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Nir

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(54) **CHAMELAUCIUM PLANT NAMED ‘GIL’**

(50) Latin Name: *Chamelaucium uncinatum*
Varietal Denomination: **GIL**

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(52) **U.S. Cl.**
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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**
A new and distinct *Chamelaucium* cultivar named ‘GIL’ is disclosed, characterized by large, white flowers and flower buds colored near Red 45A. Flower production begins in winter in Israel. Petals are distinctively semi-erect in attitude. The new variety is a *Chamelaucium*, normally producing cut flower stems, or as a garden or container plant.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Latin name of the genus and species: *Chamelaucium uncinatum*.
Variety denomination: ‘GIL’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The new *Chamelaucium* cultivar is the product of a planned breeding program conducted by the inventor, Nitzan Nir, in Kfar Hess, Israel. The objective of the breeding program was to produce new *Chamelaucium* varieties for ornamental commercial applications. The new variety was selected as a seedling from the breeding program at a commercial nursery in Kfar Hess, Israel.

The crossing resulting in this new variety was made in February of 2017. The seed parent is the unpatented variety referred to as *Chamelaucium uncinatum* ‘Nir’. The pollen parent is the unpatented variety referred to as *Chamelaucium uncinatum* ‘Guy’. The new variety was discovered in February 2020 by the inventor in a group of seedlings resulting from previously mentioned crossing, in a commercial nursery in Kfar Hess, Israel.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar has been performed by terminal vegetative cuttings. This was first performed in May of 2020 at a commercial nursery in Kfar Hess, Israel in and has shown that the unique features of this cultivar are stable and reproduced true to type in at least 4 successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The cultivar ‘GIL’ has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in environment such as temperature, day length, 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 ‘GIL’. These characteristics in combination distinguish ‘GIL’ as a new and distinct *Chamelaucium* cultivar:

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1. Winter blooming.
2. Large flower size.
3. White flower color.
4. Semi-erect attitude of petals.
5. Large bud size.
6. Flower buds flushed Red 45A.

PARENT COMPARISON

Plants of the new cultivar ‘GIL’ are similar to plants of the seed parent in most horticultural characteristics, however, plants of the new cultivar ‘GIL’ differ in the following:

1. Bud shape of the new variety is flattish, while the bud shape of the seed parent is round.
2. Bud size of the new variety is larger than the bud size of the seed parent.
3. Flower size of the new variety is larger than the flower size of the seed parent.
4. Flower color of the new variety is white, while the flower color of the seed parent is pink.
5. Petals of the new variety have a semi-erect attitude, while petals of the seed parent have a horizontal attitude.

Plants of the new cultivar ‘GIL’ are similar to plants of the pollen parent in most horticultural characteristics, however, plants of the new cultivar ‘GIL’ differ in the following:

1. The new variety begins blooming later than the pollen parent.

COMMERCIAL COMPARISON

Plants of the new cultivar ‘GIL’ are comparable to the variety *Chamelaucium uncinatum* ‘Adi’, unpatented. The two *Chamelaucium* varieties are similar in most horticultural characteristics; however, the new variety ‘GIL’ differs in the following:

1. Flower color of the new variety is white, while the flower color of this comparator is purple.

Plants of the new cultivar ‘GIL’ are comparable to the variety *Chamelaucium uncinatum* ‘Early Maya’, unpatented. The two *Chamelaucium* varieties are similar in

most horticultural characteristics; however, the new variety 'GIL' differs in the following:

1. The new variety begins blooming later than this comparator.
2. Flower size of the new variety is larger than the flower size of this comparator.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying photograph illustrates a plant of the new variety at approximately 1 to 2 years of age. The photograph was taken using conventional techniques and although colors may appear different from actual colors due to light reflectance it is as accurate as possible by conventional photographic techniques.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Mini Colour Chart 2005 except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used. The following observations and measurements describe 'GIL' plants grown outdoors in Kfar Hess, Israel. The growing temperature ranged from 15° C. to 35° C. during the day and from -2° C. to 35° C. during the night. General light conditions are bright, normal sunlight. Measurements and numerical values represent averages of typical plant types.

Botanical classification: *Chamaelaucium uncinatum* 'GIL'.
Age of plant described: About 2 months old from a rooted cutting.
Typical flowering stems harvested per plant: 120 to 150 during the course of the season.
Vase life of flowers: Two weeks.

PROPAGATION

Time to produce a rooted plantlet: 30 to 60 days at approximately 24° C.
Root description: Split root.

PLANT

Growth habit: Upright.
Height: 150 cm.
Plant spread: 100 cm.
Branching characteristics:
Length of primary lateral branches: 60 cm to 100 cm on average.
Diameter of lateral branches: 0.1 cm to 0.15 cm. (branches from the top 30 cm. of the primary lateral branch).
Quantity of primary lateral branches: 120 to 150.
Characteristics of primary lateral branches:
Diameter.—0.3 to 0.35 cm, measured at 40 cm from top.
Color.—Near RHS Greyed-Green 197B.
Texture.—Smooth.
Strength.—Low flexibility.
Internode length: Range from 2 cm to 12.5 cm, section of top 30 cm.

FOLIAGE

Leaf:
Arrangement.—Opposite.
Quantity.—Approximately 10 leaves, in the 5-10 cm section from the top of the branch.

Average length.—1.3 cm.

Average width.—1 mm.

Shape of blade.—Needle.

Apex.—Acute.

Base.—Truncate.

Margin.—Entire.

Texture.—Smooth all surfaces.

Pubescence.—None.

Aspect.—Straight.

Color.—Young foliage, upper side: RHS Green 137A.

Young foliage, under side: RHS Green 137A. Mature

foliage, upper side: RHS Green 137A. Mature foliage,

under side: RHS Green 137A.

Venation.—Indistinguishable from foliage.

Petiole.—Not present.

FLOWER

Natural flowering season: Winter.

Days to flowering from rooted cutting: Photoperiodic conditions. No juvenility.

Inflorescence type: Panicle.

Individual flower type: 5 petals, about 1.9 cm in diameter.

Rate of flower opening: About 45 to 60 days from bud to fully opened flower.

Persistent or self-cleaning: Self-cleaning.

Lastingness: About 2 weeks in a vase.

Bud:

Shape.—Flattish.

Length.—0.7 cm.

Diameter.—0.5 to 0.6 cm.

Color.—Near White 155C with heavy apical flush near RHS Red 45A.

Inflorescence size:

Diameter.—10 to 20 cm on average.

Length.—15 to 30 cm on average.

Flower size:

Diameter.—1.9 cm.

Length.—1.2 cm.

Corolla:

Petals.—Arrangement: Rotate hypanthium. Length: 0.9 cm. Diameter: 1 cm. Quantity: 5. Texture: Smooth. Apex: Round. Base: Fused.

Color.—When opening: Upper surface: RHS White 155A. Lower surface: RHS White 155A. Fully opened: Upper surface: RHS White 155C. Lower surface: RHS White 155C. Aging: Upper surface: RHS White 155C. Lower surface: RHS White 155C.

Interior corolla/tube:

Diameter.—1 cm.

Length.—0.2 cm.

Color.—When opening: Upper surface: RHS Yellow-Green 144A. Lower surface: RHS Yellow-Green 144A. Fully opened: Upper surface: RHS Green-Yellow 152B. Lower surface: RHS Green-Yellow 153C. Aging: Upper surface: RHS Grey-Brown 166A. Lower surface: RHS Grey-Brown 166A.

Calyx/sepals:

Quantity per flower.—5 sepals.

Shape.—Bow.

Length.—0.15 cm.

Width.—0.4 cm.

Margin.—Smooth.

Texture.—Smooth.
Color.—RHS White 155A.
 Peduncle: Peduncle consists of the plant stem.
 Pedicel:
 Length.—0.5 to 1.8 cm.
 Diameter.—0.1 cm.
 Color.—RHS Yellow-Green 146C.
 Texture.—Smooth.
 Fragrance: None.

REPRODUCTIVE ORGANS

Stamens:
 Number.—10.
 Filament length.—2 mm.
 Filament color.—Near White 155A.
 Anthers:
 Shape.—Round.
 Length.—1 mm.
 Width.—0.3 mm.
 Color.—RHS Orange 22A.

Pollen: Not observed.
 Pistil:
 Number.—1.
 Length.—0.8 cm.
 5 *Style length*.—0.7 cm.
 Style color.—RHS White 157B.
 Stigma.—Shape: Round. Color: RHS Yellow 4D.

OTHER CHARACTERISTICS

10 Seeds and fruits: Single flower produces one fruit. When the
 fruit is fertile, it will produce 1 seed.
 Disease/pest resistance: Neither resistance nor susceptibility
 15 to the normal diseases and pests of *Chamaelucium* have
 been observed to date.
 Temperature tolerance: From -2° C. to 35° C.
 Drought tolerance: Very good tolerance for drought.
 What is claimed is:
 20 1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Chamaelucium* plant
 named 'GIL' as herein illustrated and described.

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