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United States Patent [19]
Akerboom

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[54] ASTER PLANT NAMED ‘PETER’S WHITE’
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[73] Assignee: De Nachtvliinder B.V., Ter Arr,
Netherlands
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[51] Int. Cl.⁶ A01H 5/00
[52] U.S. Cl. Plt./68.1
[58] Field of Search Plt./68.1
[56] References Cited
PUBLICATIONS

GTITM UPOVROM Listing for ‘Peter’s White’ as per PBR
02616 (IL), Aug. 6, 1996.

GTITM UPOVROM Listing for ‘Peter’s White’ as per PBR
9338 (JP), Dec. 24, 1996.

Primary Examiner—Howard J. Locker
Assistant Examiner—Kent L. Bell
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Foley & Lardner

[57] ABSTRACT
A new and distinct cultivar of aster plant named ‘Peter’s
White’, characterized by its white ray floret color; short
flowering height; elliptic-linear shaped leaved which are
medium to long in length, dark green in color and sometimes
with a slight anthocyanin coloration; first flower heads
spread along the axis; medium to large flower heads with
many ray florets; medium to long ray florets that are nar-
rowly elliptic in shape; long, cylindrical shaped involucre;
and late flowering.

2 Drawing Sheets

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The present invention comprises a new and distinct cul-
tivar of Aster plant hereinafter referred to by the cultivar
name ‘Peter’s White’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The new cultivar was originated from a cross made in a
controlled breeding program in Ter Aar, Holland. The female
or seed parent was a selection from proprietary breeding
stock designated the “Butterfly family” while the male or
pollen parent was a selection from proprietary breeding
stock designated the “P” family. ‘Peter’s White’ was dis-
covered and selected by the inventor as a flowering plant
within the progeny of the stated cross in a controlled
environment in Ter Aar, Holland. First asexual reproduction
of the new cultivar by cuttings was in December 1994.
Subsequent asexual reproduction by cuttings of the new
cultivar as performed by applicant at Ter Aar, Holland, has
demonstrated that the combination of characteristics as
herein disclosed are firmly fixed and retained through suc-
cessive generations.

‘Peter’s White’ has not been observed under all possible
environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary with
variations in environment such as temperature, light inten-
sity and day length, without only change in the genotype of
the plant. The following observations, measurements and
values describe the new cultivar as grown in Ter Aar,
Holland under conditions which closely approximate those
generally used in commercial practice.

The new cultivar is most similar to ‘Milka’, U.S. Plant
Patent application Ser. No. 8/664,519) ‘Karmijn’ U.S. Plant
Patent application Ser. No. 8/664,520, and ‘Parade’ U.S.
Plant Patent application Ser. No. 8/664,669, each of the
cultivars has a similar number of ray florets and type of
flower head. The following Table provides several pheno-
typic characteristics that can be used to distinguish the aster
varities ‘Parade’, ‘Milka’, ‘Karmijn’, and ‘Peter’s White’.

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Ray Florets				Capi- tulum	
	Color (RHS)	Length (mm)	Diam- eter (mm)	Diam- eter (mm)	Shape
‘Parade’	Purple (87A)	11–13	1.8	28–30	Funnel-shaped, Long
‘Milka’	Violet (85A)	14–16	2.0	24–27	Cylindrical, Very Long
‘Karmijn’	Purple-Violet (81B)	12–15	2.0	26–29	Campanulate, Medium Length
‘Peter’s White’	White (155B)	11–13	2.0	26–30	Cylindrical, Very Long

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and
are determined to be basic characteristics of ‘Peter’s White’
which in combination distinguish this aster as a new and
distinct cultivar:

- 1) As flowering commences ‘Peter’s White’ is very short
to short.
- 2) Leaves are elliptic-linear shaped, medium to long in
length, dark green in color without anthocyanin coloration.
- 3) The first flower heads produced are spread along the
axis.
- 4) The flower head is medium to large in size with many
ray florets.
- 5) The ray florets are medium to long in size and narrowly
elliptic in shape.
- 6) The involucre is cylindrical in shape and very long.
- 7) Flowering commences very late compared to other
asters.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The accompanying photographic drawing shows a typical specimen plant of the new cultivar. The colors appearing in the photograph are as true as possible with color illustrations of this type.

Sheet 1 is a side view of a pot culture specimen of ‘Peter’s White’.

Sheet 2 is a side view of a flower production specimen of ‘Peter’s White’.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Color Chart (R.H.S.), except where general colors of ordinary significance are referred to. Color values were taken indoors under north light conditions at approximately 12 noon in Nieuwveen, Holland.

Classification:

Botanical.—*Aster Novi-belgii* L.

Commerical.—‘Peter’s White’.

Parentage:

Male parent.—Proprietary selection from Butterfly family.

Female parent.—Proprietary selection from P family.

Propagation: The new cultivar maintains its distinguishing characteristics through successive propagations by cuttings.

Inflorescence

Capitulum:

Form.—Convex.

Type.—Double.

Diameter across face.—26–30 mm (average 28–29 mm).

B. Corolla of ray florets:

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

Color (upper surface).—White R.H.S. 155B.

Color (under surface).—White R.H.S. 155B.

Shape.—Narrow, elliptic, with acute to round tip.

Size of floret.—11–13 mm length×2 mm width

Number of florets.—125–759.

C. Corolla of disc florets: ‘Peter’s White’ doesn’t produce disc florets, instead of disc florets there are ray florets.

D. Reproductive organs:

Androecium.—Not always present the variety does not appear to produce pollen.

Gynoecium.—Present.

E. Buds:

Size.—Just before opening approximately 8 mm diameter.

Color.—Dark green R.H.S. 137A.

II. Plant

A. General appearance: The plants are very short to short in height as flowering commences. The leaves produced by ‘Peter’s White’ are elliptic-linear in shape, medium to long in length and are dark green in color. The first flower heads produced are spread along the axis. The flower head is medium to large in size with many ray florets. The ray florets are medium to long in size and narrowly elliptic in shape. The involucre is cylindrical in shape and very long. Flowering commences very late compared to other asters;

the flowering period is from June through February, in which the cultivar flowers only twice. The stem is pubescent. The plant has a high density of branching.

Height.—Short to very short; 1.2 meters for flower production and 10–15 cm for pot culture.

Stem.—Length (mm) of internode (first internode is first sideflower under top flower):

INTERNODE			
5th	10th	15th	20th
10–18	22–26	28–32	23–31

Thickness (mm) of internode (first internode is first sideflower under top flower):

INTERNODE			
5th	10th	15th	20th
1.4–1.8	1.8–2.5	2.6–3.2	3.5–4.8

B. Foliage:

Color.—Dark green R.H.S. 137A.

Length (maximum in mm; first internode is first sideflower under top flower).—

INTERNODE			
5th	10th	15th	20th
52–70	72–90	87–110	106–128

Width (maximum in mm; first internode is first sideflower under top flower).—

INTERNODE			
5th	10th	15th	20th
7.0–9.0	8.6–12.0	11.2–14.2	12.1–16.0

Margin.—Almost no indentations.

Shape.—Elliptic-linear, medium to long in length.

Arrangement.—Strong leaves.

For flower production.—Long day treatment until plant is approximately 50 cm tall. After that approximately 5.5 weeks short day treatment.

For pot culture.—Directly after rooting and/or topping 1 or more times 5–6 weeks short day treatment.

C. Side branch:

Length (maximum in mm; first internode is first sideflower under top flower).—

INTERNODE			
5th	10th	15th	20th
46–65	85–142	150–242	195–414

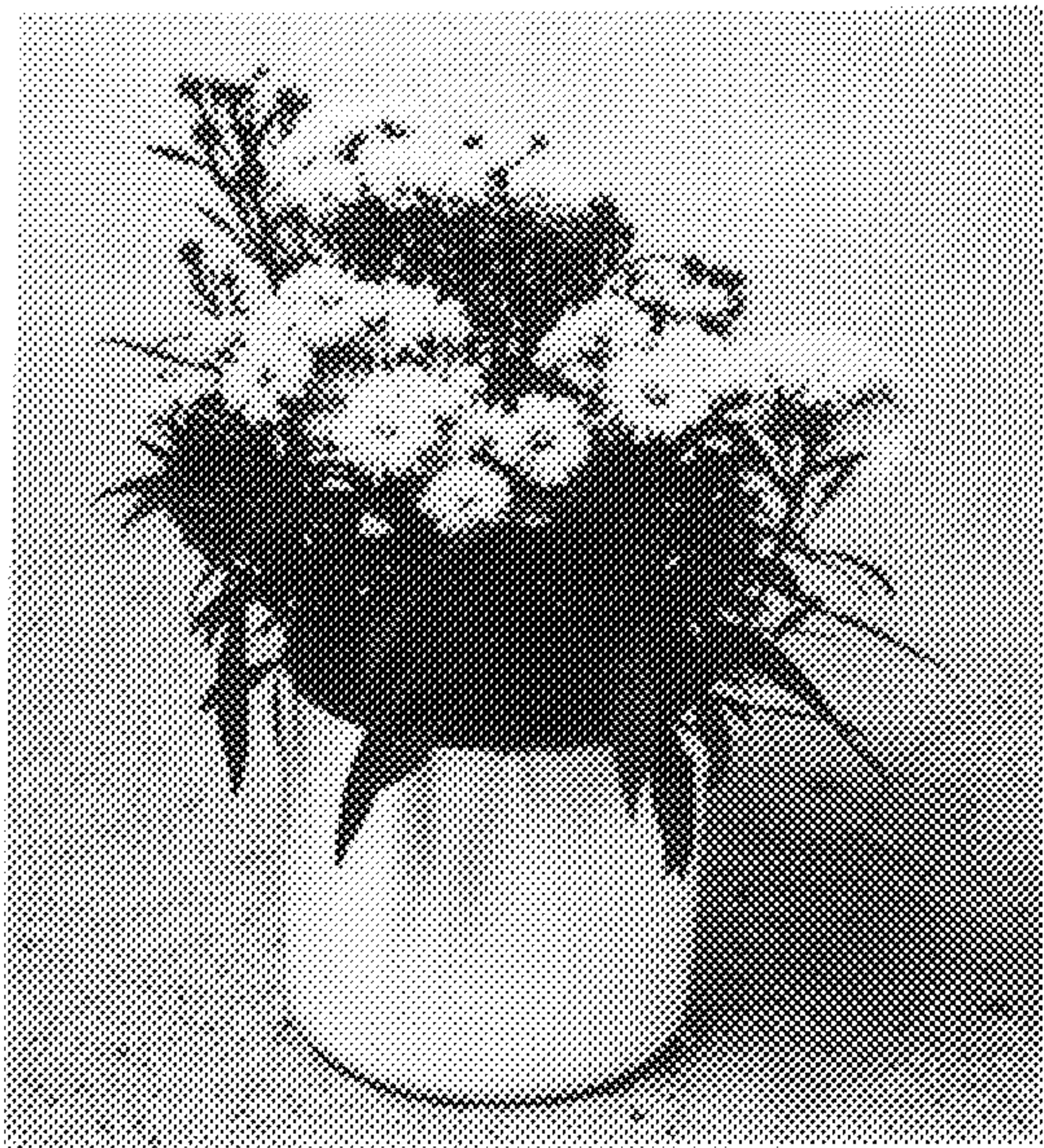
- D. Disease resistance: No unusual disease resistance has been exhibited by this cultivar when compared to other known commerical aster varieties.
- E. Fertility: Irregular fertility because the variety does not appear to produce pollen.

Fragrance.—None.

I claim:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of aster plant named ‘Peter’s White’, as illustrated and described.

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

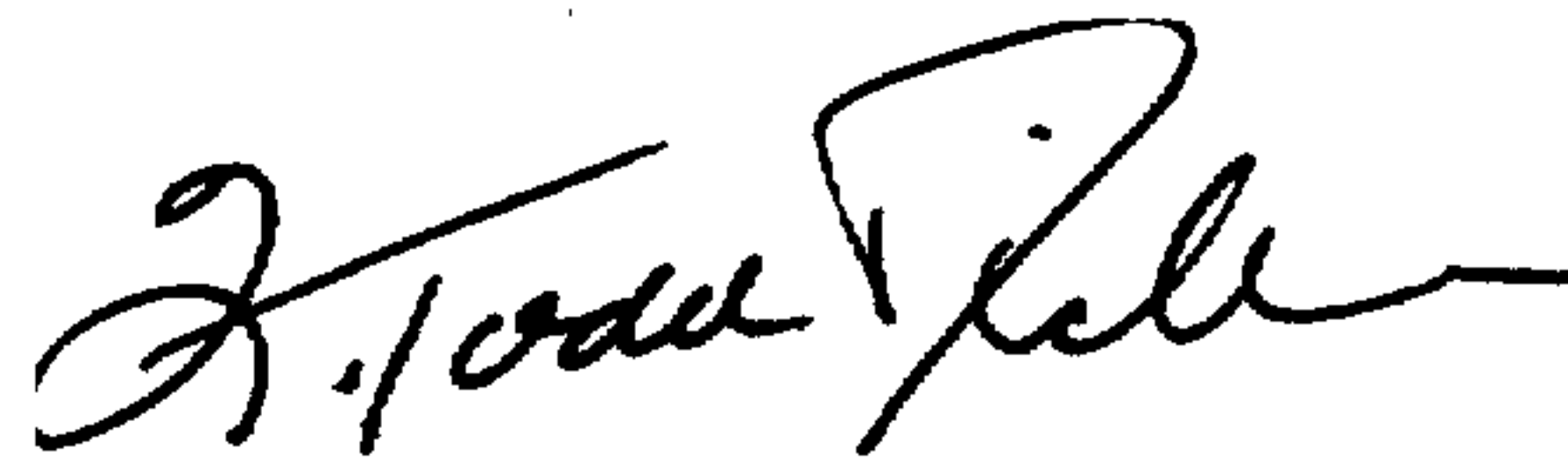
PATENT NO. : Plant 10-783
DATED : February 9, 1999
INVENTOR(S) : Petrus J. AKERBOOM

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

On the title page, item [73] Assignee, change "Ter Arr" and replace with --Ter Aar--.

Signed and Sealed this
Twenty-second Day of August, 2000

Attest:



Q. TODD DICKINSON

Attesting Officer

Director of Patents and Trademarks