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CHRYSANTHEMUM PLANT

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3,215

CHRYSANTHEMUM PLANT

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1 Claim

The present invention comprises a new and distinct cultivar of chrysanthemum plant which is a seedling of #6591-2 × #62966-1. Both parents are unnamed and unpatented and are identified for breeding purposes in this manner.

The new cultivar is similar in many respects to the commercially well-known, unpatented cultivar Neptune, one of the industry standards, having the same characteristics as Neptune of:

- (1) Pure white flower color.
- (2) Decorative type form.
- (3) Uniform flowering response at high and low temperatures.

The new cultivar is distinguished from Neptune by the following characteristics:

- (1) One inch to one and one half inches larger flowers.
- (2) Petals approximately 3/4" wider.
- (3) Less upright habit.
- (4) Non-pinking of flower with a cool finish of 60° F. or less.
- (5) A lighter colored foliage.
- (6) Longer leaves by 1".

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(7) A flatter petal during high light, high temperature periods, with no longitudinal roll as the flower matures.

(8) Greater spread.

(9) One week later response.

(10) Three inches more vigor when given the same long day treatment.

The new cultivar was selected from the progeny of the designated cross and when asexually reproduced by cuttings at Barberton, Ohio, has been found to retain its distinctive characteristics through successive propagations.

The new cultivar when grown in the vicinity of Barberton, Ohio, has a response period of approximately 10 weeks, and the following detailed description is based on observations made of the new cultivar in a greenhouse in Barberton, Ohio. The response time, blooming period, total vigor, and color may vary significantly with varying environmental conditions such as temperature, day length, and light intensity. Suggested flowering in the northern and western United States is from January through December, but best from mid-March through November. In southern states, year round (January through December), and in Florida, December through April.

The accompanying drawing shows the unique characteristics of the new cultivar, the color being as nearly true as possible with color illustrations of this type.

In the description which follows, color references are to the Munsell Color Book, 1963 edition, and comparisons have been made with the comparison cultivar Neptune.

BOTANICAL CLASSIFICATION

Chrysanthemum morifolium

	Mountain Snow	Neptune
Bloom:		
Size	5"	4"
Fully expanded	6 1/2"	5"
Borne	Terminal on disbudbed branches	Terminal on disbudbed branches.
Stems	Strong	Strong.
Form	Decorative	Decorative.
Permanence	10-12 days	10-12 days.
Color:		
Center of flower	Light green, 2.5GY9/6 to ivory white, 7.5Y9/2	Streaked pink on white, 2.5RP5/12 with a cool finish of 60° F. or less to white, 7.5Y9/2 at finishing temperatures above this level.
Base of petals	Light green, 2.5GY9/6	White, N9.5/.
Inside of petals	White N9.5/	Do.
Reverse of petals	do.	Do.
Tonality from a distance	White	White.
Discoloration	do.	White streaked pink, 2.5RP5/12 on N9.5/.
Petals:		
Texture	Smooth	Smooth.
Appearance and form	Open at base broadening quickly to 1/8" wide very broad shallow keel.	Slightly open at base. Keeled at mid-point tapering to a point. Several ridges on bottom. 5/16" wide.
Arrangement	Composite, whorled on a single receptacle	Composite, whorled on a single receptacle.
Persistence	Resist shatter	Resist shatter.
Fragrance	Typical chrysanthemum	Typical chrysanthemum.
Reproductive organs:		
Stamen, anthers	None to 30-40	None to 25-30.
Pollen	None to very scant.	None to scant.
Arrangement	Clustered in center of flower, if present.	Clustered in center of flower, if present.
Styles	Present both ray and disc florets	Present both ray and disc florets.
Length	Short.	Short.
Ovaries	At the base of petal attached to receptacle	At the base of petal attached to receptacle.
Plant:		
Form	Herbaceous	Herbaceous.
Growth	Semi-upright	Upright.
Height	Approximately 15" when grown 10 week medium tall treatment as defined in the timetables of Yoder Brothers, Inc.	Approximately 12" when grown 9 week short treatment as defined in the timetables of Yoder Brothers, Inc.
Spread	8 1/2" as a pinched plant	5 1/2" as a pinched plant.
Foliage:		
Top side	Green, 7.5GY3/4	Very dark green, 5GY2/4.
Size	5" long, 3" wide	4" long, 2 1/2" wide.
Quantity	Numerous	Numerous.
Shape	Spatulate lobed	Spatulate lobed.
Texture	Smooth	Smooth.
Ribs and veins	Slight prominence	Prominent.
Edge	Slightly indented	Indented.
Serration	Very slight	Moderate.
Underside	Light green, 7.5GY5/4	Light green, 10GY5/4.
Stipules	Very prominent	Prominent.

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We claim:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of chrysanthemum characterized particularly as to uniqueness when compared to the cultivar Neptune, by its 1"-1½" larger flowers, petals approximately ¾" wider, less upright growth habit with about 3" additional spread when comparing single plants, non-pinking of the flower with cool finish of 60° F. or less, lighter foliage, approximately 1" longer leaves, flatter petal during high light, high tempera-

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ture periods, with no longitudinal roll as the flower matures providing a less aged appearance, greater spread, one week later response, and its 3" more vigor when both grown under the same long day treatment.

No references cited.

ROBERT E. BAGWILL, Primary Examiner