

[54] CHRYSANTHEMUM PLANT NAMED
WHITE OREO

[75] Inventor: Cornelis P. VandenBerg, Salinas,
Calif.

[73] Assignee: Yoder Brothers, Inc., Barberton,
Ohio

[21] Appl. No.: 436,023

[22] Filed: Nov. 14, 1989

[51] Int. Cl.⁵ A01H 5/00

[52] U.S. Cl. Plt./74

[58] Field of Search Plt./74

[56] References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

P.P. 6,882 6/1989 VandenBerg Plt. 74
4,616,099 10/1986 Sparkes 800/200

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Searle, S. A., et al., "Use of Gamma and X-Rays";
Appendix I: Varieties, *Chrysanthemums the Year*

Round, Blandford Press, London, 1968, pp. 27-29;
320-327.

Gosling, S. G., "Appendix II: Sporting and Irradia-
tion", *The Chrysanthemum Manual*, Nat. Chrysan-
th. Soc., London 1979, pp. 329-337.

Primary Examiner—James R. Feyrer
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Foley & Lardner

[57] ABSTRACT

A Chrysanthemum plant named White Oreo particu-
larly characterized by its flat capitulum form; daisy
capitulum type; white ray floret color; diameter across
face of capitulum of up to 85 mm at maturity; uniform
eight week photoperiodic flowering response to short
days; peduncle length ranging from 10 to 15 cm on
open, terminal sprays; short plant height when grown as
a single stem spray cut mum; and excellent tolerance to
low temperatures for bud initiation and flower develop-
ment.

1 Drawing Sheet

1

The present invention comprises a new and distinct
cultivar of Chrysanthemum, botanically known as *Den-
dranthera grandiflora*, and referred to by the cultivar
name White Oreo.

White Oreo, identified as 83-486D03, is a product of
a mutation induction program which had the objective
of creating new Chrysanthemum cultivars that would
expand the color range of an existing cultivar while
retaining all other traits.

White Oreo was discovered and selected by Cornelis
P. VandenBerg on Dec. 18, 1985 in a controlled envi-
ronment in Salinas, Calif. as one flowering plant within
a flowering block established as rooted cuttings from
stock plants which had been exposed as unrooted cut-
tings to an X-ray source of 2000 rads. The irradiated
parent was the cultivar identified as Oreo, disclosed in
plant patent application Ser. No. 07/173,083, now U.S.
Plant Pat. No. 6,882.

The first act of asexual reproduction of White Oreo
was accomplished when vegetative cuttings were taken
from the initial selection in March 1986 in a controlled
environment in Salinas, Calif., by technicians working
under formulations established and supervised by Cor-
nelius P. VandenBerg.

Horticultural examination of controlled flowerings
of successive plantings has shown that the unique com-
bination of characteristic as herein disclosed for White
Oreo are firmly fixed and are retained through succes-
sive generations of asexual reproduction.

White Oreo has not been observed under all possible
environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary
significantly with variations in environment such as
temperature, light intensity and daylength.

The following observations, measurements and com-
parisons describe plants grown in Salinas, Calif. under
greenhouse conditions which approximate those gener-
ally used in commercial greenhouse practice. The low
temperature tolerance of the new variety as noted

2

below was determined in repeated flowerings in Bo-
gota, Columbia.

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

1. Flat capitulum form.
2. Daisy capitulum type.
3. White ray floret color.
4. Diameter across face of capitulum up to 85 mm at
maturity.
5. Uniform eight week photoperiodic flowering re-
sponse to short days.
6. Peduncle length ranging from 10 to 15 cm on open,
terminal sprays.
7. Short plant height, requiring two to three long day
weeks prior to short days to attain a flowered plant
height of 90 to 100 cm for year-round flowerings.
8. Excellent tolerance to low temperatures for bud
initiation and flower development.

The accompanying photographic drawing shows
typical inflorescence and leaf characteristics of White
Oreo, with the colors being as nearly true as possible
with illustrations of this type. The color photograph is
a perspective view of White Oreo grown as a single
stem cut spray mum.

Of the commercial cultivars known to the inventor,
the most similar in comparison to White Oreo are the
parent cultivar Oreo and the induced mutation Dark
Oreo, created through the same mutation induction
program as White Oreo, and disclosed in Applicant's
pending application Ser. No. 07/435,822, filed simulta-
neously with the present application. All traits of White
Oreo are similar to those of Oreo, except for vigor and
the color of the ray florets. The color of the ray florets
of White Oreo is white, whereas Oreo has light purple
ray florets. Under the same growing conditions, White
Oreo will grow 3-4" taller than Oreo. Dark Oreo has

Plant 7,594

3

red-purple ray florets, and does not express the greater vigor of White Oreo, being similar in vigor to the parent cultivar Oreo.

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 single stem cut spray mum in Salinas., Calif. on July 18, 1989.

Classification:

Botanical.—*Dendranthema grandiflora* cv White Oreo.

Commercial.—Daisy cut spray mun.

INFLORESCENCE

A. Capitulum:

Form.—Flat.

Type.—Daisy.

Diameter across face.—Up to 85 mm at maturity.

B. Corolla of Ray Florets:

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

Color (upper surface).—155D.

4

Color (under surface).—155D.

Shape.—Flat, oblong.

C. Corolla of Disc Florets:

Color (mature).—Closest to 14A.

Color (immature).—Closest to 144B.

D. Reproductive Organs:

Androecium.—Present on disc florets only; moderate pollen.

Gynoecium.—Present on both ray and disc florets.

PLANT

A. General Appearance:

Height.—Short; 90 to 100 cm as a single stem cut mum with two to three long day weeks prior to short days.

B. Foliage:

Color (upper surface).—147A.

Color (under surface).—147B.

Shape.—Deeply lobed and serrated.

I claim:

1. A new and distinct Chrysanthemum plant named White Oreo, as described and illustrated.

* * * * *

