

[54] CARNATION PLANT NAMED WINSOME  
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[73] Assignee: Yoder Brothers, Inc., Barberton,  
Ohio  
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[57] ABSTRACT

A new and distinct cultivar named Winsome, particu-  
larly described as to uniqueness by the combined char-  
acteristics of miniature or spray type, commerical dou-  
ble form, 6.0 to 8.0 cm. flower diameter, lavender (red-  
purple) color, 16 to 18 weeks for response, 10 to 12  
flowers and buds per stem, 5 to 8 cm. peduncle length,  
rigid peduncle strength, 86 to 90 cm. plant height, and  
strong, spice fragrance.

2 Drawing Figures

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The present invention comprises a new and distinct  
cultivar of *Dianthus caryophyllus*, Linn. named Win-  
some.

Winsome is the product of a planned breeding pro-  
gram which had the objective of creating new spray  
type carnation cultivars in a wide color range with fast  
flowering response, unrestricted breaking action, vigor-  
ous growth, strong, non-brittle stems, high bud and  
flower count and attractive, durable flowers for year  
round commercial production.

Winsome was originated from a hybridization made  
in Barberton, Ohio in the year 1973 between 64019024,  
an unnamed seedling as female, and 71179002, an un-  
named seedling as male.

Winsome was discovered and selected as one flower-  
ing plant within a progeny of the stated parentage by  
William E. Duffett and Walter H. Jessel, Jr. in August  
1974 in a controlled environment in Barberton, Ohio.

The first act of asexual reproduction of Winsome was  
accomplished when vegetative cuttings were taken  
from the initial selection on November 1974 in a con-  
trolled environment in Barterton, Ohio by a technician  
under formulations established and supervised by Wil-  
liam E. Duffett and Walter H. Jessel, Jr.

Horticultural examination of selected units initiated  
in 1975 has demonstrated that the combination of char-  
acteristics as herein disclosed for Winsome are firmly  
fixed and are retained through successive generations of  
asexual reproduction.

Winsome has not been observed under all possible  
environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary  
significantly with variations in the environment such as  
temperature, light intensity and day length. The follow-  
ing observations, measurements and comparisons de-  
scribe plants grown in Salinas, Calif. under greenhouse  
conditions which approximate those generally used in  
commercial practice.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed  
and are determined to be basic characteristics of Win-  
some which in combination distinguish this carnation as  
a new and distinct cultivar:

1. Miniature type or spray carnation.
2. Commercial double form; average number of petals  
is 78.
3. Petal length is 5.0 cm.; width is 3 cm.; diameter at  
maturity is 6.0 to 8.0 cm.

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4. Lavender (red-purple) color.
5. Average response is 16 to 18 weeks including time  
from plant to pinch, and pinch to peak harvest.
6. Average bud count is 10 to 12.
7. Peduncle length is 5 to 8 cm.
8. Vigor is strong, prolific. Height at first harvest is 86  
to 90 cm.
9. Stem length is 65 to 70 cm.; strong.
10. Strong spice fragrance.

Among the commercially available carnations known  
to the present inventors, the most similar in comparison  
to Winsome is Improved Lilac, a commercially avail-  
able variety. Reference is made to Chart A which com-  
pares certain characteristics of Improved Lilac with  
those same characteristics of Winsome. General com-  
parisons are as follows. Winsome has deeper color,  
larger flower diameter, higher bud count, shorter pe-  
duncle length, taller plant height, and a serrated edge as  
contrasted to the even petal edge of Improved Lilac.  
Both cultivars have similar response time and strong,  
rigid stems.

In the accompanying photographic drawings Sheet 1  
is a color photograph showing typical inflorescence and  
foliage characteristics of Winsome, with color as nearly  
true as possible with illustrations of this type. Sheet 2 is  
a black and white photograph showing three views of  
the inflorescence of Winsome.

In the following description color references are  
made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart.  
Color values were determined between 10:00 A.M. and  
10:15 A.M. on Apr. 3, 1984 under 380 foot-candle light  
at Salinas, Calif.

- 35 Classification:  
*Botanical.*—*Dianthus caryophyllus*, Linn. cv WIN-  
SOME.  
*Commercial.*—Spray carnation for cut flower pro-  
duction.
- 40 I. Inflorescence characteristics:  
*Flowering response.*—16 to 18 weeks.  
*Inflorescence type.*—Miniature or spray with center  
buds removed.  
*Number of buds and flowers per stem.*—10 to 12.  
*Peduncle length.*—5 to 8 cm.  
*Peduncle strength.*—Rigid, strong.



*Flower.*—Form: Commercial double. Size: 6.0 to 8.0 cm. diameter. Petal edge: Serrated. Petal count: 78. Petal size: Average length 5.0 cm.; average width 3 cm. Bud shape: Ovoid. Pointed tip. Splitting tendency: Minimal. Slab tendency: None. Keeping Quality: Vase life from stage IV is 8 days. Fragrance: Strong, spice fragrance.

*Reproduction organs.*—Androecium: 8 or more filaments; 8 or more anthers; abundant pollen. Gynoecium: 2 styles; 2 stigmas; 1.5 cm. length.

*Corolla color.*—General tonality from a distance of three meters: Lavender (red-purple). Upper surface: 73 B,C, with specks of 73A. Base: 154D. Under surface: 68D. Base: 154D. Color stability: Uniform. Seasonal variations: Minimal. Calyx: Size: 3.0×1.5 cm. at maturity. Shape: Urn shaped. Number of sepals: Normally five (5), at times six (6).

*Plant characteristics.*—Growth and duration: Vigorous and continuous at 12° C. minimum temperature. Branching pattern: Vegetative laterals at 7th and 8th nodes. Height: Single pinched plant, first cut — 86 to 90 cm. Stem: Length — 65 to 70 cm. Bending traits — Normally rigid with 10 to 15 degrees of bend.

*Foliage.*—Occurrence: Shape — Long, narrow; length 18 to 20 cm. Texture: Smooth. Displacement: Opposite at nodes.

*Color.*—Mature: Upper surface — 137A, B. Mature: Under surface — 139B. Immature: Upper surface — 138A. Immature: Under surface — 138A.

CHART A

COMPARISON OF WINSOME AND IMPROVED LILAC	
FLOWER	AVERAGE FLOWER

CHART A-continued

COMPARISON OF WINSOME AND IMPROVED LILAC			
CULTIVAR	COLOR	SIZE	
5 WINSOME	LAVENDER RED- PURPLE	DIAMETER OF 6.0 to 8.0 cm. SERRATED PETAL EDGE	
10 IMPROVED LILAC	LIGHT LAVENDER	DIAMETER OF 5.5 to 6.0 cm. SMOOTH PETAL EDGE	
15		AVERAGE BUDS & FLS. PER STEM	AVERAGE FLOWERING RESPONSE
WINSOME		10 to 12 5 WITH COLOR	16 to 18 WEEKS
20 IMPROVED LILAC		6 to 7 4 WITH COLOR	16 to 18 WEEKS
25		AVERAGE PEDUNCLE LENGTH	AVERAGE PEDUNCLE STRENGTH
WINSOME		5 to 8 cm.	RIGID
IMPROVED LILAC		5 to 16 cm.	RIGID
			AVERAGE PLANT HEIGHT
			86 to 90 cm.
			60 to 70 cm.

COMPARISONS MADE OF PINCHED, FLOWERING  
PLANTS GROWN AS SPRAYS WITH CENTER BUDS  
REMOVED IN SALINAS, CALIFORNIA

We claim:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Dianthus caryophyllus*, Linn., named Winsome, as described and illustrated, and particularly characterized as to uniqueness by the combined characteristics of miniature or spray type, commercial double form, 6.0 to 8.0 cm. flower diameter, lavender (red-purple) color, 16 to 18 weeks for response, 10 to 12 flowers and buds per stem, 5 to 8 cm. peduncle length, rigid peduncle strength, 86 to 90 cm. plant height, and strong, spice fragrance.

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