

US00PP12478P2

(12) **United States Plant Patent**
Noodelijk

(10) **Patent No.:** **US PP12,478 P2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Mar. 19, 2002**

(54) **CHRYSANTHEMUM NAMED ‘DELPHIRES’**
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(*) **Notice:** Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
patent is extended or adjusted under 35
U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.
(21) **Appl. No.:** **09/561,960**
(22) **Filed:** **May 1, 2000**
(51) **Int. Cl.⁷** **A01H 5/00**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./298**
(58) **Field of Search** **Plt./298**
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(57) **ABSTRACT**
A chrysanthemum plant named ‘Delphires’ characterized by
its small sized blooms with red-purple ray florets and prolific
branching; natural season flower date 1–4 September;
blooming for a period of 6 weeks.

2 Drawing Sheets

1

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

‘Delphires’ is a product of a breeding and selection
program for outdoor pot mums (garden mums) which had
the objective of creating new chrysanthemum cultivars with
a decorative type flower, a natural season flower date around
1–4 September; blooming for a period of 6 weeks. The new
plant of the present invention comprises a new and distinct
cultivar of Chrysanthemum plant ‘Delphires’ is a seedling
resulting from the open pollination among groups of chry-
santhemum cultivars maintained under the control of the
inventor for breeding purposes. The new and distinct culti-
var was discovered and selected as one flowering plant by
Rob Noodelijk on a cultivated field in Rijsenhout Holland in
September 1996. The plant has been asexually reproduced
by cuttings in greenhouses at Rijsenhout Holland. The new
cultivar has been found to retain its distinctive characteris-
tics through successive propagations.

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 photo-
graphs of this type.

FIG. 1 shows a plant of the cultivar in full bloom.

FIG. 2 shows the various stages of bloom of the new
cultivar; and

FIG. 3 shows the various stages of foliage and petiole of
the new cultivar.

DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

This new variety of chrysanthemum is of the botanical
classification dendranthema drandiflora. The observations
and measurements were gathered from plants grown out
door in Rijsenhout, Holland under natural day length and
temperature and planted week 22 in 1997 and 1998. The
natural blooming date of this crop was 1–4 September (week
35). The plants were observed (directly) during the flower-
ing of this crop. The average height of the plants was 34–36
cms. No growth retardants were used. No tests were done on
cold or drought tolerance. This new variety produces small
sized blooms with red-purple ray florets.

2

From the cultivars known to inventor the most similar
existing cultivar in comparison to ‘Delphires’ is ‘Barbara’.
When ‘Barbara’ and ‘Delphires’ are being compared the
following differences are noticed: The differences of ‘Bar-
bara’ and ‘Delphires’ are: (1) Natural flowering date ‘Del-
phires’ flowers beginning of September, ‘Barbara’ around
September 25, (2) Vigor. The plants of ‘Barbara’ are more
compact.

The following is a description of the 13-week plant and
characteristics that distinguish ‘Delphires’ as a new and
distinct variety. The color designations are taken from the
plant itself. Accordingly, any discrepancies between the
color designations and the colors depicted in the photo-
graphs are due to photographic tolerances.

The color chart used in this description is: The Royal
Horticultural Society Colour Chart, edition 1995.

Botanical Classification

Dendranthema grandiflora ‘Delphires’

Bud:
Size.—Small, cross-section 1.0 cm height 1.1 cm.
Outside color.—Red-purple 70 B.
Involucral bracts.—2 rows, length 7 mm, width 3 mm.
Involucral bracts among disc-florets.—Not present.
Involucral bracts color.—Green 138 A.
Bloom:
Type.—Decorative.
Height.—Medium.
Size.—Small.
Fully expanded.—4.5–5.5 cm.
Number of blooms per branch.—Approx. 6 blooms per
branch.
Performance (on the plant).—6 weeks.
Seeds.—Not produced.
Fragrance.—Typical chrysanthemum.
Color:
Center of flower.—Immature red-purple 61 A (disc
when visible yellow-green 154A Mature red-purple
61 A.
Color of the upper surface of the ray-florets.—Red-
purple 61 A.

Color of the lower surface of the ray-florets.—Red-purple 71 B.
Tonality from distance.—A mounded and rich flowering garden mum with red-purple decorative blooms.
Discoloration to color.—None.

Ray florets:
Texture.—Upper side and under side smooth.
Number.—140–160.
Cross-section.—Concave.
Longitudinal axis of the majority.—Straight, outer rows reflexing.
Length of corolla tube.—Short.
Ray-floret margin.—Entire.
Ray-floret length.—2.2–2.5 cm.
Ray-floret width.—0.5–0.7 cm.
Ratio length/width.—High.
Shape of tip.—Dentate.

Disc florets:
Disc diameter.—0.5 cm.
Distribution of disc florets.—Numerous, visible at all stages of flowering.
Shape.—Tubular.
Color.—Yellow-green 154 A.
Receptacle shape.—Domed raised.

Reproductive organs:
Stamen.—Yellow-green, thin 3 mm.
Stamen color.—Yellow-green 144 B.
Pollen.—Some, appears late.
Pollen color.—Yellow 12 A.
Styles.—Green, thin.
Style color.—Yellow-green 144 B.
Style length.—4 m.
Stigmas.—Yellow-green 144 B.
Stigma width.—1 mm.
Ovaries.—Enclosed in calyx.

Plant:
Type.—A garden mum (pot mum) meant for out door use.
Growth habit.—Spreading.
Growth rate.—Rapid.
Height (from soil level).—34–36 cm.

Width.—30–32 cm.
Stem color.—Green 138 A.
Stem strength.—Weak.
Stem brittleness.—Absent.
Stem anthocyanin coloration.—Present.
Length of lateral brach.—15–17 cm.
Lateral branch color.—Green 138 A.
Lateral branch, attachment.—Weak, but not brittle.
Branching (average number of lateral branches).—Mounded and prolific with 8–10 breaks after pinching.
Peduncle length.—3.5–4.0 cm.
Peduncle color.—Green 138 A.
Natural blooming data.—1–4 September.

Foliage:
Color.—Upper side green 137 B Under side green 138 B.
Size.—Small, length 5.0–5.5 cm width 4.0 cm.
Quantity (number per lateral branch).—14–16.
Shape.—Ovate.
Texture upper side.—Glabrous.
Texture under side.—Pubescent.
Venation arrangement.—Palmate.
Shape of the margin.—Serrated.
Shape of base of sinus between lateral lobes.—Pointed.
Margin of sinus between lateral lobes.—Diverging.
Shape of base.—Attenuate.
Apex.—Mucronate.

Differences with the comparison varieties		
	'DELPHIRES'	'BARBARA'
Natural flowering date	1–4 September	25 September
Vigor	Rapid	Moderate

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

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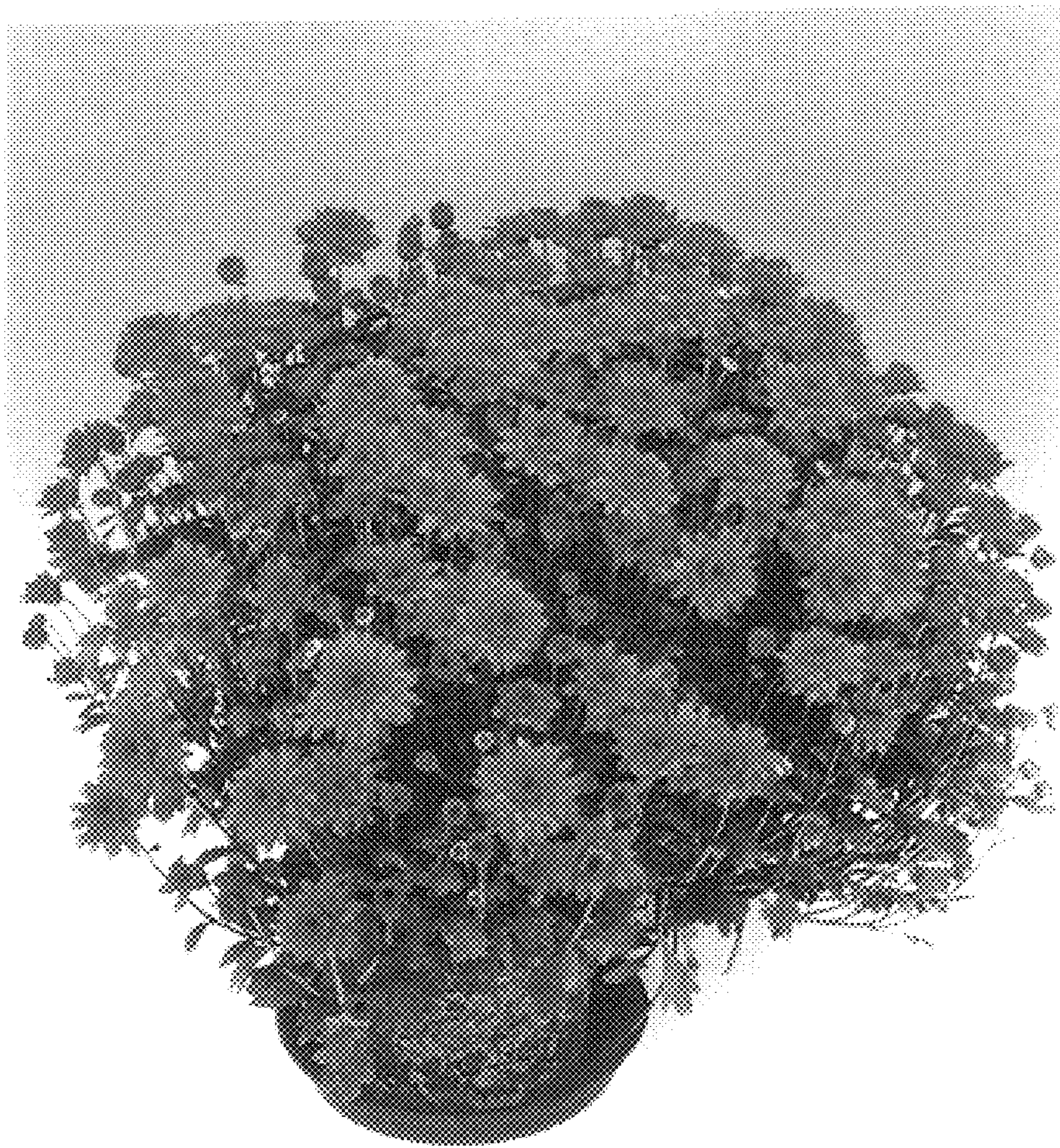


FIG. 1

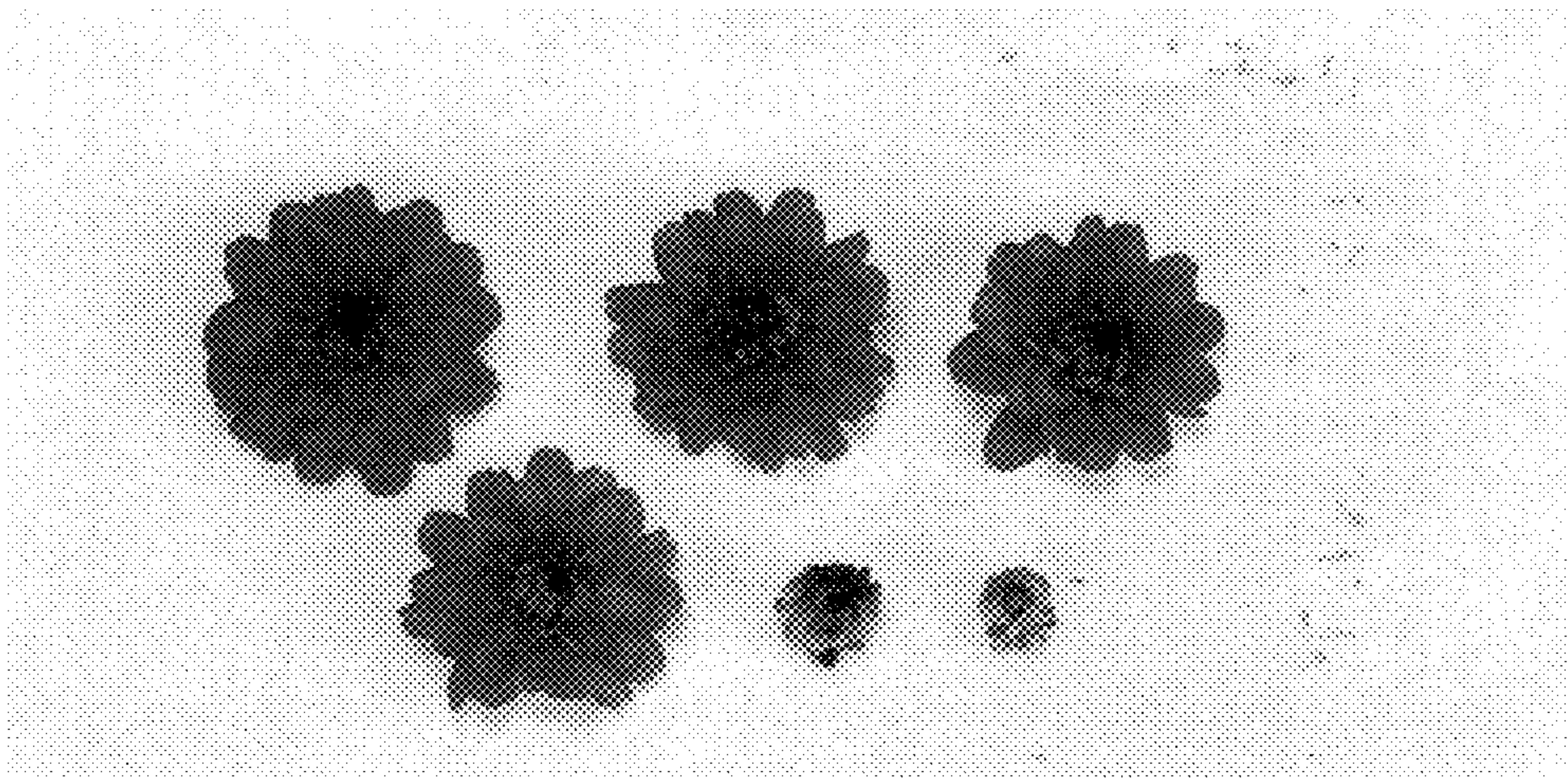


FIG. 2

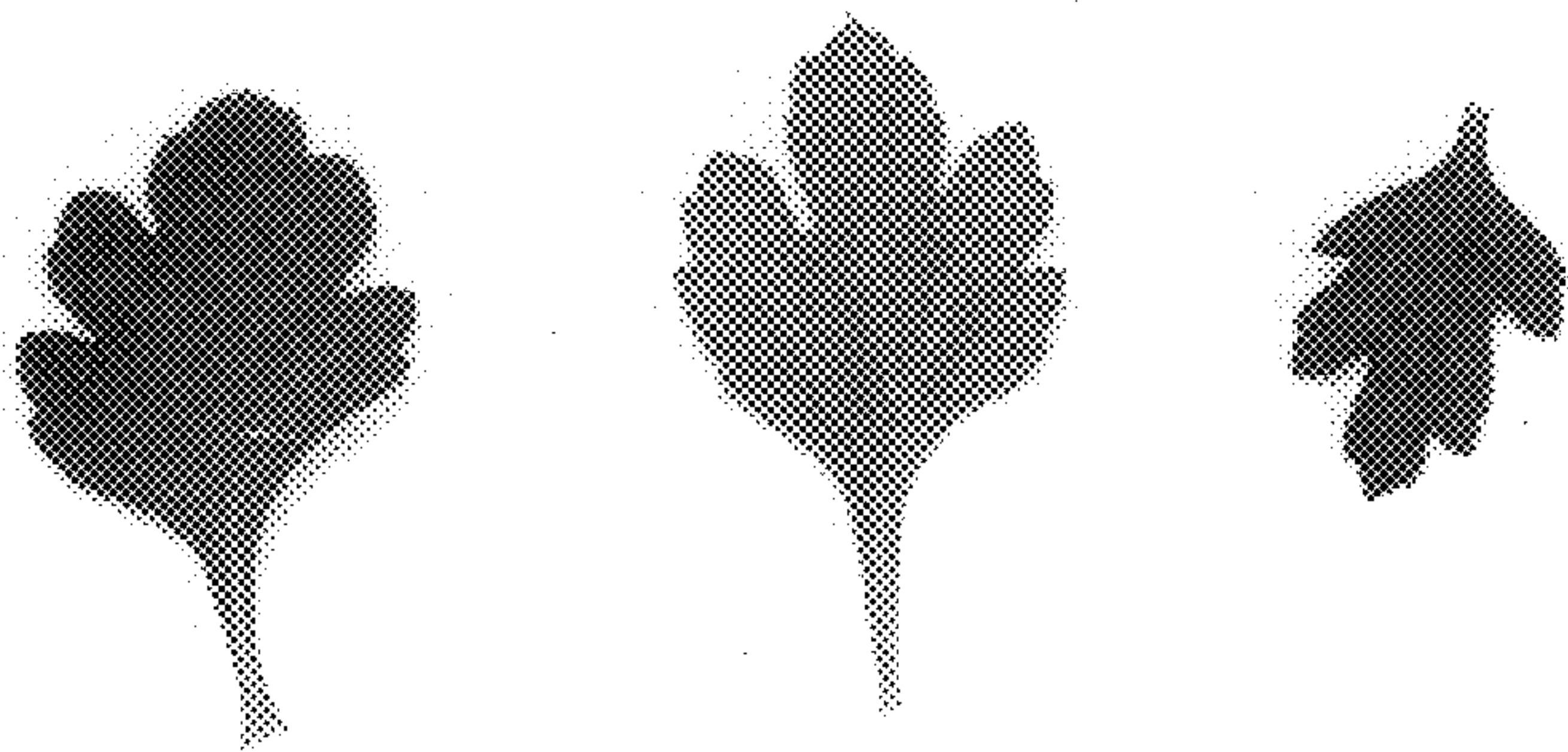


FIG. 3