Sheet

(22) Filed: **Dec. 12, 2006**

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Botanical designation: *Chrysanthemum*×*morifolium*.
Cultivar denomination: 'Yoclaire'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

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

The new *Chrysanthemum* is a product of a planned
breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Salinas,
Calif. and Alva, Fla. The objective of the program is to
create and develop new cut *Chrysanthemum* cultivars having
inflorescences with desirable floret coloration and good
inflorescence form and substance.

The new *Chrysanthemum* originated from a cross-
pollination made by the Inventor in January, 2000, in
Salinas, Calif. of the *Chrysanthemum*×*morifolium* cultivar
Albany, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 9,595, as the female,
or seed, parent with a proprietary selection of
Chrysanthemum×*morifolium* identified as code number
1038, not patented, as the male, or pollen, parent. The new
Chrysanthemum was discovered and selected by the Inven-
tor as a single flowering plant within the progeny of the
stated cross-pollination in a controlled environment in Alva,
Fla. in March, 2001. The selection of this plant was based on
its desirable ray floret color and good inflorescence form and
substance.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Chrysanthemum* by
terminal cuttings in a controlled environment in Alva, Fla.
since May, 2001, has shown that the unique features of this
new *Chrysanthemum* are stable and reproduced true to type
in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Plants of the cultivar Yoclaire have not been observed
under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype
may vary somewhat with variations in environment such as
temperature, daylength and light intensity, without,
however, any variance in genotype.

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

1. Upright plant habit.
2. Dark green-colored foliage.
3. Freely and uniformly flowering habit.
4. Decorative-type inflorescences that are about 6.7 cm in
diameter.
5. Attractive white-colored ray florets.
6. Response time about 61 days.
7. Strong peduncles.
8. Good postproduction longevity with inflorescences and
foliage maintaining good substance and color for about
two weeks in an interior environment.

Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* differ from plants of
the female parent, the cultivar Albany, in the following
characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* are taller than plants
of the cultivar Albany.
2. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* have longer
peduncles than plants of the cultivar Albany.
3. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* and the cultivar
Albany differ in ray floret color as plants of the cultivar
Albany have creamy white-colored ray florets.

Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* differ from plants of
the male parent selection in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* have incurved ray
florets whereas plants of the male parent selection do
not have incurved ray florets.
2. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* and the male parent
selection differ in ray floret coloration as plants of the
male parent selection have light pink-colored ray flo-
rets.

Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* can be compared to
plants of the *Chrysanthemum* cultivar Yoshine, disclosed in
U.S. Plant Pat. No. 16,832. In side-by-side comparisons
conducted in Alva, Fla., plants of the new *Chrysanthemum*

differed from plants of the cultivar Yoshine in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* flowered earlier than plants of the cultivar Yoshine.
2. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* had larger inflorescences than plants of the cultivar Yoshine.
3. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* had incurved ray florets whereas plants of the cultivar Yoshine did not have incurved ray florets.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying photographs illustrate the overall appearance of the new *Chrysanthemum*. These photographs show the colors 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 accurately describe the colors of the new *Chrysanthemum*.

The photograph at the top of the sheet comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering stem of 'Yoclaire'.

The photograph at the bottom of the sheet comprises a close-up view of typical inflorescences of 'Yoclaire'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 1995 Edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used. The aforementioned photographs and following observations and measurements describe plants grown in Bogota, Colombia during the summer in a polyethylene-covered greenhouse and under conditions and practices which approximate those generally used in commercial *Chrysanthemum* production. During the production of the cut flowers, day temperatures ranged from 20° C. to 25° C., night temperatures ranged from 4° C. to 9° C. and light levels ranged from 3,000 to 4,000 footcandles. Measurements and numerical values represent averages for typical flowering plants. The photographs and measurements were taken when plants were about two months old from planting.

Botanical classification: *Chrysanthemum*×*morifolium* cultivar Yoclaire.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—*Chrysanthemum*×*morifolium* cultivar Albany, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 9,595.

Male, or pollen, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Chrysanthemum*×*morifolium* identified as code number 1038, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—Terminal vegetative cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—About ten to 14 days with soil temperatures of about 18° C. to 21° C.

Root description.—Fine, fibrous; white in color.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching.

Plant description:

Appearance.—Herbaceous decorative-type cut flower.

Flowering stem description.—Aspect: Erect. Length: About 124 cm. Spray diameter: About 13 cm. Stem diameter: About 5.5 mm. Internode length: About 3 cm. Texture: Pubescent; longitudinally ridged. Color: 147B.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Alternate; simple. Length: About 5.5 cm. Width: About 3.8 cm. Apex: Acuminate. Base: Truncate. Margin: Palmately lobed; serrate; sinuses parallel to slightly divergent. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent; veins prominent on lower surface. Color: Developing foliage, upper surface: 147A. Developing foliage, lower surface: Slightly more gray than 147A. Fully expanded foliage, upper surface: 147A; venation, 147B. Fully expanded foliage, lower surface: Darker than 147B; venation, 147B. Petiole: Length: About 1.5 cm. Diameter: About 3 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent. Color, upper and lower surfaces: 147B.

Inflorescence description:

Appearance.—Decorative-type inflorescence form with incurved elongated oblong-shaped ray florets. Inflorescences borne on terminals, arising from leaf axils. Ray and disc florets develop acropetally on a capitulum. Uniform flowering habit.

Fragrance.—None detected.

Flowering response.—Under natural conditions, plant flower in the autumn/winter in the Northern Hemisphere. At other times of the year, inflorescence initiation and development can be induced under short day/long night conditions (at least 13.5 hours of darkness). Plants exposed to two weeks of long day/short night conditions after planting followed by photoinductive short day/long night conditions flower about 61 days later.

Postproduction longevity.—In an interior environment, inflorescences and foliage will maintain good color and substance for about two weeks in an interior environment.

Quantity of inflorescences.—Freely flowering habit, about six inflorescences per stem develop.

Inflorescence size.—Diameter: About 6.7 cm. Depth (height): About 3.2 cm. Disc diameter: About 4 mm. Receptacle diameter: About 2.5 cm. Receptacle height: About 9 mm.

Inflorescence buds.—Shape: Ovoid. Height: About 1.6 cm. Diameter: About 1.5 cm. Color: 157B.

Ray florets.—Shape: Elongated oblong to ligulate. Surface: Concave. Aspect: Incurved. Length: About 4 cm. Width: About 9 mm. Apex: Emarginate. Base: Fused. Texture: Smooth, glabrous; velvety; longitudinally ridged. Number of ray florets per inflorescence: About 205 arranged in about 16 whorls. Color: When opening, upper and lower surfaces: 155D. Fully opened, upper surface: More white than 155D. Fully opened, lower surface: 155D.

Disc florets.—Shape: Tubular, elongated. Length: About 3 mm. Diameter: About 1 mm. Number of disc florets per inflorescence: About 20; inconspicuous. Color: Apex: Close to 7B. Mid-section: Close to 7D. Base: Close to 157A.

Phyllaries.—Quantity per inflorescence/arrangement: About 28 arranged in about four whorls. Length: About 8 mm. Width: About 3 mm. Shape: Elliptic. Apex: Acute. Base: Truncate. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper surface: Smooth, glabrous. Texture, lower surface: Pubescent. Color, upper surface: Close to 146A. Color, lower surface: Close to 147A.

Peduncles.—Length: About 18.6 cm. Diameter: About 2.5 mm. Angle: About 30° from vertical. Strength: Strong. Texture: Pubescent; longitudinally ridged. Color: Close to 148A.

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Reproductive organs.—Androecium: None observed.
Gynoecium: Pistil length: About 6 mm. Stigma shape: Bi-parted. Stigma color: Close to 13A. Style length: About 4 mm. Style color: Close to 145D. Ovary color: Close to 157A.

Seed/fruit.—Seed and fruit production has not been observed.

Disease/pest resistance: Resistance to pathogens and pests common to *Chrysanthemums* has not been observed on plants grown under commercial conditions.

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Temperature tolerance: Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* have demonstrated good tolerance to low temperatures of about 4° C. and high temperatures of about 35° C.

It is claimed:

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

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