

U.S. Patent

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Plant 5,778



[54] CHRYSANTHEMUM PLANT NAMED
BRIGHTLIGHT

[75] Inventor: Leonard H. Shoesmith, deceased, late
of Woking Surrey, England, by May
Victoria Shoesmith, executrix

[73] Assignee: Ball PanAm Plant Company, Parrish,
Fla.

[21] Appl. No.: 603,840

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[58] Field of Search Plt./74

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[57] ABSTRACT

A new and distinct cultivar of chrysanthemum plant
named Brightlight characterized by its flat capitulum
form and single capitulum type, bright yellow ray floret
color, excellent flower substance, diameter of 55–65 cm.
across face of capitulum, medium pot height, and semi-
upright branching pattern.

1 Drawing Figure

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The present invention comprises a new and distinct
cultivar of *Chrysanthemum morifolium*, Ramat., named
Brightlight.

Brightlight is a product of a planned breeding pro-
gram which had the objective of creating new chrysan-
themum cultivars with single capitulum type, bright
yellow ray floret color, good flower substance, 8 week
flowering response, and ability to produce commer-
cially acceptable quality year round. Such traits in com-
bination were not present in previously available com-
mercial cultivars.

Brightlight was originated from a hybridization made
in a controlled breeding program in Westfield, Woking
England in 1978. The male and female parents are un-
known at this time. Brightlight was discovered and
selected as one flowering plant within the progeny of
the stated parentage by Leonard H. Shoesmith on No-
vember, 1979 in a controlled environment in West Chi-
cago, Ill. and given the code name P9-1261-YS.

The first act of asexual reproduction of Brightlight
was accomplished when vegetative cuttings were taken
from the initial selection on February 1980 in a con-
trolled environment in West Chicago, Ill. by a techni-
cian working under formulations established and super-
vised by Leonard H. Shoesmith. Horticultural examina-
tion of selected units initiated March 1980 has demon-
strated that the combination of characteristics as herein
disclosed for Brightlight are firmly fixed and are re-
tained through successive generations of asexual repro-
duction.

Brightlight has not been observed under all possible
environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary
significantly with variations in environment such as
temperature, light intensity, and day length. The fol-
lowing observations, measurements and comparisons
describe plants grown in West Chicago, Ill. and Parrish,
Fla. 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 Bright-
light, which in combination distinguish this chrysanthem-
um as a new and distinct cultivar:

- (1) Flat capitulum form.
- (2) Single capitulum type.
- (3) Bright yellow ray floret color.
- (4) Excellent flower substance.

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(5) Diameter of 55–65 cm. across the face of the capit-
ulum.

(6) Medium pot plant height of about 300 mm. from
edge of pot. Applications of B-9 may be used to control
plant height.

(7) Semi-upright branching pattern.

Of the many commercial cultivars known to the pres-
ent inventor, the most similar in comparison to Bright-
light is Pert, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 4,764,
granted Sept. 8, 1981. In comparison to Pert, Bright-
light has lighter yellow flower color, a slightly smaller
flower, is one week earlier in response and has better
performance than Pert at high temperatures, that is 90°
F. day and 75° F. night. The flower type and plant habit
are similar to those same characteristics of Pert.

The accompanying photographic drawing shows
typical inflorescence and foliage characteristics of
Brightlight. The photograph is in black and white ex-
cept for a cluster of flowers which represent the true
flower color of Brightlight.

In the following description color references are
made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart.
The color values were determined between 10:30–11:00
A.M. on Aug. 19, 1983 under 7000 ft. candles of natural
light at Parrish, Fla.

Classification:

Botanical.—*Chrysanthemum morifolium*, Ramat.,
cv Brightlight.

Commercial.—Daisy pot mum.

I. Inflorescence:

A. *Capitulum.*—Form: flat. Type: Daisy. Diameter
Across Face: 55–65 mm.

B. *Corolla of ray florets.*—Color (General Tonality
From A Distance of Three Meters): Bright yel-
low. Color (under surface): 4B. Color (Upper
surface): 2A.

C. *Corolla of disc florets.*—Color (mature): Yellow.
Color (immature): Greenish-yellow.

D. *Reproductive organs.*—Androecium: Present in
disc floret only; abundant. Gynoecium: Present
in both ray and disc florets; abundant.

II Plant:

A. *General Appearance.*—Height: Upright, 300 mm.
at flowering with one application of B-9.

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B. *Foliage*.—Color (abaxial): 147B. Color (adaxial): 147A. Shape: Deeply lobed and somewhat serrated.

I claim:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of chrysanthemum plant named Brightlight, as illustrated and described,

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and particularly characterized by its flat capitulum form and single capitulum type, bright yellow ray floret color, excellent flower substance, diameter of 55–65 cm. across face of capitulum, medium pot height, and semi-upright branching pattern.

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