

[54] CHRYSANTHEMUM PLANT NAMED  
SALMON CHARM

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[57] ABSTRACT

A chrysanthemum plant named Salmon Charm particu-  
larly characterized by its flat capitulum form; decora-  
tive capitulum type; salmon ray floret color; diameter  
across face of capitulum of up to 11 cm at maturity  
when grown as a pinched disbudded pot mum; uniform  
eight week photoperiodic flowering response to short  
days; medium plant height when grown as a pinched  
pot mum, and by its spreading branching pattern.

3 Drawing Sheets

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The present invention comprises a new and distinct  
cultivar of chrysanthemum, botanically known as *Chry-  
santhemum morifolium*, Ramat., and referred to by the  
cultivar name Salmon Charm.

Salmon Charm, identified as 79134G04, is a product  
of a mutation induction program which had the objec-  
tive of creating new chrysanthemum cultivars that  
would expand the color range of an existing cultivar  
while retaining all other traits.

Salmon Charm was discovered and selected by  
Cornelis P. VandenBerg on May 17, 1983 in a con-  
trolled environment in Salinas, Calif. as one flowering  
plant within a flowering block established as rooted  
cuttings from stock plants which had been exposed as  
unrooted cuttings to an x-ray source of 2200 rads. The  
irradiated parent was the cultivar identified as Charm,  
disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 5,502.

The first act of asexual reproduction of Salmon  
Charm was accomplished when vegetative cuttings  
were taken from the initial selection in August 1983 in a  
controlled environment in Salinas, Calif., by technicians  
working under formulations established and supervised  
by Cornelis P. VandenBerg.

Horticultural examination of controlled flowerings of  
successive plantings has shown that the unique combi-  
nation of characteristics as herein disclosed for Salmon  
Charm are firmly fixed and are retained through succes-  
sive generations of asexual reproduction.

Salmon Charm has not been observed under all possi-  
ble environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary  
significantly with variations in environment such as  
temperature, light intensity, and day length.

The following observations, measurements and com-  
parisons describe plants grown in Salinas, Calif. and  
Leamington, Canada, under greenhouse conditions  
which approximate those generally used in commercial  
greenhouse practice.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed  
and are determined to be basic characteristics of Salmon  
Charm, which, in combination, distinguish this chrysan-  
themum as a new and distinct cultivar:

1. Flat capitulum form.
2. Decorative capitulum type.
3. Salmon ray floret color.

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4. Diameter across face of capitulum up to 11 cm at  
maturity, when grown as a pinched disbudded pot  
mum.
5. Uniform eight week photoperiodic flowering re-  
sponse to short days.
6. Medium plant height, requiring 0 to 7 long days  
after pinch prior to short days and 1 application of 2500  
ppm B-9 SP to attain a flowered plant height of 25 to 35  
cm for year-round flowerings when grown as a pinched  
pot mum.
7. Spreading branching pattern.

The accompanying photographic drawings show  
typical inflorescence and leaf characteristics of Salmon  
Charm, with the colors being as nearly true as possible  
with illustration of this type. Sheet 1 is a color photo-  
graph of Salmon Charm grown as a pinched disbudded  
pot mum. Sheet 2 is a black and white photograph of  
three views of the inflorescence of Salmon Charm.  
Sheet 3 is a black and white photograph showing the  
upper and under sides of the leaves of Salmon Charm at  
three stages of development (mature, intermediate and  
immature).

Of the commercial cultivars known to the inventor,  
the most similar in comparison to Salmon Charm is the  
parent cultivar Charm. All traits of Salmon Charm are  
similar to those of Charm, except the color of ray flo-  
rets. The color of the ray florets of Salmon Charm is  
salmon, as contrasted with the light lavender pink ray  
florets of Charm.

In the following description, color references are  
made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart.  
The color values were determined on plant material  
grown as a pinched disbudded pot mum in Salinas,  
Calif. on Mar. 24, 1986.

Classification:

*Botanical.*—*Chrysanthemum morifolium*, Ramat.,  
cv. Salmon Charm.

*Commercial.*—Decorative disbudded pot mum.

INFLORESCENCE

A. Capitulum:

*Form.*—Flat.

*Type.*—Decorative.

*Diameter across face.*—Up to 11 cm at maturity.

B. Corolla of ray florets:

Plant 6,334

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*Color (general tonality from a distance of three meters).—*Salmon.

*Color (upper surface).—*27A to 26D, overcast and streaked with 179D.

*Color (under surface).—*24D, tinged with 26D.

*Shape.—*Flat, oblong.

C. Corolla of disc florets:

*Color (mature).—*154B.

*Color (immature).—*149B.

D. Reproductive organs:

*Androecium.—*Present on disc florets only, very few; scant pollen.

*Gynoecium.—*Present on both ray and disc florets.

PLANT

A. General appearance:

*Height.—*Medium; 25 to 35 cm as a pinched disbudded pot mum with 0 to 7 long days after pinch

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prior to short days and 1 application of 2500 ppm B-9 SP.

*Branching pattern.—*Spreading.

B. Foliage:

*Color (upper surface).—*147B.

*Color (under surface).—*148B.

*Shape.—*Lobed and serrated.

I claim:

1. A new and distinct chrysanthemum plant named Salmon Charm, as described and illustrated, and particularly characterized as to uniqueness by the combined characteristics of flat capitulum form; decorative capitulum type; salmon ray floret color; diameter across face of capitulum of up to 11 cm at maturity when grown as a pinched disbudded pot mum; uniform eight week photoperiodic flowering response to short days; medium plant height when grown as a pinched pot mum; and spreading branching pattern.

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