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Noodelijk

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[54] **CHRYSANTHEMUM PLANT NAMED 'OBERON'**

[58] Field of Search Plt./286, 287, 297, Plt./298, 292, 293

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[57] ABSTRACT

[21] Appl. No.: **09/179,457**

A chrysanthemum plant named Oberon characterized by its small sized blooms with greyed-red ray florets and prolific branching early natural season flower date of August 4–7; blooming for a period of 6 weeks.

[22] Filed: **Oct. 27, 1998**

[51] Int. Cl.⁷ **A01H 5/00**

[52] U.S. Cl. **Plt./287; Plt./286**

1 Drawing Sheet

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The new plant of the present invention comprises a new and distinct cultivar of chrysanthemum plant that is a cross of unknown *Dendranthema grandiflora* parents. The new and distinct cultivar was a seedling resulting from the open pollination among groups of chrysanthemum cultivars maintained under the control of the inventor for breeding purposes. The new and distinct cultivar was discovered and selected as one flowering plant by Rob Noodelijk on a cultivated field in Rijshout, Holland in Aug., 1996. The plant has been asexually reproduced by cuttings in greenhouses at Rijshout, Holland. The new cultivar has been found to retain its distinctive characteristics through successive propagations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present plant is a new and distinct variety of chrysanthemum of a small sized bloom and greyed-red ray florets.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The present invention of a new and distinct variety of chrysanthemum is shown in the accompanying drawings, the color being as nearly true as possible with color photographs of this type.

FIG. 1 shows the various stages of bloom of the new cultivar.

DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

This new variety of chrysanthemum is of the botanical classification *Dendranthema grandiflora*. The observations and measurements were gathered from plants grown outdoors in Rijshout, Holland under natural day length and temperature and planted week 22 in 1997 and 1998. The natural blooming date of this crop was August 4–7 (week 32). The average height of the plants was 20 cms. This new variety produces small sized blooms with greyed-red ray florets and yellow-green disc florets (only visible at an early stage of inflorescence).

The following is a description of the plant and characteristics that distinguish Oberon as a new and distinct variety.

The color designations (color designations are from the R.H.S. Colour Chart) are taken from the plant itself. Accordingly, any discrepancies between the color designa-

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tions and the colors depicted in the photographs are due to photographic tolerances.

Botanical Classification	
CULTIVAR	Oberon
<u>Bud</u>	
Size	SMALL CROSS SECTION ± 1.0 CM HEIGHT ±1.0 CM
Outside Color	RED 51 D
<u>Bloom</u>	
Size	SMALL
Fully Expanded	4–4½ CM
Borne (number of blooms per branch)	UPPER AND LOWER PORTION PLURAL BLOOMS PER BRANCH (APPROX. 6 BLOOMS) FROM TOP TILL BOTTOM APPROX. 10.0 CM
Length of lateral branch	WEAK
lateral branch, attachment	
Branching	Prolific with 6–8 breaks after pinching
Form	DECORATIVE
Performance (on the plant)	6 WEEKS
<u>Color</u>	
Disc florets	At an early stage of inflorescence, yellow-green
Color of the upper surface of the majority of the ray-florets	Greyed-red 179 C near the center, the outer ray florets greyed-red 182 D
Color of the lower surface of the majority of the ray-florets	ORANGE 27 B TO GREYED PURPLE 185 D AT THE TIPS
Tonality from Distance	A COMPACT GARDEN MUM WITH GREYED- RED BLOOMS AT A MATURE STAGE OF INFLORESCENCE AND A YELLOW-GREEN CENTER IN AN EARLY STAGE OF INFLORESCENCE TO GREYED-PURPLE 186 D
Discoloration of ray florets	

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Botanical Classification	
CULTIVAR	Oberon
Discoloration of disc florets	To yellow-green
Ray florets	152 C
Texture	UPPERSIDE SMOOTH UNDERSIDE SMOOTH
Number	±190-220
Cross-section	FLAT
Longitudinal axis of the majority	REFLEXING
Shape of tip	ROUND
Fragrance	TYPICAL CHRYSANTHEMUM
Disc diameter (natural season crop)	0.7 cm
<u>Reproductive Organs</u>	
Stamen	None present
Pollen	NONE
Styles (present in both ray and disc florets)	GREEN, THIN
Style Length	±3 MM
Stigmas	YELLOW-GREEN
Stigma Width	±1 MM
Ovaries	ENCLOSED IN CALYX
<u>Plant</u>	
Form	A GARDENMUM (POT MUM) MEANT FOR OUTDOOR USE
Growth	SHORT
Height (from soil level)	±20 CM
Stem Color	NEAR GREEN 137 D
Stem Strength	MEDIUM

Botanical Classification	
CULTIVAR	Oberon
Stem Brittleness	PRESENT
Stem Anthocyanin Coloration	NONE
Natural blooming date	August 4-7 (week 32)
<u>Foliage</u>	
Color	UPPERSIDE GREEN 139 A UNDERSIDE GREEN 137 B
Size	<u>SMALL:</u> LENGTH ±6 CM WIDTH ±4 CM
Quantity (number per lateral branch)	10-12
Shape	INCURVED
Texture	FLESHY
Ribs and Veins	RIBS AND VEINS WELL DEVELOPED
Edge	CRENATED
Shape of Base of Sinus Between Lateral Lobes	ROUND
Margin of Sinus Between Lateral Lobes	CONVERGING
Shape of Base	ROUND
Apex	MUCRONATE

I claim:
1. A new and distinct variety of chrysanthemum plant as described and illustrated.

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FIG. 1

