

[54] FORSYTHIA PLANT NAMED 'FAIRY-LAND'

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[58] Field of Search ..... Plt./54

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[57] ABSTRACT

A new cultivar of Forsythia named 'Fairy-Land' characterized by its relatively small shrub size, its small lanceolate foliage, and the varying number, between four and eight, of petals on its flowers.

3 Drawing Sheets

1

This invention relates to a new cultivar of Forsythia named "Fairy-Land", which is characterized especially by its small overall size, its simple, minimally serrate, lanceolate foliage, and the varying number of flower petals, from four to eight, on a single corolla.

The new variety was derived as a seedling from a vegetative line of mutants, which had been produced in turn by subjecting rooted cuttings of the parent *Forsythia intermedia* 'Lynwood Gold' (a sport of *F. intermedia* "Spectabilis") to irradiation with 1,200 rad fast neutrons.

In 1968, three hundred cuttings of "Lynwood Gold" that had been potted and held in cold storage (38° F.) for six weeks and then returned to the greenhouse for two days were irradiated with 1200 rad fast neutrons. One of the plants of this group that broke dormancy formed a shoot with variegated foliage. This plant was cut back repeatedly to induce branching and eventually formed shoots that exhibited different characteristics. Each shoot was propagated by stem cuttings over 10 vegetative generations of selection and propagation. From this plant population two vegetatively selected types and three seedlings were selected. Further propagation and testing of these selections over several more years were shown to be the stable and new forsythia varieties that are the subject of this and four other co-pending plant patent applications; viz:

Ser. No.	Name	Type
272,063	"Lemon-Screen"	vegetative selection
273,489	"Tinkle Bells"	vegetative selection
271,919	"Minikin"	seedling
271,665	"Fairy Land"	seedling
271,666	"Pygmy-Red"	seedling

2

Each differs greatly from the parent "Lynwood Gold" and also from one another.

"Fairy-Land" was selected at the seedling stage because of its bright green color, small linear foliage, and short internodes. Cuttings from this plant have been rooted in soil and asexually propagated, and its progeny have displayed homogeneous and stable characteristics.

Throughout this specification, color names beginning with a small letter signify that the name of the color as used in common speech are aptly descriptive. Color names beginning with a capital letter designate values based on the R.H.S. Colour Chart, published by The Royal Horticultural Society of London, England.

The accompanying drawings illustrate the new variety in color as grown in Knox County within the State of Tennessee.

FIG. 1 illustrates "Fairy-Land" as a 5½ old plant in bloom in the spring.

FIG. 2 shows flowered cut stems of "Fairy-Land".

FIG. 3 is a close-up view of the flowers of FIG. 2.

FIG. 4 illustrates the "Fairy-Land" plant in summer foliage.

FIG. 5 is a closer view of the foliage shown in FIG.

4. The white label is 0.6 in. wide and 5 inches long.

The following characteristics distinguish "Fairy-Land" from its parent and other Forsythia cultivars:

THE PLANT

"Fairy-Land", because of its small overall stature (3' to 4' in height and 5' to 6' in width at maturity) and dense foliage as a young plant, is very well suited for culture in nursery plant containers. The plant exhibits good vigor for its size, is hardy to Zone 6b (or lower) and develops few seed pods. The low, broad, attractively dense and fine textured "Fairy-Land" plant form,



both in bloom and when in leaf, make this cultivar suitable for a wide range of landscape applications.

Its parent, "Lynwood Gold", by contrast is tall and slender—a straight upright variety with erect stems and which attains a height of 6 ft. to 7½ ft. at maturity.

"Fairy-Land" is suited for applications ranging from mass planting and area delineation to use as a container plant on patios and plazas. Whereas, "Fairy-Land" shares several characteristics with the related Minikin cultivar, "Fairy-Land" is distinguished from Minikin in its somewhat larger shrub size, larger foliage, larger flowers, and in the larger average number of petals per flower.

FLOWER

"Fairy-Land" flowers at an intermediate date with deep yellow flowers (Yellow 6A) about ¾" to 1¼" in width and appear two to four per node, the internodes being ½ in. to 1 in. long. Although the flower petals generally number four, many of the blooms have five, six, seven, or eight petals on a single corolla. The corolla lobes are small and reflexed. The pistils extend 3/25 in. to 4/25 in. above the pollen sacs of the stamen.

The "Lynwood Gold" parent is fertile and has pistils that extend well above its pollen sacs, is late flowering and its medium sized flowers (about 1" to 1½" in diameter) are almost evenly spaced on the stem. The flowers of "Lynwood Gold" are brilliant yellow (lighter than its parent, F. Spectabilis). The corolla lobes of "Lynwood Gold" are reflexed and its petals are large, broad open and elliptic.

SHOOTS

The shoots of "Fairy-Land" are light green when young and brownish green when mature. Its pith is slightly lamellate between nodes.

The stems of the "Lynwood Gold" parent are green when young and brown when mature; they are a bit stiff; the pith at the nodes is lamellate, and on one year shoots, the stems between nodes are hollow.

FOLIAGE

The leaves of "Fairy-Land" are a rather light medium green on both young and mature plants. In the fall they are mostly faded yellow. The leaves are simple, lanceolate, acuminate at the tip and attenuate at the base. The leaves on flowering wood are 0.2 to 0.4 in. wide and 1½ to 2½ in. long and not serrate. On vegetative shoots the leaves are 0.5 in. to 0.6 in. wide and about 3 in. long and serrate on the top ¼. Leaf venation is pinnate. A fine textured appearance results from closely spaced foliage, particularly on the flowering wood, where the internodes are generally ¼ in. to less than 1 in.

The leaves of the "Lynwood Gold" parent, on the other hand, are ovate lanceolate in shape and about 3" to 4½" long and about 1" to 1½" wide. Both young and old leaves are deep green in color.

To facilitate the comparison of the characteristics and features of "Fairy-Land", the subject of this application, and its parent, "Lynwood Gold" and also with the four other new mutant offspring varieties of "Lynwood Gold" referred to above, there are attached hereto as Tables 1-5 comparative tabulations of the characteristics and properties of parent and its five offspring mutants that were developed from a single irradiated plant of "Lynwood Gold." Table 1 compares "Fairy-Land" and its parent "Lynwood Gold". Table 2 compares "Fairy-Land" and "Pygmy-Red". Table 3 compares

"Fairy Land" and "Tinkle Bells". Table 4 compares "Fairy-Land" and "Minikin". Table 5 compares "Fairy-Land" and "Lemon Screen":

TABLE 1

Ser. No. 271,665

FAIRY LAND

Plant	
Habit	Small overall & fine textured: Closely spaced flowers & leaves Dense (young) foliage
Size, height	3'-4'
Size, width	5'-6'
Vigor	Good vigor for size
Hardiness	Zone 6b (or lower)
Productivity	Few seed pods
Stems	
Color (young)	Light green
Color (mature)	Brownish green
Rigidity	Very flexible lamellate between nodes
Leaves	
Type	Simple
Color	
(young)	Medium green (fairly light)
(mature)	Medium green (fairly light)
(fall)	Mostly faded yellow
Shape	Lanceolate
tip	Accuminate
base	Attenuate
margins	On flowering wood: entire On vegetative wood: serrate top ¼
Size	
length	On flowering wood: 1½"-2½" On vegetative shoots: about 3"
width	On flowering wood: 0.2"-0.4" On vegetative shoots 0.5-0.6"
Venation	Pinnate
Flower	
Date of Flowering	Intermediate
Size: width	¾"-1¼"
Color	Yellow (6A)
Corolla	
length	
lobes	Reflexed, small
Petals: number	Generally 4-many have 5, 6, 7 and 8 on single corolla
Pistils	Extend 3/25" to 4/25" above pollen sacs (anthers) of the stamen
Number per Node	2-4
Insertion angle	
on upright stems	
Internodes	¾" to about 1"
Stress Resistance:	
Utility Aspects:	Very well suited for container culture

LYNWOOD GOLD

Plant	
Habit	Tall, slender-Upright straight & erect stems
Size, height	6'-7½'
Size, width	
Vigor	
Hardiness	
Productivity	Fertile
Stems	
Color (young)	Green
Color (mature)	Brown
Rigidity	A bit stiff; pith nodes lamellate; hollow between nodes on one year shoots
Leaves	
Type	
Color	
(young)	Deep Green
(mature)	Deep Green
(fall)	
Shape	ovate lanceolate
tip	

TABLE 1-continued

Ser. No. 271.665	
base	
margins	
<u>Size</u>	
length	3-4½"
width	1-1½"
Venation	
<u>Flower</u>	
Date of Flowering	Late
Size: width	1"-1½" (medium)
Color	Brilliant Yellow (lighter than its parent Spectabilis)
<u>Corolla</u>	
length	
lobes	Reflexed
Petals: number	Large, broad, open Elliptic
Pistils	Extend well above pollen sacs (anthers) of stamens
Number per node	
Insertion angle	
on upright stems	
Internodes	Flowers almost evenly spaced on stems
Stress Resistance	
Utility Aspects	

TABLE 2

	Ser. No. 271,665
	FAIRY LAND
<u>Plant</u>	
Habit	Small overall & fine textured: Closely spaced flowers & leaves Dense (young) foliage
Size, height	3'-4'
Size, width	5'-6'
Vigor	Good vigor for size
Hardiness	Zone 6b (or lower)
Productivity	Few seed pods
<u>Stems</u>	
Color (young)	Light green
Color (mature)	Brownish green
Rigidity	Very flexible lamellate between nodes
<u>Leaves</u>	
Type	Simple
<u>Color</u>	
(young)	Medium green (fairly light)
(mature)	Medium green (fairly light)
(fall)	Mostly faded yellow
Shape	Lanceolate
tip	Accuminate
base	Attenuate
margins	On flowering wood: entire On vegetative wood: serrate top $\frac{1}{2}$
<u>Size</u>	
length	On flowering wood: $1\frac{1}{2}$ "-2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " On vegetative shoots: about 3"
width	On flowering wood: 0.2"-0.4" On vegetative shoots 0.5-0.6"
<u>Venation</u>	Pinnate
<u>Flower</u>	
Date of Flowering	Intermediate
Size: width	$\frac{3}{4}$ "-1 $\frac{1}{4}$ "
Color	Yellow (6A)
<u>Corolla</u>	
length	
lobes	Reflexed, small
Petals: number	Generally 4-many have 5, 6, 7 and 8 on single corolla
Pistils	Extend $\frac{3}{25}$ " to $\frac{4}{25}$ " above pollen sacs (anthers) of the stamen
Number per node	2-4
Insertion angle on upright stems	
Internodes:	$\frac{1}{4}$ " to about 1"

TABLE 2-continued

	Stress Resistance Utility Aspects	Very well suited for container culture
5		Ser. No. 271,666 PYGMY RED
	<u>Plant</u>	
	Habit	Low, loose graceful arching to ground
10	Size, height	3½'-4½'
	Size, width	5'-6'
	Vigor	Good vigor
	Hardiness	Hardy Zone 6b (or lower)
	Productivity	Readily roots where branches touch ground few seed pods
15	<u>Stems</u>	
	Color (young)	High anthocyanin
	Color (mature)	Purple Red (59A)
	Rigidity	Flexible lamellate between nodes
	<u>Leaves</u>	
20	Type	Simple
	<u>Color</u>	
	(young)	Dark Green
	(mature)	Dark Green
	(fall)	Anthocyanin (maroon) expressed in full sun
25	Shape	Lanceolate (few lobed leaves on vegetative shoots)
	tip	Accuminate
	base	Attenuate
	margins	Serrate
	<u>Size</u>	
30	length	2"-2½" on flowering wood; to 2¾" on vegetative wood
	width	0.3"-0.4" on flowering wood; to 1" on vegetative wood
	Venation	Pinnate
	<u>Flower</u>	
35	Date of Flowering	Intermediate
	Size: width	1¼"-1½"
	Color	Yellow (7A)
	<u>Corolla</u>	
	length	
	lobes	Narrow
40	Petals: number	4 - sometimes 5
	Pistils	Extend 2/25"-3/25" above pollen sacs of stamens
	Number per node	2
	Insertion angle on upright stems	
45	Internodes	1"-1½" (1½" even on fast growing shoots)
	Stress Resistance	disease and insect
	Utility Aspects	

TABLE 3

50		Ser. No. 271,665 FAIRY LAND
	<u>Plant</u>	
55	Habit:	Small overall & fine textured: Closely spaced flowers & leaves Dense (young) foliage
	Size, height	3'-4'
	Size, width	5'-6'
	Vigor	Good vigor for size
	Hardiness	Zone 6b (or lower)
60	Productivity	Few seeds pods
	<u>Stems</u>	
	Color (young)	Light green
	Color (mature)	Brownish green
	Rigidity	Very flexible lamellate between nodes
65	<u>Leaves</u>	
	Type	Simple
	<u>Color</u>	
	(young)	Medium green (fairly light)
	(mature)	Medium green (fairly light)



TABLE 3-continued

(fall)	Mostly faded yellow	
Shape	Lanceolate	
tip	Accuminate	
base	Attenuate	5
margins	On flowering wood: entire On vegetative wood: serrate top $\frac{1}{2}$	
<u>Size</u>		
length	On flowering wood: $1\frac{1}{2}$ "-2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " on vegetative shoots: about 3"	
width	On flowering wood: 0.2"-0.4" On vegetative shoots 0.5-0.6"	10
<u>Venation</u>	Pinnate	
<u>Flower</u>		
Date of Flowering	Intermediate	
Size: width	$\frac{3}{4}$ "-1 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	
Color:	Yellow (6A)	15
<u>Corolla</u>		
length		
lobes	Reflexed, small	
Petals: number	Generally 4-many have 5, 6, 7 and 8 on single corolla	
Pistils:	Extend $\frac{3}{25}$ " to $\frac{4}{25}$ " above pollen sacs (anthers) of the stamen	20
Number per node:	2-4	
Insertion angle on upright stems:		
Internodes:	$\frac{1}{4}$ " to about 1"	
Stress Resistance:		25
Utility Aspects:	Very well suited for container culture	
	Ser. No. 273,489 TINKLE BELLS	
<u>Plant</u>		30
Habit:	Semi-dwarf; Upright	
Size: height	4'-4 $\frac{1}{2}$ '	
Size: width		
Vigor	Medium vigor	
Hardiness	Hardy Zone 6b (or lower)	
Productivity	Does not layer naturally (replicates from stools (no seed pods observed)	35
<u>Stems</u>		
Color (young)	Yellow Green	
Color (mature)	Light brown	
Rigidity	Sparsely lamellate between nodes - Rigid	40
<u>Leaves</u>		
Type	Simple	
<u>Color</u>		
(young)	Medium green	
(mature)	Medium green	
(fall)	Faded green to yellow	45
Shape	Elliptical	
tip	Acute on flower shoots accuminate on vegetative shoots	
base		
margins	serrate on upper $\frac{1}{2}$ near tip	50
<u>Size</u>		
length	2"-3" (with petiole)	
width	$\frac{1}{4}$ "	
<u>Venation</u>	Pinnate	
<u>Flower</u>		
Date of Flowering	Early	
Size: width	$\frac{1}{2}$ "- $\frac{3}{4}$ " at 45° angle	55
Color:	Bright Yellow (7B)	
<u>Corolla</u>		
length	$\frac{1}{2}$ " open to 45° angle	
lobes	not reflexed during prime	
Petals: number	4; occasionally 5 or 6	60
Pistils:	short: anthers slightly below stigma portion of pistil	
Number per node:	2; often 4 per node	
Insertion angle on upright stems:	buds & flowers pendulous	
Internodes:	$\frac{1}{2}$ "-1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	
Stress Resistance:	Disease and insect	65
Utility Aspects:	Can force flowering suitable for container culture	

TABLE 4

	Ser. No. 271,665 FAIRY LAND	
<u>Plant</u>		
Habit	Small overall & fine textured: Closely spaced flowers & leaves Dense (young) foliage	
Size, height	3'-4'	
Size, width	5'-6'	
Vigor	Good vigor for size	
Hardiness	Zone 6b (or lower)	
Productivity	Few seed pods	
<u>Stems</u>		
Color (young)	Light green	
Color (mature)	Brownish green	
Rigidity	Very flexible lamellate between nodes	
<u>Leaves</u>		
Type	Simple	
<u>Color</u>		
(young)	Medium green (fairly light)	
(mature)	Medium green (fairly light)	
(fall)	Mostly faded yellow	
Shape	Lanceolate	
tip	Accuminate	
base	Attenuate	
margins	On flowering wood: entire On vegetative wood: serrate top $\frac{1}{2}$	
<u>Size</u>		
length	On flowering wood: $1\frac{1}{2}$ "-2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " On vegetative shoots: about 3"	
width	On flowering wood: 0.2"-0.4" On vegetative shoots 0.5-0.6"	
<u>Venation</u>	Pinnate	
<u>Flower</u>		
Date of Flowering	Intermediate	
Size: width	$\frac{3}{4}$ "-1 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	
Color	Yellow (6A)	
<u>Corolla</u>		
length		
lobes	Reflexed, small	
Petals: number	Generally 4-many have 5, 6, 7 and 8 on single corolla	
Pistils	Extend $\frac{3}{25}$ " to $\frac{4}{25}$ " above pollen sacs (anthers) of the stamen	
Number per node	2-4	
Insertion angle on upright stems		
Internodes	$\frac{1}{4}$ " to about 1"	
Stress Resistance		
Utility Aspects	Very well suited for container culture	
	Ser. No. 271,919 MINIKIN	
<u>Plant</u>		
Habit	Small stature, fine textured; small leaves and small stems; densely foliated	
Size, height	2'-2 $\frac{1}{2}$ '	
Size, width	3'-4'	
Vigor	Good vigor but slow growth	
Hardiness	Zone 6b (or lower)	
Productivity	Layers naturally Abundant seed pods	
<u>Stems</u>		
Color (young)	Light green	
Color (mature)	Brownish green	
Rigidity	Ascending strongly lamellate between nodes	
<u>Leaves</u>		
Type	Simple	
<u>Color</u>		
(young)	Bright green to dark green	
(mature)	Bright green to dark green	
(fall)	Fading green until leaf drop	
Shape	Linear	
tip	Accuminate	
base	Attenuate	
margins	Lightly serrate	

TABLE 4-continued

<u>Size</u>		
length	On vegetative shoots-1½" attached to ½" long slender petiole; smaller on flowering shoots	5
width	On vegetative shoots - ¼";	
<u>Venation</u>	Pinnate	
<u>Flower</u>		
Date of Flowering	Intermediate	
Size: width	½"-¾" (cup shaped) fully reflexed	10
Color	Yellow (9A)	
<u>Corolla</u>		
length		
lobes	strongly reflexed, very small	
Petals: number	4:- short and recurved	
Pistils	Short; 1/25" below pollen sacs of stamens	15
Number per node	2-4	
Insertion angle on upright stems		
Internodes	Short (Flowering shoots ½-¾" Vegetative shoots up to 2")	20
Stress Resistance	Doesn't require same degree of winter protection as most container grown plants of genre	
Utility Aspects	Blooming can be forced. Especially suited for container culture.	

TABLE 5

	Ser. No. 271,665	
	FAIRY LAND	
<u>Plant</u>		
Habit:	Small overall & fine textured: Closely spaced flowers & leaves Dense (young) foliage	
Size, height	3'-4'	
Size, width	5'-6'	
Vigor	Good vigor for size	
Hardiness	Zone 6b (or lower)	35
Productivity	Few seed pods	
<u>Stems</u>		
Color (young)	Light green	
Color (mature)	Brownish green	
Rigidity	Very flexible lamellate between nodes	40
<u>Leaves</u>		
Type	Simple	
<u>Color</u>		
(young)	Medium green (fairly light)	
(mature)	Medium green (fairly light)	45
(fall)	Mostly faded yellow	
Shape	Lanceolate	
tip	Accuminate	
base	Attenuate	
margins	On flowering wood: entire On vegetative wood: serrate top ½	50
<u>Size</u>		
length	On flowering wood: 1½"-2½" On vegetative shoots: about 3"	
width	On flowering wood: 0.2"-0.4" On vegetative shoots 0.5-0.6"	
<u>Venation</u>	Pinnate	55
<u>Flower</u>		
Date of Flowering	Intermediate	
Size: width	¾"-1¼"	
Color:	Yellow (6A)	

TABLE 5-continued

<u>Corolla</u>		
length		
lobes	Reflexed, small	
Petals: number	Generally 4-many have 5, 6, 7 and 8 on single corolla	
Pistils:	Extend 3/25" to 4/25" above pollen sacs (anthers) of the stamen	
Number per node:	2-4	
Insertion angle on upright stems:		
Internodes:	¾" to about 1"	
Stress Resistance:		
Utility Aspects:	Very well suited for container culture	
	Ser. No. 272,063	
	LEMON SCREEN	
<u>Plant</u>		
Habit:	Tall, open and graceful; Upright, fan shape; vigorous: open foliage Up to 10'	
Size, height		
Size, width	Hardy Zone 6b (or lower)	
Vigor	Vigorous	
Hardiness		
Productivity	Abundant Flowers/highly sterile/ pruned wood branches quickly	
<u>Stems</u>		
Color (young)		
Color (mature)	Yellow	
Rigidity	Slightly lamellate between nodes	
<u>Leaves</u>		
Type	Simple	
<u>Color</u>		
(young)	Yellow green 151 B or Chartreuse (appear after flowering)	
(mature)	Normal green (Yellow-Green 144) whitish blotches	
(fall)	Greyed Purple 187 B	
Shape		
tip	Accuminate	
base	Attenuate	
margins	Serrate	
<u>Size</u>		
length	Not distinguishing	
width	Not distinguishing	
<u>Venation</u>	Pinnate	
<u>Flower</u>		
Date of Flowering	Early	
Size: width	1½"-1¾"	
Color:	Yellow (6C)	
<u>Corolla</u>		
length		
lobes	Somewhat reflexed	
Petals: number	4, sometimes fasciated	
Pistils:	aborted stamens &/or pistils	
Number per node:	4 to 8	
Insertion angle on upright stems:		
Internodes:	1" to 2" long on flowering wood	
Stress Resistance:	Summer foliage disease & insect resistant	
Utility Aspects:	Summer pruning leads to shoot with chartreuse leaves (young)	

What is claimed is:  
1. A new and distinct cultivar of Forsythia named 'Fairy-Land', substantially as shown and described herein.

\* \* \* \* \*



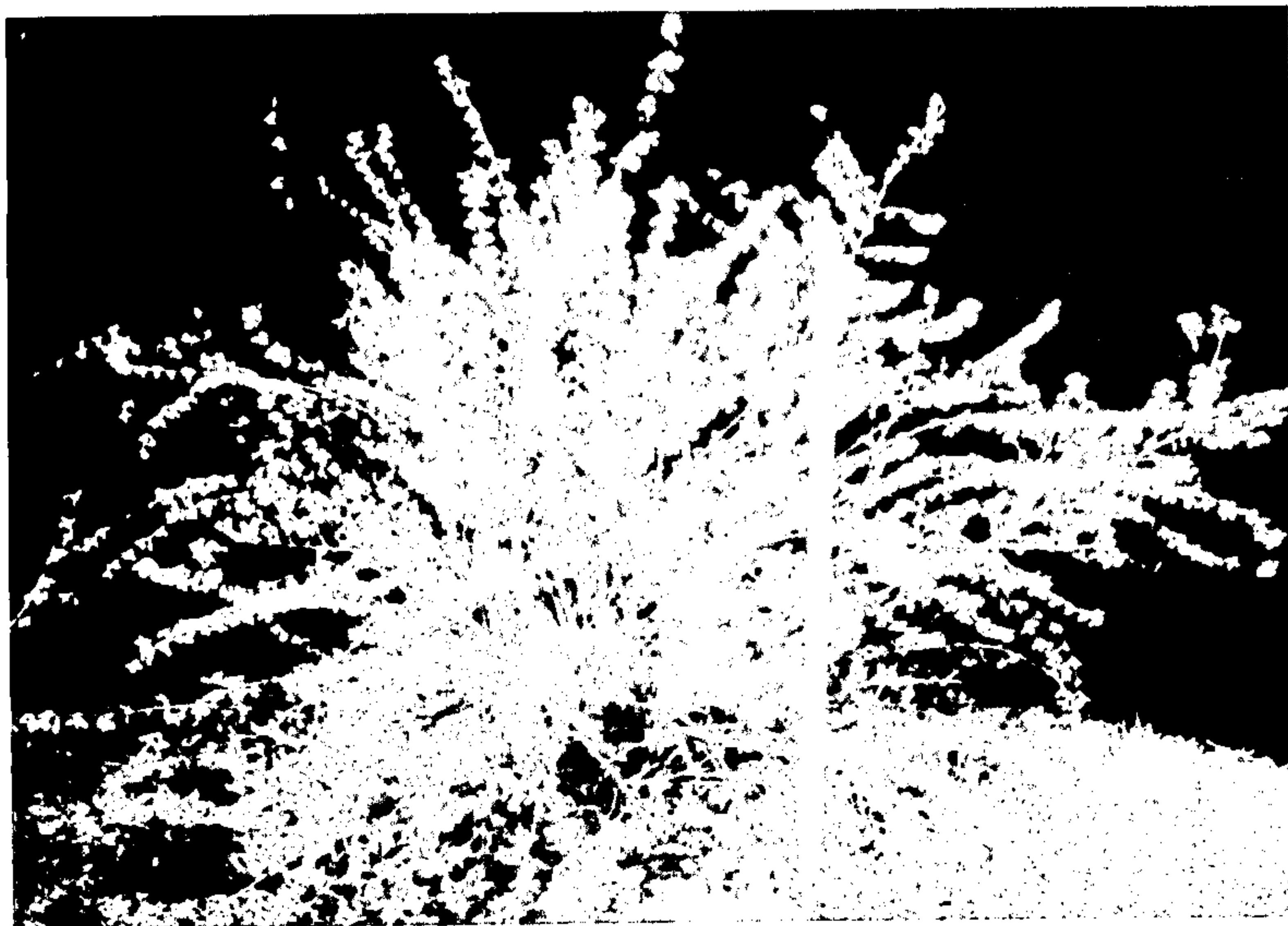


FIG. 1



FIG. 2



FIG. 3



FIG. 4



FIG. 5