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Pieters

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(54) **CHRYSANTHEMUM PLANT NAMED**
'ROME'

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new plant variety of chrysanthemum producing flowers
with white ray florets and yellow disc florets.

1 Drawing Sheet

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is directed to a new and distinct
variety of chrysanthemum morifolium. The varietal denomi-
nation of the new chrysanthemum is 'ROME'.

The new variety is a cross of two unnamed, undistributed,
unpatented seedlings. The new variety has been asexually
reproduced by vegetative cuttings in Ventura County, Calif.
and the distinguishing characteristics are retained through
successive generations of asexual reproduction.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

'ROME' is a chrysanthemum plant that produces flowers
with white ray florets and yellow disc florets.

COMPARISON WITH OTHER VARIETY

The following is a comparison to the commercial variety
'GEDI WT8' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 11,648), 'Pidoul,' Seed
Parent, Pollen:

	'GEDI WT8'	'ROME'	'Pidoul'	Seed Parent	Pollen Parent
Inflorescence Diameter	4.5 cm	2.5 cm	2.5 to 3 cm	3 cm	2 cm
Ray Floret coloration when mature	Near 158D	Near 155D	Near 155D	Near 155D	Yellow
Quantity of Ray florets	About 30	Between 30 to 40	About 30	About 20	About 70
Quantity of Inflorescence per stem	About 12	About 15	Between 12 to 15	About 20	About 25
Height	About 18 cm	About 21 cm	Between 25 to 30 cm	About 20 cm	About 26 cm
Natural Season Bloom Inflorescence form	Early October Daisy	Early September Anemone	Mid- September Daisy	Mid- September Daisy	Early October Daisy

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ILLUSTRATIONS

The accompanying photograph shows a typical specimen
of the plant and flowers of the new variety with colors being
as nearly true as possible with illustrations of this type.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANT

The following description of the new variety is of speci-
mens grown in a greenhouse in Ventura County, Calif. Plants
described are approximately 90 days old from a rooted
cutting. 'ROME' has not been observed under all possible
environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary with
variations in the environment such as temperature, light
intensity, day length and cultural conditions. The color
designations herein are from *The Royal Horticultural Soci-
ety Colour Chart* except where general terms are used.

To produce a commercial product the plants may be
pinched once about ten days after planting. No growth
retardant has been applied in the specimens described.
Useful growing conditions include average night tempera-
tures of about 17° C. to 20° C. and average day tempera-
tures of about 20° C. to 30° C. No susceptibility or resistance to
disease has been observed. Resistance or susceptibility to
insects has not been observed. Seed production has not been
observed. Winter hardiness and drought/heat tolerance have
not been observed.

ROOTING CHARACTERISTICS

Time to initiate roots: About 7 to 14 days at about 21° C.
Rooting description: Fine, fibrous.

PLANT

Plant type: Herbaceous perennial.

Growth habit: Mounding.

Size: Height about 21 cm, width about 22 cm.

Growth rate: Rapid.

Branching characteristics: Free branching, lateral branches
are approximately 18 cm in length, about 0.5 cm in
diameter and near 137C in color.

Typical size containers: 4 inch, 6 inch, 2 gallon.

FOLIAGE

Arrangement: Alternate.
 Compound or simple: Simple.
 Quantity of leaves: Many.
 Leaf size:
 Length.—About 5.5 cm.
 Width.—About 4 cm.
 Leaf shape: Ovate.
 Leaf tip: Acuminate.
 Leaf base: Attenuate.
 Leaf attachment: Stalked.
 Petiole: Length about 2 cm, diameter about 0.3 cm, color near 137C.
 Margin type: Serrate.
 Texture: Lightly pubescent.
 Color:
 Young foliage upper side.—Near 137A.
 Young foliage under side.—Near 137A.
 Mature foliage upper side.—Near 137A.
 Mature foliage under side.—Near 137A.
 Venation: Net.
 Color.—Venation upper side: Near 137C. Venation under side: Near 137D.

BLOOM

Inflorescence:
 Flowering habit.—Induced by darkness period greater than 13.5 hours. Approximately 50 days of day length required to induce and develop blooms.
 Inflorescence form.—Anemone.
 Natural flowering season.—Around the first week in September in Ventura County, Calif.
 Quantity of inflorescences per stem.—About 15.
 Inflorescence diameter.—About 2.5 cm, the angle of attachment causes the overall diameter of the inflorescence to be less than the sum of the disc and ray florets measured individually. Additionally, the disc opens at an angle, causing it to partially cover the base of the ray florets as it expands, which also causes the ray floret length to appear less in the overall measurement of the entire intact inflorescence.
 Inflorescence depth.—About 1.5 cm.
 Disc diameter.—About 1.5 cm.
 Inflorescence longevity on plant.—About 20 to 26 days.
 Persistence.—Persistent.
 Ray florets:
 Appearance.—Matte.
 Texture.—Smooth.
 Number.—About 30–40.
 Shape.—Obovate.
 Margin.—Entire.
 Tip.—Obtuse.
 Length.—About 1.5 cm.
 Width.—About 0.8 cm.

Color.—Upper side: First opening: Near 9D. Mature: Near 155D. Fading: Near 155D. Under side: First opening: Near 13D. Mature: Near 155D. Fading: Near 155D.
 Disc florets:
 Appearance.—Shiny.
 Texture.—Smooth.
 Number.—Over 100.
 Shape.—Cylindric.
 Tip.—Serrate.
 Length.—About 0.8 cm.
 Width.—About 0.1 cm.
 Color.—First opening: Near 13A. Mature: Near 13A. Fading: Near 13B.
 Peduncle: About 0.2 cm in diameter.
 Length.—Terminal, shortest: About 3 cm. Lateral, longest: About 5 cm.
 Color.—Near 138A.
 Strength.—Soft.
 Habit.—Erect.
 Inflorescence bud:
 Length.—About 0.8 cm.
 Diameter.—About 0.8 cm.
 Form or shape.—Globular.
 Color.—Near 13A.
 Involucral bracts: Length about 0.6 cm, width about 0.4 cm.
 Appearance.—Matte.
 Texture.—Lightly pubescent.
 Number.—About 20 to 30.
 Shape.—Ovate.
 Margin.—Entire.
 Tip.—Acute.
 Color.—Upper side: Near 137A. Under side: Near 137A.

REPRODUCTIVE ORGANS

Ray florets:
 Pistillate.—Pistil length in the ray florets is about 0.6 cm.
 Pistil number.—1 per flower.
 Stigma shape.—2 branched.
 Stigma color.—Near 7D.
 Style length.—About 0.3 cm.
 Style color.—Near 7D.
 Disc florets: Pistil length in the disc florets is about 0.3 cm.
 Pistillate.—Pistil number: 1 per flower.
 Stigma shape.—Cylindric.
 Style length.—About 0.3 cm.
 Staminate:
 Stamen number.—About 5.
 Anther shape.—Tubular.
 Anther color.—Near 7A.
 Pollen color.—Near 13A.

What is claimed is:

1. A new and distinct chrysanthemum plant of the variety substantially as herein shown and described.

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