



US00PP30366P2

(12) **United States Plant Patent**
Pieters

(10) **Patent No.:** **US PP30,366 P2**

(45) **Date of Patent:** **Apr. 9, 2019**

(54) **CHRYSANTHEMUM PLANT NAMED**
‘PERONI ORANGE’

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

(71) Applicant: **Elien Sofie Pieters**, Oostnieuwkerke
(BE)

(72) Inventor: **Elien Sofie Pieters**, Oostnieuwkerke
(BE)

(73) Assignee: **Paraty B.V.B.A.**, Oostnieuwkerke (BE)

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

(21) Appl. No.: **15/732,909**

(22) Filed: **Jan. 13, 2018**

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

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
USPC **Plt./290**
CPC **A01H 5/02** (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
USPC **Plt./290**
CPC **A01H 5/0255**
See application file for complete search history.

Primary Examiner — Kent L Bell

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — C. A. Whealy

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Chrysanthemum* plant named
‘PERONI ORANGE’, characterized by its upright, out-
wardly spreading and uniformly rounded plant habit; vig-
orous growth habit; freely branching habit; dense and full
plant habit; dark green-colored leaves; uniform and freely
flowering habit; long flowering period; and decorative-type
inflorescences with greyed orange-colored ray florets.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical designation: *Chrysanthemum X morifolium*.
Cultivar denomination: ‘PERONI ORANGE’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of *Chrysanthemum* plant, botanically known as *Chrysanthe-*
mum X morifolium and hereinafter referred to by the name
‘PERONI ORANGE’.

The new *Chrysanthemum* plant is a product of a planned
breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Oostnieu-
wkerke, Belgium. The objective of the breeding program is
to create new uniformly mounding and freely flowering
Chrysanthemum plants with unique and attractive ray floret
coloration.

The new *Chrysanthemum* plant originated from a cross-
pollination made by the Inventor in September, 2012 in
Oostnieuwkerke, Belgium of a proprietary selection of
Chrysanthemum X morifolium identified as code number
GE09 1837, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with
Chrysanthemum X morifolium ‘Sinelli Yellow’, disclosed in
U.S. Plant Pat. No. 23,763, as the male, or pollen, parent.
The new *Chrysanthemum* plant was discovered and selected
by the Inventor as a single flowering plant from within the
progeny of the stated cross-pollination in a controlled green-
house environment in Oostnieuwkerke, Belgium in Septem-
ber, 2013.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Chrysanthemum* plant
by vegetative terminal cuttings was first conducted in a
controlled greenhouse environment in Oostnieuwkerke, Bel-
gium in January, 2014. Asexual reproduction by vegetative
terminal cuttings has shown that the unique features of this
new *Chrysanthemum* plant are stable and reproduced true to
type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and
are determined to be the unique characteristics of ‘PERONI

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ORANGE’. These characteristics in combination distinguish
‘PERONI ORANGE’ as a new and distinct *Chrysanthemum*
plant:

1. Upright, outwardly spreading and uniformly rounded
plant habit; vigorous growth habit.
2. Freely branching habit; dense and full plant habit.
3. Dark green-colored leaves.
4. Uniform and freely flowering habit.
5. Long flowering period.
6. Decorative-type inflorescences with greyed orange-
colored ray florets.

Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* can be compared to
plants of the female parent selection. Plants of the new
Chrysanthemum differ primarily from plants of the female
parent selection in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* are more flexible
than plants of the female parent selection.
2. Leaves of plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* are darker
green in color than leaves of plants of the female parent
selection.
3. Ray florets of plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* are
greyed orange in color whereas ray florets of plants of
the female parent selection are gold in color.

Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* can be compared to
plants of the male parent, ‘Sinelli Yellow’. Plants of the new
Chrysanthemum differ primarily from plants of ‘Sinelli
Yellow’ in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* are more vigorous
and larger than plants of ‘Sinelli Yellow’.
2. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* are more flexible
than plants of ‘Sinelli Yellow’.
3. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* flower about three
weeks later than plants of ‘Sinelli Yellow’.
4. Ray florets of plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* are
greyed orange in color whereas ray florets of plants of
‘Sinelli Yellow’ are yellow in color.

Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* can be compared to plants of the *Chrysanthemum* X *morifolium* 'Veritas Orange', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 25,254. In side-by-side comparisons, plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* differ primarily from plants of 'Veritas Orange' in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* are not as vigorous as plants of 'Veritas Orange'.
2. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* flower about three weeks later than plants of 'Veritas Orange'.
3. Ray florets of plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* are greyed orange in color whereas ray florets of plants of 'Veritas Orange' are dark orange in color.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying photograph illustrates the overall appearance of the new *Chrysanthemum* plant showing the colors as true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored reproductions of this type.

The photograph comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'PERONI ORANGE' grown in a container.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photograph and following observations and measurements describe plants grown in 19-cm containers in an outdoor nursery in Oostnieuwkerke, Belgium during the summer and autumn and under cultural practices generally used in commercial *Chrysanthemum* production. During the production of the plants, day temperatures ranged from 20° C. to 25° C. and night temperatures ranged from 12° C. to 18° C. Plants were 20 weeks old when the photograph and detailed description were taken. In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 2005 Edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Botanical classification: *Chrysanthemum* X *morifolium* 'PERONI ORANGE'.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Chrysanthemum* X *morifolium* identified as code number GE09 1837, not patented.

Male, or pollen, parent.—*Chrysanthemum* X *morifolium* 'Sinelli Yellow', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 23,763.

Propagation:

Type cutting.—By vegetative tip cuttings.

Time to initiate roots, summer.—About two weeks at temperatures about 20° C.

Time to initiate roots, winter.—About 20 days at temperatures about 20° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, summer.—About 30 days at temperatures about 20° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, winter.—About 40 days at temperatures about 20° C.

Root description.—Fine, fibrous; typically light brown in color, actual color of the roots is dependent on substrate composition, water quality, fertilizer type and formulation, substrate temperature and physiological age of roots.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching; medium density.

Plant description:

Appearance.—Perennial decorative-type *Chrysanthemum*; stems upright and outwardly spreading giving a uniformly rounded appearance to the plant; plants roughly spherical; very freely branching habit, about 25 to 30 primary lateral branches develop each primary lateral branch with multiple secondary branches; pinching enhances lateral branch development; dense and full plant habit; vigorous growth habit; plants flexible, not brittle.

Plant height.—About 50 cm.

Plant width.—About 60 cm.

Lateral branches.—Length: About 30 cm to 35 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm to 3 mm. Internode length: About 2 cm. Strength: Strong, flexible. Texture: Pubescent, fine; longitudinally ridged. Color: Close to 136A.

Leaves.—Arrangement: Alternate, simple. Length: About 3.5 cm to 5 cm. Width: About 2.5 cm to 3 cm. Apex: Rounded to cuspidate. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Palmately lobed and serrate, sinuses between lateral lobes divergent to parallel. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Slightly pubescent. Venation: Palmately reticulate. Color: Developing leaves, upper surface: Close to 137A. Developing leaves, lower surface: Close to 137C. Fully expanded leaves, upper surface: Close to 136A; venation, close to 148C. Fully expanded leaves, lower surface: Close to 137C; venation, close to 147B to 147C. Petioles: Length: About 1 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Slightly pubescent; rough. Color, upper surface: Close to 136A. Color, lower surface: Close to 137C. Stipules: Length: About 1 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Slightly pubescent; rough. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 137A.

Inflorescence description:

Appearance.—Decorative-type inflorescence form; inflorescences borne on terminals above foliar plane; disc and ray florets arranged acropetally on a capitulum.

Fragrance.—Slightly fragrant, pungent.

Flowering response.—Under natural season conditions, plants flower in early September in Belgium; flowering response time, about 35 days.

Postproduction longevity.—Inflorescences maintain good color and substance for about 45 days in an outdoor nursery; inflorescences persistent.

Quantity of inflorescences.—About 30 inflorescences develop per lateral branch.

Inflorescence buds.—Height: About 6 mm. Diameter: About 8 mm. Shape: Globular. Color: Close to 172A.

Inflorescence diameter.—About 5 cm.

Inflorescence depth (height).—About 3.5 cm.

Disc diameter.—About 5 mm; inconspicuous.

Receptacle diameter.—About 3 mm.

Receptacle height.—About 2.5 mm to 3 mm.

Receptacle color.—Close to 144B.

Ray florets.—Length: About 3.5 cm to 5 cm. Width: About 5 mm. Shape: Oval. Apex: Rounded. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire. Aspect: Mostly flat. Texture and luster, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; matte. Number of ray florets per inflorescence: About 150 to 200 arranged in about ten whorls. Color: When opening, upper surface: Close to 172A. When opening, lower surface: Close to

167B. Fully opened, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 167B; color does not fade with development.

Disc florets.—Length: About 3 mm. Diameter: About 0.5 mm to 1 mm. Shape: Tubular; apices acute. Number of disc florets per inflorescence: About 50 5 massed at the center of the inflorescence. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color, immature: Close to 145A. Color, mature: Close to 12A.

Phyllaries.—Number of phyllaries per inflorescence: About 25 arranged in two or three whorls. Length: 10 About 4 mm to 6 mm. Width: About 2 mm to 3 mm. Shape: Ovate. Apex: Rounded. Base: Rounded to truncate. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, upper surface: Close to 137A. Color, lower surface: Close to 15 N137B.

Peduncles.—Length, terminal peduncle: About 6 cm. Length, fourth peduncle: About 6 cm. Length, sev-

enth peduncle: About 6 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Angle: About 30° from vertical. Strength: Strong. Texture: Slightly pubescent. Color: Close to 136A.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Not observed. Gynoecium: Not observed.

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

Garden performance: Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* have demonstrated excellent garden performance and will tolerate temperatures ranging from about 0° C. to about 45° C.

It is claimed:

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

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