

[54] **CHRYSANTHEMUM PLANT NAMED
PACIFIC ISLE**
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Calif.
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[57] **ABSTRACT**
The present invention comprises a new and distinct cultivar of Chrysanthemum, botanically known as *Den-
dranthema grandiflora*, and referred to by the cultivar
name Pacific Isle. The new cultivar is distinguished by
its lavender ray floret coloration and dark green leaves.

1 Drawing Sheet

1

BACKGROUND OF THE NEW PLANT

Pacific Isle was among the progeny of a cross made
by Peter S. Hesse between the female parent Splendor
(U.S. Plant Pat. No. 5,225) and the male parent Hop-
scotch (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 5,816). The cross which
produced Pacific Isle was part of a controlled breeding
program conducted by Peter Hesse in Nipomo, Calif.

Pacific Isle was discovered in a cultivated area and
selected as one flowering plant within the progeny of
the stated cross by Peter S. Hesse in November 1989, in
a controlled environment in Nipomo, Calif.

The first act of asexual reproduction of Pacific Isle
was accomplished when vegetative cuttings were taken
in January 1990, in a controlled environment in
Nipomo, Calif., by Peter S. Hesse.

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

Pacific Isle 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 daylength.

The following observations, measurements and com-
parisons describe plants grown in a controlled environ-
ment in Nipomo, Calif. Unrotted cuttings were directly
stuck into 6.5" pots and grown under the natural tem-
perature and daylength prevailing in January through
March of 1990.

Color designations are compared to the 1986 edition
of R.H.S. Colour Chart, first published in 1986 by the
Royal Horticultural Society, London England. The
B-NINE™ growth regulator referred to in the cultur-
ing procedures is 2,2-dimethyl hydrazide sold under the
name of Daminozide or Alar and manufactured by Uni-
royal.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed
and are determined to be basic characteristics of Pacific
Isle, which in combination distinguish this Chrysanthem-
um as a new and distinct cultivar.

- 1. Flat capitulum form
- 2. Daisy capitulum type
- 3. Lavender fully expanded outer ray florets
- 4. Yellow Daisy disc
- 5. An average of 4.6 flowers per break

2

6. Diameter across the face of capitulum of 11.6 cm as
a disbud

7. Exceptional upright to spreading habit with an
average of 4.0 breaks after a single pinch

8. Flowering response is approximately 58 days from
the start of short days

9. Ease in control of plant height from the bench such
that the finished height will range from 9.5–11.5 inches
depending on application of growth regulators.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying photograph shows typical inflo-
rescence and leaf characteristics of Pacific Isle, with the
colors being as nearly true as possible with illustrations
of this type. Unrooted cuttings were pinched spray pot
mum with 5 cuttings in a 6.5" pot.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANT

Of the commercial cultivars known to the inventor,
the most similar in form, color, and habit to Pacific Isle
are the cultivars Splendor and Hopscotch. Reference is
made to Table I which compares certain characteristics
of Pacific Isle to the same characteristics of the above
mentioned cultivars. The comparisons shown in Table 1
represent side-by-side comparisons of the three Chry-
santhemums grown under controlled conditions and
with three applications of the growth regulator B-
NINE™ at the rate of 2500 ppm. Comparisons were
made during the month of November, 1993, in Encintas,
Calif.

TABLE I

CHARACTERISTIC	HOP- SCOTCH	PACIFIC ISLE	SPLENDOR
CAPITULUM FORM	Flat	Flat	Flat
CAPITULUM TYPE	Daisy	Daisy	Daisy
DIAMETER ACROSS FACE OF CAPITULUM	7.5 cm	11.6 cm	12.2 cm
BRANCHING PATTERN	Upright and Spreading	Upright and Spreading	Upright and Spreading
BREAKS/PINCH	4.4	4.0	4.0
HEIGHT IN A 6.5" POT	9.5–11.5 inches	9.5–11.5 inches	9.5–11.5 inches
DISC FLORET	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
NO. DISC FLORETS	183.2	200.4	133.8
LENGTH OF DISC FLORETS	0.64 cm	0.7 cm	0.6 cm
RAY FLORET COLOR	Front: Yellow 9A	Front: Lavender 62A–62B	Front: Purple 75A

TABLE I-continued

CHARACTERISTIC	HOP-SCOTCH	PACIFIC ISLE	SPLENDOR
	Back: Yellow 6A	Back: Lavender 62D	Back: Purple 75D
NO. RAY FLORETS	32.6	94.2	52.3
SHAPE OF RAY FLORETS	Elliptic	Elliptic	Elliptic
LENGTH OF RAY FLORETS	3.85 cm	5.1 cm	5.2 cm
WIDTH OF RAY FLORETS	1.43 cm	1.5 cm	1.5 cm
NUMBER OF FLOWER/BREAK	6.7	4.6	10.6
LEAF COLOR	Front: 147A Back: 147B	Front: 139A-B Back: 138A	Front: 139A Back: 138A
MATURE LEAF LENGTH	Up To 10.2 cm	Up To 8.3 cm	Up To 8.4 cm
MATURE LEAF WIDTH	5.95 cm	4.8 cm	4.5 cm
RESPONSE: TREATMENT	8.5 weeks: medium vigorous grower	8.5 weeks: medium vigorous grower	9.0 weeks: medium vigorous grower

The three cultivars are similar in having a large flat, daisy capitulum. The diameter of the capitulum of Splendor tends to be larger than the capitulum of Pacific Isle. Both Splendor and Pacific Isle tend to have larger diameter capitulums than Hopscotch. All three cultivars have similar upright, spreading branching patterns and a similar number of breaks per pinch per plant. The finished plant height and the color of the disc florets is also similar for the three cultivars. Pacific Isle tends to have more disc florets than either Hopscotch or Splendor. The length of the disc florets is similar for all three cultivars.

The front ray floret color for Pacific Isle is lavender 62A-62B for Hopscotch is yellow 9A; and for Splendor is purple 75A. The back ray floret color of Pacific Isle is lavender 62D; for Hopscotch is yellow 6A; and for Splendor is purple 75D. Pacific Isle has significantly more ray florets than Splendor and Hopscotch. Splendor has more ray florets than Hopscotch. The ray florets of all three cultivars are elliptic. Pacific Isle has ray florets that are similar in length to Splendor. Hopscotch has shorter ray florets. The width of the ray florets is similar for all three cultivars. The colors of the leaves of

Pacific Isle is similar to Splendor. Hopscotch has darker leaves than either of the other cultivars. Hopscotch has the longest mature leaf length. Pacific Isle and Splendor have similar leaf length. The three cultivars have similar leaf width. The response time from the start of short days in the same for Hopscotch and Pacific Isle at 8.5 weeks. Response time is slightly higher for Splendor, 9.0 weeks.

THE PLANT

Classification:
Botanical.—*Dendranthema grandiflora*.
Cultivar name.—Pacific Isle.
Commercial.—Flat daisy to grown primarily as a Spray/CBR (center bud removal) or disbud pot mum.
Inflorescence:
Capitulum.—Form: flat. Type: Daisy. Diameter across face: Average of 11.6 cm as a disbud.
Corolla of ray florets:
General tonality from a distance of three meters.—lavender.
Color.—Front fully expanded outer ray floret: 62A-B. Back fully expanded outer ray floret: 62D. Disc floret color. Yellow.
General appearance:
Height.—When grown in a 6.5" pot with b 1-4 applications of B-NINE™, the total plant height may be maintained between 9.5-11.5 inches.
Branching pattern.—Upright and spreading with an average of 4.0 breaks when grown with one pinch.
Foliage.—Color (upper surface): 139A-B. Color (lower surface): 138A. Shape: See photograph.
Reproductive organs:
Androecium.—Present in disc floret only: Pollen: scant.
Gynoecium.—Present in both ray and disc florets.
What is claimed is:
1. A new and distinct Chrysanthemum plant substantially as herein described and shown, characterized by its lavender ray floret coloration and exceptional upright to spreading habit.

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U.S. Patent

Feb. 7, 1995

Plant 9,055

