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Smith

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(54) **CHRYSANTHEMUM PLANT NAMED**
‘SUNNY YOBRIGHTTE’

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A distinct cultivar of Chrysanthemum plant named ‘Sunny
Yobrightte’, characterized by its upright and mounded plant
habit; freely branching habit; uniform and freely flowering
habit; decorative-type inflorescences; bright yellow-colored
ray florets; and natural season flowering in mid-October in
the Northern Hemisphere.

1 Drawing Sheet

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**BOTANICAL CLASSIFICATION/CULTIVAR
DESIGNATION**

Chrysanthemum×*morifolium* cultivar Sunny Yobrightte.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of Chrysanthemum plant, botanically known as
Chrysanthemum×*morifolium*, commercially known as a
garden-type Chrysanthemum and hereinafter referred to by
the name ‘Sunny Yobrightte’.

The new cultivar is a product of a mutation induction
program conducted by the Inventor in Fort Myers, Fla. The
objective of the program is to create new garden-type
Chrysanthemum cultivars having inflorescences with desir-
able inflorescence forms, attractive floret colors and good
garden performance.

The new Chrysanthemum originated by exposing
unrooted cuttings of the Chrysanthemum cultivar Yobrightte,
disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 11,843, to X-ray radiation in
July, 1998 in Fort Myers, Fla. Following the radiation
treatment, the cuttings were rooted and terminal apices were
removed (pinched) three times to promote lateral branch
development. After lateral branches from the third pinch
reached sufficient size, terminal cuttings were harvested,
planted and flowered in a controlled environment in Fort
Myers, Fla. The new Chrysanthemum was discovered and
selected by the Inventor as a single flowering plant within
this population in January, 1999. The selection of this plant
was based on its desirable inflorescence form, attractive ray
floret color and good garden performance.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal
cuttings taken in a controlled environment in Fort Myers,
Fla. since March, 1999, has shown that the unique features
of this new Chrysanthemum are stable and reproduced true
to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The cultivar Sunny Yobrightte has not been observed
under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype
may vary somewhat with variations in environment such as

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temperature, daylength and light intensity, without,
however, any variance in genotype.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and
are determined to be the unique characteristics of ‘Sunny
Yobrightte’. These characteristics in combination distinguish
‘Sunny Yobrightte’ as a new and distinct cultivar:

1. Upright and mounded plant habit.
2. Freely branching habit; dense and full plants.
3. Uniform and freely flowering habit.
4. Decorative-type inflorescences.
5. Bright yellow-colored ray florets.
6. Natural season flowering in mid-October in the North-
ern Hemisphere.

Plants of the new Chrysanthemum are most similar to
plants of the the cultivar Yobrightte. In side-by-side com-
parisons conducted in Fort Myers, Fla., plants of the new
Chrysanthemum differed from plants of the cultivar Yobrig-
itte in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new Chrysanthemum were taller than
plants of the cultivar Yobrightte.
2. Ray florets of the new Chrysanthemum and the cultivar
Yobrightte differed in color as ray florets of the cultivar were
white in color.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying photographs illustrate the overall
appearance of the new Chrysanthemum. These photographs
show the colors as true as it is reasonably possible to obtain
in colored reproductions of this type. Colors in the photo-
graphs may differ slightly from the color values cited in the
detailed botanical description which accurately describe the
colors of the new Chrysanthemum.

The photograph at the top of the sheet comprises a side
perspective view of a typical flowering plant of ‘Sunny
Yobrightte’.

The photograph at the bottom of the sheet comprises a
close-up view of typical inflorescences of the cultivar
‘Sunny Yobrightte’.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 1995 Edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used. The following observations and measurements describe plants grown in an outdoor nursery in Pendleton, S.C., under natural season conditions and practices which approximate those generally used in commercial garden-type Chrysanthemum production. One rooted cutting was planted in a 16.5-cm container in late July, 2002. Plants were not pinched, that is, the terminal apex was not removed to enhance branching. During the production of the plants, day temperatures ranged from 29 to 32° C. and night temperatures ranged from 16 to 21° C. Measurements and numerical values represent averages for typical flowering plants.

Botanical classification: *Chrysanthemum*×*morifolium* cultivar Sunny Yobrigitte.

Commercial classification: Decorative-type garden Chrysanthemum.

Parentage: Induced mutation of the *Chrysanthemum*×*morifolium* cultivar Yobrigitte, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 11,843.

Propagation:

Type.—Terminal tip cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—About four days at 21° C.

Time to produce a rooted cutting.—About ten days at 21° C.

Root description.—White, fine and fibrous.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching.

Plant description:

Appearance.—Perennial herbaceous decorative-type garden Chrysanthemum. Inverted triangle. Stems initially upright, then somewhat outwardly spreading giving a uniformly mounded appearance to the plant. Freely branching with lateral branches forming at every node.

Plant height.—About 24 cm.

Plant diameter.—About 36 cm.

Lateral branches.—Length: About 21 cm. Diameter: About 6 mm. Internode length: About 1.7 cm. Aspect: Upright and outwardly spreading. Texture: Pubescent. Color: 144A to 146A.

Foliage description.—Leaf arrangement: Alternate. Length: About 5.3 cm. Width: About 4 cm. Apex: Cuspidate to mucronate. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Palmately lobed, sinuses mostly divergent. Texture: Both surfaces, pubescent; veins prominent on lower surface. Color: Young foliage upper surface: More green than 147A. Young foliage lower surface: 147B. Mature foliage upper surface: 147A. Mature foliage lower surface: 147B. Venation, upper surface: 147A. Venation, lower surface: 147B. Petiole length: About 1.1 cm. Petiole diameter: About 3 mm.

Petiole color: Upper surface: 147A to 147B. Lower surface: 147B.

Inflorescence description:

Appearance.—Decorative-type inflorescence form with elongated oblong-shaped ray florets. Inflorescences borne on terminals above foliage, arising from leaf axils. Disk and ray florets arranged acropetally on a capitulum. About 4 to 5 inflorescences per lateral.

Flowering response.—Under natural season conditions, plants flower in mid-October in the Northern Hemisphere and continue to flower for at least three weeks depending on weather conditions.

Inflorescence bud (before showing color).—Height: About 5 mm. Diameter: About 7 mm. Phyllary color: Darker than 143A.

Inflorescence size.—Diameter: About 4.5 cm. Depth (height): About 1.7 cm. Disc diameter: About 2 mm or less, inconspicuous. Receptacle diameter: About 5.5 mm.

Ray florets.—Shape: Elongated oblong. Length: About 2.2 cm. Corolla tube length: About 4 mm. Width: About 7 mm. Apex: Acute, emarginate or dentate. Margin: Entire. Texture: Smooth, glabrous, satiny. Surface: Initially concave, then flat. Orientation: Initially upright and incurved, then perpendicular to the peduncle. Number of ray florets per inflorescence: About 275. Color: When opening, upper and lower surfaces: 5A to 6A. Opened inflorescence, upper surface: 5A to 6A; fading to 5B to 6B with subsequent development. Opened inflorescence, lower surface: 5D to 6D.

Disc florets.—Shape: Tubular, apex dentate. Length: About 3 mm. Width: Apex: About 1.25 mm. Base: About 1 mm. Number of disc florets per inflorescence: Less than 15. Color: Immature: 154A to 9A. Mature: Apex: 9A to 12A. Mid-section: 154D. Base: 155D.

Peduncle.—Aspect: Flexible, angled about 45 to 50° from the stem. Length: First peduncle: About 4.9 cm. Fourth peduncle: About 7.1 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Texture: Pubescent. Color: 144A.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Present on disc florets only. Anther color: 9A. Pollen: None observed. Gynoecium: Present on both ray and disc florets.

Seed.—Seed production has not been observed.

Disease/pest resistance: Plants of the new Chrysanthemum have not been shown to be resistant to pathogens and pests common to Chrysanthemums.

Garden performance: Plants of the new Chrysanthemum have been observed to be tolerant to rain, wind and temperatures ranging from 0 to more than 40° C.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of Chrysanthemum plant named 'Sunny Yobrigitte', as illustrated and described.

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