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

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(54) **LEUCANTHEMUM PLANT NAMED ‘ANGEL’**

(50) Latin Name: *Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*
Varietal Denomination: **Angel**

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./285**

(58) **Field of Search** **Plt./285**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of Leucanthemum plant named
‘Angel’, characterized by its upright, compact and uniform
plant habit; early flowering habit; anemone-type inflores-
cences; white-colored ray florets and greenish yellow to
white-colored disc florets; and good garden performance.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical classification/cultivar designation: *Chrysanthemum leucanthemum* cultivar Angel.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present Invention relates to a new and distinct culti-
var of Leucanthemum plant, botanically known as *Chrysan-
themum leucanthemum* and hereinafter referred to by the
name ‘Angel’.

The new Leucanthemum is a product of a planned breed-
ing program conducted by the Inventor in Cobbitty, New
South Wales, Australia. The objective of the breeding pro-
gram is to create compact Leucanthemum cultivars with
anemone-type inflorescences.

The new Leucanthemum originated from a cross-
pollination made by the Inventor in 1997, in Cobbitty, New
South Wales, Australia, of a proprietary selection of *Chry-
santhemum leucanthemum* identified as code number
Dx97.12.4, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with
a proprietary selection of *Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*
identified as code number Dx97.12.8, not patented, as the
male, or pollen, parent. The new Leucanthemum was dis-
covered and selected by the Inventor as a single flowering
plant within the progeny of the stated cross-pollination
grown in a controlled environment in Cobbitty, New South
Wales, Australia. The selection of this plant was based on its
compact plant habit and anemone inflorescence form.

Asexual reproduction of the new Leucanthemum by veg-
etative tip cuttings was first conducted in Cobbitty, New
South Wales, Australia in 1997. Asexual reproduction by
cuttings has shown that the unique features of this new
Leucanthemum are stable and reproduced true to type in
successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The cultivar Angel has not been observed under all
possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary
somewhat with variations in environment such as
temperature, daylength, and/or light level, without, however,
any variance in genotype.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and
are determined to be the unique characteristics of ‘Angel’.

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These characteristics in combination distinguish ‘Angel’ as
a new and distinct Leucanthemum:

1. Upright, compact and uniform plant habit.
2. Early flowering habit.
3. Anemone-type inflorescences.
4. White-colored ray florets and greenish yellow to white-
colored disc florets.
5. Good garden performance.

Compared to plants of the female parent selection, plants
of the new Leucanthemum are more compact and flower
earlier. In addition, plants of the female parent selection
have single-type inflorescences. Compared to plants of the
male parent selection, plants of the new Leucanthemum are
more compact. In addition, plants of the male parent selec-
tion have single-type inflorescences.

Plants of the new Leucanthemum can be compared to
plants of the Leucanthemum cultivar Darling Daisy, not
patented. In side-by-side comparisons conducted by the
Inventor in Cobbitty, New South Wales, Australia, plants of
the new Leucanthemum differed from plants of the cultivar
Darling Daisy in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new Leucanthemum had longer leaves
than plants of the cultivar Darling Daisy.
2. Plants of the new Leucanthemum had larger inflores-
cences than plants of the cultivar Darling Daisy.
3. Plants of the new Leucanthemum had anemone-type
inflorescences whereas plants of the cultivar Darling
Daisy had single-type inflorescences.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

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

The photograph at the top of the sheet comprises a side
perspective view of a typical flowering plant of ‘Angel’
grown in a container.

The photograph at the bottom of the sheet comprises a close-up view of a typical inflorescence bud, a typical opened inflorescence and the upper and lower surfaces of typical leaves of 'Angel'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photographs and following observations and measurements describe plants grown in Lompoc, Calif., under commercial practice during the winter and spring in a polycarbonate-covered greenhouse with day temperatures ranging from 18 to 24° C., night temperatures ranging from 16 to 18° C. and light levels ranging from 4,000 to 8,000 foot-candles. Unrooted cuttings were directly planted in 15-cm containers and grown for about 13 weeks.

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.

Botanical classification: *Chrysanthemum leucanthemum* cultivar Angel.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Chrysanthemum leucanthemum* identified as code number Dx97.12.4, not patented.

Male, or pollen, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Chrysanthemum leucanthemum* identified as code number Dx97.12.8, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—Vegetative tip cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—About 14 to 18 days.

Time to produce a rooted young plant.—About 21 to 28 days.

Root description.—Fine, fibrous, white in color.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching, dense.

Plant description:

Appearance.—Compact, upright and uniform plant habit. Freely basal branching with about 14 or 15 lateral branches per plant; vigorous growth habit.

Plant height.—About 17 cm.

Plant width.—About 30 cm.

Lateral branches.—Length: About 10 cm. Diameter: About 5 mm. Internode length: About 1.5 to 2.5 cm. Strength: Strong. Texture: Pubescent. Color: 144B.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Alternate, simple. Quantity of leaves per lateral stem: About eight. Length: About 12 cm. Width: About 2.2 cm. Shape: Lanceolate to linear. Apex: Acute. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Irregularly dentate. Texture: Upper surface: Pubescent. Lower surface: Glabrous. Venation pattern: Pinnate, arcuate. Color: Young foliage, upper and lower surfaces: 144A. Mature foliage, upper surface: 147A. Mature foliage, lower surface: 147B. Venation, upper surface: 144A. Venation, lower surface: 147C. Petiole: Length: About 6 cm. Diameter: About 6 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Glabrous. Color, upper and lower surfaces: 144C to 144D.

Inflorescence description:

Appearance.—Anemone-type inflorescence form with elongated oblong-shaped ray florets and enlarged disc florets. Inflorescences borne on terminals above foliage. Disk and ray florets develop acropetally on a capitulum. Inflorescences persistent. Inflores-

cences not fragrant. Typically one terminal inflorescence per lateral branch.

Flowering response.—Under natural conditions, plants flower in the spring. Under greenhouse conditions, plant flower year-round. Early flowering, plants begin to flower about ten to eleven weeks after planting unrooted cuttings.

Inflorescence longevity.—Inflorescences maintain good color and substance for about two weeks on the plant.

Inflorescence bud.—Height: About 1.5 cm. Diameter: About 1.5 cm. Shape: Oblate. Color: 155A.

Inflorescence size.—Diameter: About 8.25 cm. Depth (height): About 1.75 cm. Diameter of disc: About 3 cm. Receptacle diameter: About 1.2 cm. Receptacle height: About 5 mm.

Ray florets.—Shape: Elongated-oblong, ligulate with longitudinal ridges. Orientation: Initially upright, then about 90° from vertical and with subsequent development, recurved. Length: About 3.5 cm. Width: About 7 mm. Apex: Emarginate. Base: Acute; short corolla tube. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous, satiny. Number of ray florets per inflorescence: About 26 arranged in two whorls. Color: When opening, upper surface: 155A. When opening, lower surface: 155B. Fully opened, upper and lower surfaces: More white than 155D.

Disc florets.—Arrangement: Massed at center of receptacle. Shape: Tubular, enlarged. Apex: Five-pointed. Length: About 8 mm. Width: At apex, about 4 mm; at base, about 1.5 mm. Number of disc florets per inflorescence: About 250. Color, immature: Apex: 151B. Mid-section and base: 144C. Color, mature: Apex: 155D. Mid-section and base: 144C.

Phyllaries.—Quantity/arrangement: About 50 in imbricate whorls. Shape: Elliptic. Apex: Acute. Margin: Entire, membranous. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color: Upper surface: 144B. Lower surface: 144A.

Peduncles.—Length: About 10 cm. Diameter: About 3.5 mm. Strength: Strong. Aspect: Mostly erect. Texture: Pubescent. Color: 147B.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Present on disc florets only. Stamen quantity: Five. Anther shape: Oval. Anther length: About 1.5 mm. Anther color: 14B. Pollen amount: Scarce. Pollen color: 17A. Gynoecium: Present on both ray and disc florets. Pistil quantity: One. Pistil length: About 5 mm. Stigma shape: Bi-lobed. Stigma color: 154C. Style length: About 3 mm. Style color: 150C to 150D. Ovary color: 149D.

Seed/fruit.—Seed and fruit production has not been observed.

Disease/pest resistance: Resistance to pathogens and pests common to *Leucanthemums* has not been observed on plants grown under commercial greenhouse conditions.

Weather tolerance: Plants of the new *Leucanthemum* have been observed to have good garden performance and have been observed to be tolerant to rain and wind and temperatures from -2 to 35° C.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Leucanthemum* plant named 'Angel', as illustrated and described.

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