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van der Kraan-Zonderland

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(54) **GYP SOPHILA PLANT NAMED
‘BLANCANIEVES’**

(50) Latin Name: *Gypsophila hybrida*
Varietal Denomination: **Blancanieves**

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

A distinct cultivar of *Gypsophila* plant named
‘Blancanieves’, characterized by its upright plant habit;
freely flowering habit; many-petaled white-colored flowers
arranged in compound cymes; and good post-production
longevity.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical classification/cultivar designation: *Gypsophila
hybrida* cultivar **Blancanieves**.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present Invention relates to a new and distinct culti-
var of *Gypsophila* plant, botanically known as *Gypsophila
hybrida*, grown commercially as a cut flower, and herein-
after referred to by the name ‘Blancanieves’.

The new *Gypsophila* is an induced mutation of an uni-
identified proprietary selection of *Gypsophila hybrida*, not
patented. The proprietary selection is the product of a
open-pollination of *Gypsophila hybrida* Iron *Gypsophila* as
the female, or seed, parent, not patented, and an unknown
cultivar as the male, or pollen parent. Cuttings from chemi-
cally treated plants were planted and the new *Gypsophila*
was discovered and selected by the Inventor in 1998 in a
controlled environment in Delft, The Netherlands, as a
single flowering plant among a population of plants. Plants
of the new *Gypsophila* differed from plant of the proprietary
selection in flower size and inflorescence form.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Gypsophila* by cuttings
taken at Delft, The Netherlands, has shown that the unique
features of this new *Gypsophila* are stable and reproduced
true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

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

1. Upright plant habit.
2. Freely flowering habit.
3. Many-petaled white-colored flowers arranged in com-
pound cymes.
4. Good post-production longevity.

In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Delft, the
Netherlands, plants of the new *Gypsophila* have larger
flowers and a more open inflorescence form than plants of
Iron *Gypsophila*. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in
Delft, the Netherlands, plants of the new *Gypsophila* have

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shorter leaves, smaller flowers with more petals, stronger
flower stems, and more erect and compact inflorescences
than plants of the cultivar Magic Golan disclosed in U.S.
Plant Pat. No. 9,257.

Plants of the new *Gypsophila* can be compared to plants
of the cultivar Dangypmini, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No.
10,964. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Delft, The
Netherlands, plants of the new *Gypsophila* are more out-
wardly spreading, have lighter green-colored leaves, and
have larger flowers with more petals per flower. In addition,
plants of the new *Gypsophila* do not have stamens whereas
plants of the cultivar Dangypmini have stamens.

Plants of the new *Gypsophila* differ from plants of the
Gypsophila cultivar Summer Snow, disclosed in a U.S Plant
patent application Ser. No. 10/303,438 filed concurrently, in
plant habit as plants of the cultivar Summer Snow are more
compact and typically grown as potted plants.

The cultivar **Blancanieves** has not been observed under all
possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary
somewhat with variations in environment such as tempera-
ture and light intensity, without, however, any variance in
genotype.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying colored photograph illustrates the
overall appearance of the new *Gypsophila*, showing the
colors as true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored
reproductions of this type. Colors in the photograph may
differ slightly from the color values cited in the detailed
botanical description which accurately describe the colors of
the new *Gypsophila*. The photograph comprises a side
perspective view of a typical cut flower stem of the new
Gypsophila.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

In the following description, color references are made to
The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 2001 Edition,
except where general terms of ordinary dictionary signifi-
cance are used. The aforementioned photograph, following
observations and measurements describe one-year old plants
grown as cut flowers during the summer in Poeldijk, The

Netherlands, in a glass-covered greenhouse with day temperatures about 15° C. and night temperatures about 10° C.

Botanical classification: *Gypsophila hybrida* cultivar *Blancanieves*.

Commercial classification: Cut flower *Gypsophila*.

Parentage: Induced mutation of an unidentified proprietary selection of *Gypsophila hybrida*, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—By cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—Summer: About 21 to 30 days at a temperature of 22° C. Winter: About 26 to 34 days at a temperature of 18° C.

Root description.—Fine and well-branched.

Plant description:

Appearance.—Perennial cut flower. Stems upright; broadly inverted triangular form. Freely flowering; white-colored flowers with numerous petals per flower arranged in compound cymes.

Moderate to vigorous growth habit.

Branching habit.—Freely basal branching; about eight flowering stems per plant are produced per year.

Plant height.—About 105 cm.

Plant width.—About 90 cm.

Lateral branch length.—About 85 cm.

Lateral branch diameter.—About 3.5 mm.

Internode length.—About 2.2 cm.

Strength.—Strong.

Stem texture.—Glabrous.

Stem color.—138B.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Opposite; sessile. Shape: Narrowly elliptic to narrowly lanceolate. Apex: Acute. Base: Cuneate. Margin: Entire. Length: About 6.3 cm. Width: About 1.3 cm. Texture: Glabrous; slightly leathery. Venation pattern: Parallel. Color: Young leaves, upper surface: Between N189A and N189B. Young leaves, lower surface: 189A. Fully expanded leaves, upper surface: Slightly darker than 189A. Fully expanded leaves, lower surface: 137B. Venation, upper surface: Between N189A and N189B. Venation, lower surface: 143A.

Flowering description:

Appearance.—Upright compound cymes with numerous many-petalled white-colored flowers, flowers rotate; about 250 flowers per inflorescence. Flowers face upright to slightly outwardly.

Flowering response.—Under outdoor conditions, plants flower from July through October.

Post-production longevity.—Good; flowers last about 10 days. Inflorescences persistent.

Fragrance.—Faint; sweet.

Inflorescence length.—About 25 cm.

Inflorescence width.—About 16 cm.

Inflorescence bud.—Shape: Flattened globular. Length: About 3 mm. Diameter: About 3 mm. Color: 157D.

Flower diameter.—About 7 mm.

Flower depth (height).—About 5 mm.

Petals/petaloids.—Quantity per flower: About 25.

Shape: Oblanceolate. Apex: Praemorse. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire. Length: About 4 mm. Width: About 2 mm. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: When opening, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 155D; towards the base, 143D. Mature, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 155D; towards the base, 143D; color becoming closer to 199D with development.

Sepals.—Quantity per flower: About five. Shape: Elliptic. Apex: Acute. Base: Cuneate. Margin: Entire. Length: About 2 mm. Width: About 1 mm. Color: Immature and mature, upper surface: 141B. Immature and mature, lower surface: 137C.

Peduncle.—Strength: Strong. Length: About 2.2 cm. Diameter: About 1 mm. Angle: About 10 to 40° from vertical. Texture: Smooth. Color: 143A.

Pedicels.—Strength: Moderately strong. Length: About 8 mm. Diameter: About 0.3 mm. Angle: About 10 to 40° from vertical. Texture: Smooth. Color: 143A.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: None observed, all transformed into petaloids. Pistils: Quantity per flower: About two. Style length: About 3.45 mm. Style color: 157B to 157C. Pistil length: About 3.5 mm. Stigma color: 157C to 157D. Ovary color: 143A to 143B.

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

Disease/pest resistance: Plants of the new *Gypsophila* have not been observed to be resistant to pathogens and pests common to *Gypsophilas*.

It is claimed:

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

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