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

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(54) **CHRYSANTHEMUM PLANT NAMED
‘ITHACA’**
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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.
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(51) **Int. Cl.⁷** **A01H 5/00**
(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./291**
(58) **Field of Search** **Plt./291**
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A chrysanthemum plant named ‘ITHACA’ characterized by
its medium sized blooms with salmon ray florets and prolific
branching; natural season flower date 4–7 September;
blooming for a period of 6 weeks.

2 Drawing Sheets

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

‘ITHACA’ is a product of a breeding and selection pro-
gram 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
4–7 September; blooming for a period of 6 weeks.
The new plant of the present invention comprises a new
and distinct cultivar of Chrysanthemum plant ‘ITHACA’ is
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 Rijsenhout, Hol-
land in September 1996. The plant has been asexually
reproduced by cuttings in greenhouses at Rijsenhout, Hol-
land. The new cultivar has been found to retain its distinctive
characteristics 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.
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 grandiflora*. 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 4–7 September (week
36). The plants were observed (directly) during the flower-
ing of this crop. The average height of the plants were 25–28
cms. No growth retardants were used. No tests were done on
cold or drought tolerance. This new variety produces
medium sized decorative blooms with salmon ray florets.
From the cultivars known to inventor the most similar
existing cultivar in comparison to ‘ITHACA’ is ‘SOFT

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LYNN’ (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 8,898). When ‘SOFT LYNN’
and ‘ITHACA’ are being compared the following differences
are noticed: The differences of ‘SOFT LYNN’ and ‘ITH-
ACA’ are (1) The natural flowering date. ‘ITHACA’ flowers
4–7 September. (2) The flower size. The flowers of ‘ITH-
ACA’ are larger (5.0–5.5 cm).

The following is a description of the 14-week plant and
characteristics that distinguish ‘ITHACA’ as a new and
distinct variety.

The color designations are taken from the plant itself.
Accordingly, any discrepancies between the color designa-
tions and the colors depicted in the photographs 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 ‘ITHACA’

Bud:
Size.—Small, cross-section 1.0 cm height 1.2 cm.
Outside color.—Orange-red 35 B.
Involucral bracts.—2 rows, length 7 mm, width 3 mm.
Involucral bracts among disc-florets.—Not present.
Involucral bracts color.—Green 138 B.
Bloom:
Type.—Decorative.
Height.—High.
Size.—Medium.
Fully expanded.—5.0–5.5 cm.
Number of blooms per branch.—Approx. 5 blooms per
branch.
Performance (on the plant).—6 weeks.
Seeds.—Not produced.
Fragrance.—Typical chrysanthemum.
Color:
Center of flower.—Immature Red 35 A. Mature Red 37
A.
Color of the upper surface of the ray-florets.—Red-
purple 62 B.
Color of the lower surface of the ray-florets.—Red 37
B.
Tonality from distance.—A garden mum with pink-
salmon flowers.

Discoloration to color.—Red-purple 65 C.

Ray florets:

Texture.—Upper side and under side smooth.

Number.—190–220.

Cross-section.—Convex.

Longitudinal axis of the majority.—Reflexing.

Length of corolla tube.—Very short.

Ray-floret margin.—Entire.

Ray-floret length.—2.5–2.8 cm.

Ray-floret width.—0.3–0.5 cm.

Ratio length/width.—High.

Shape of tip.—Pointed.

Disc florets.—None.

Receptacle shape.—Domed raised.

Reproductive organs:

Stamen.—Not present.

Pollen.—None.

Styles.—Green, thin.

Style color.—Yellow-green 144 C.

Style length.—3 mm.

Stigmas.—Yellow-green 144 C.

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.—Slow.

Height.—25–28 cm.

Width.—28–30 cm.

Stem color.—Green 138 B.

Stem strength.—Weak.

Stem brittleness.—Absent.

Stem anthocyanin coloration.—Absent.

Length of lateral branch.—From top to bottom 10–11 cm.

Lateral branch color.—Green 138 B.

Lateral branch, attachment.—Weak.

Branching (average number of lateral branches).—Prolific with 6–7 breaks after pinching.

Peduncle length.—2.0 cm.

Peduncle color.—Green 138 B.

Natural blooming date.—4–7 September.

Foliage:

Color.—Upper side green 137 A. Under side green 146 B.

Size.—Small, length 5.5–6.0 cm width 4.5 cm.

Quantity (number per lateral branch).—12–14.

Shape.—Oval.

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.—Parallel.

Shape of base.—Acute sometimes asymmetric.

Apex.—Mucronate.

Differences with the comparison varieties		
	‘ITHACA’	‘SOFT LYNN’
Natural flowering date	4–7 September	23 September
Flower size	5.0–5.5 cm.	4.5–5.0 cm

I claim:

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

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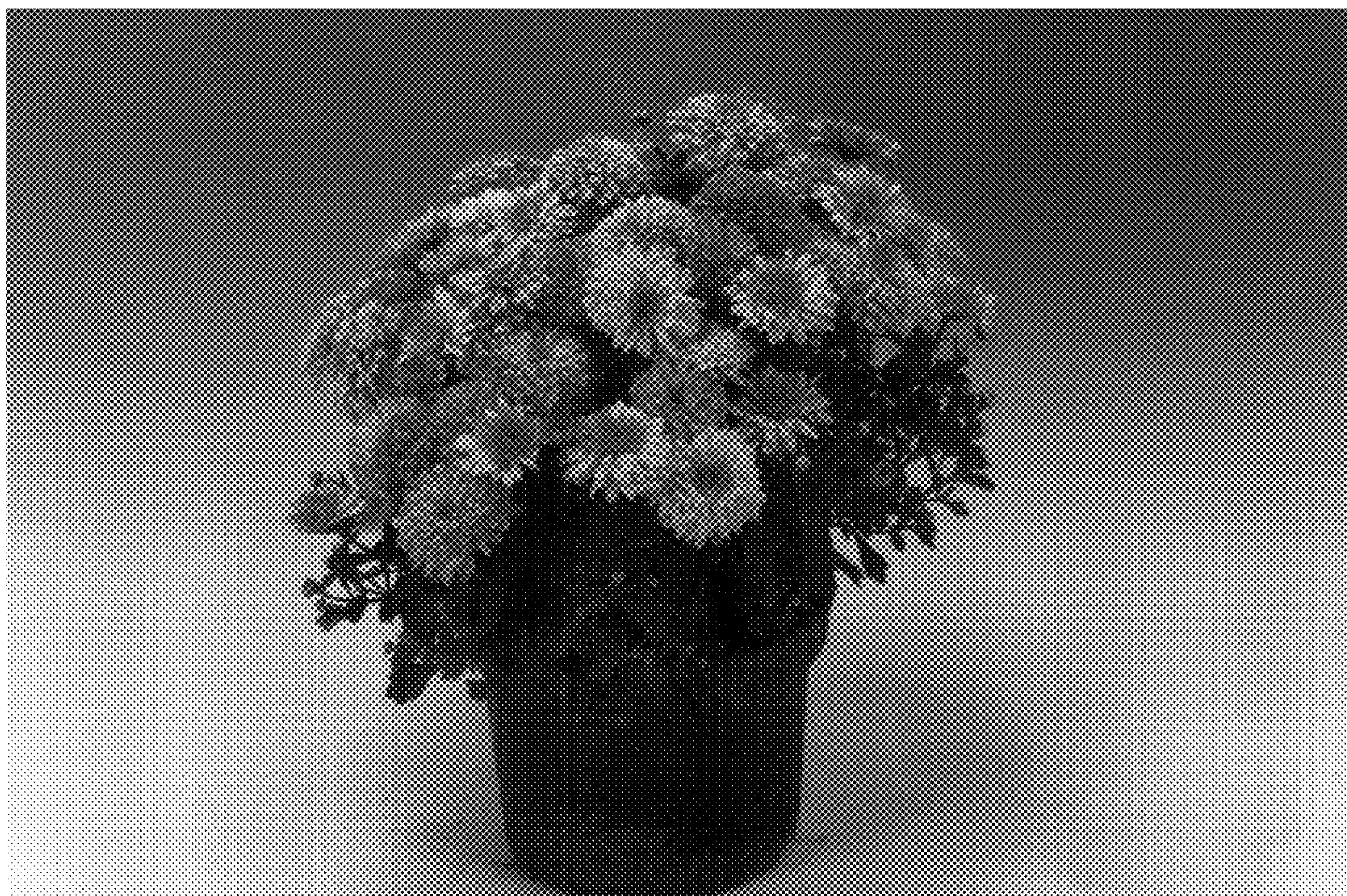


FIG. 1

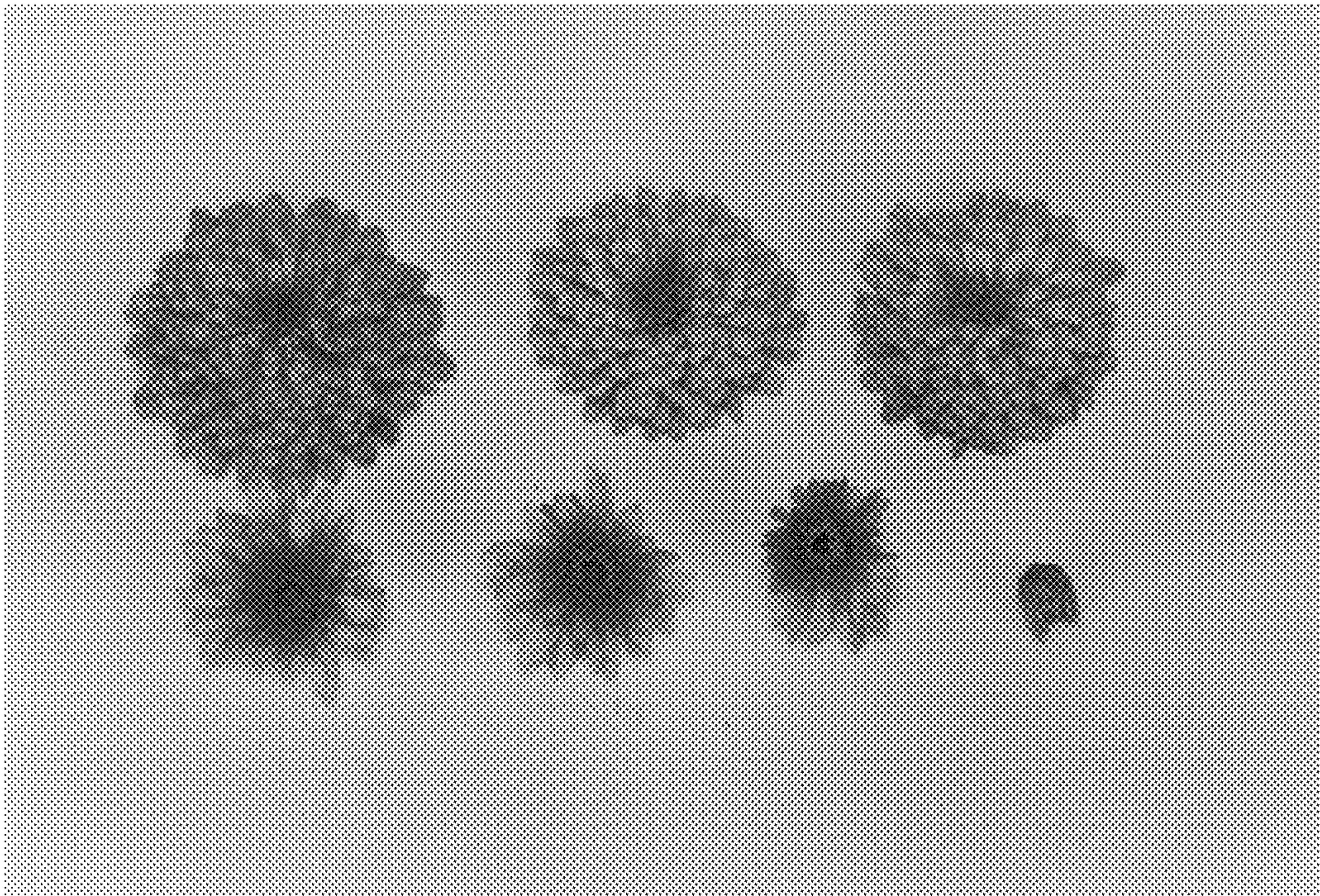


FIG. 2

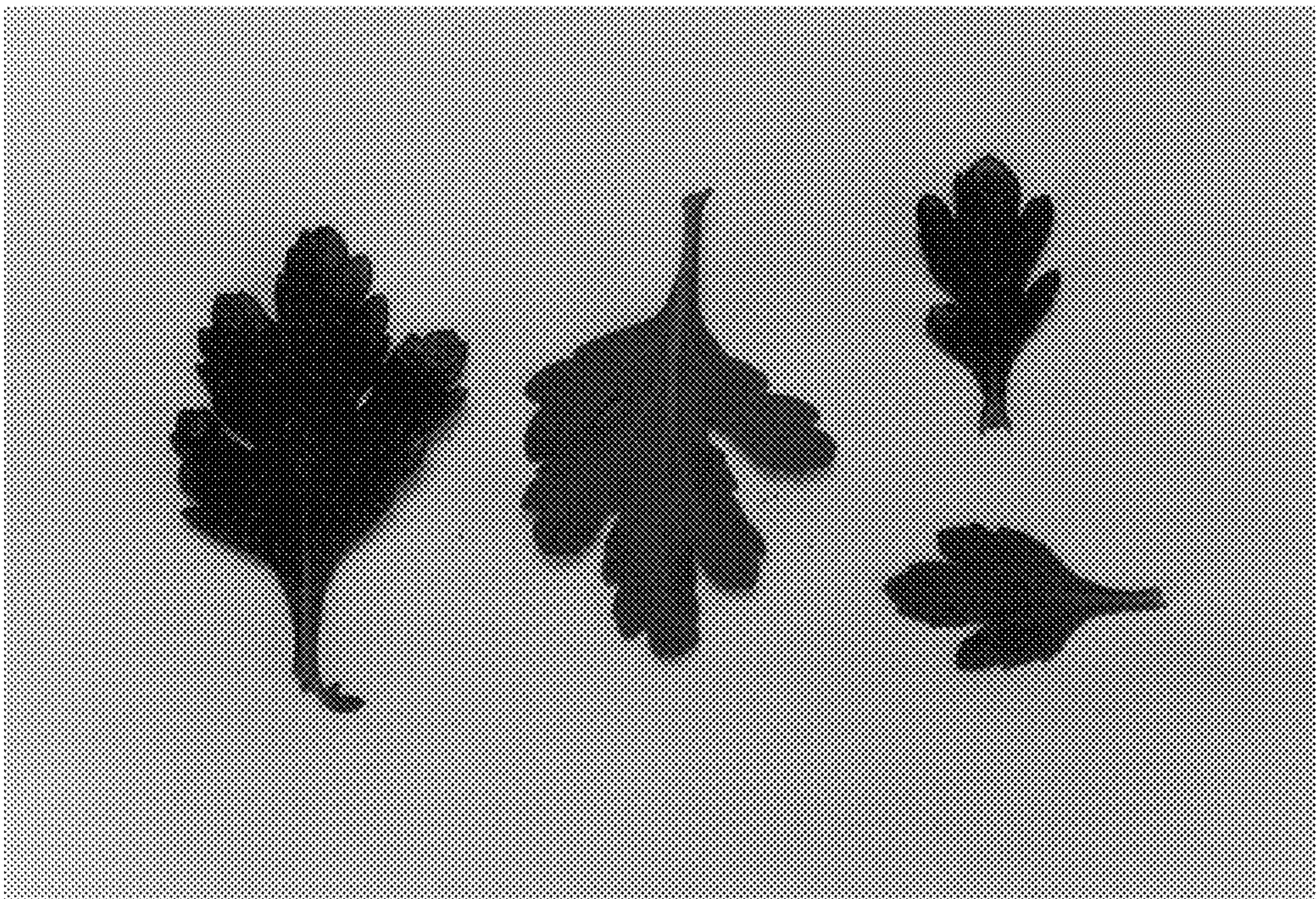


FIG. 3