



US00PP14612P29

(12) United States Plant Patent
Noodelijk**(10) Patent No.: US PP14,612 P2****(45) Date of Patent: Mar. 16, 2004****(54) CHRYSANTHEMUM PLANT NAMED**
'CASTOR'**(50) Latin Name: *Chrysanthemum morifolium***
Varietal Denomination: Castor**(75) Inventor: Robert Noodelijk, Woubrugge (NL)****(73) Assignee: Chrysanthemum Breeders Association**
N.V. (NL)**(*) Notice:** Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 65 days.**(21) Appl. No.: 10/317,046****(22) Filed: Dec. 12, 2002****(51) Int. Cl.⁷ A01H 5/00****(52) U.S. Cl. Plt./289****(58) Field of Search Plt./289***Primary Examiner*—Anne Marie Grunberg**(74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm**—Parkhurst & Wendel, L.L.P.**(57) ABSTRACT**

A chrysanthemum plant named 'Castor' characterized by its large blooms with yellow ray-florets and prolific branching; natural season flower date August 19–26; blooming for a period of 5 weeks.

3 Drawing Sheets**1****BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

'Castor' is a product of a breeding and selection program 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 August 19–26; blooming for a period of 5 weeks. The new plant of the present invention comprises a new and distinct cultivar of Chrysanthemum plant 'Castor' 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 Holland in August 2000. The plant has been asexually reproduced by cuttings in greenhouses at Rijsenhout Holland. 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 photographs 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 petiole and foliage of the new cultivar.

DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

This new variety of chrysanthemum is of the botanical classification *Chrysanthemum morifolium*. 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 2000 and 2001. The natural blooming date of this crop was August 19–26 (week 34). The average height of the plants was 28 cms. No growth retardants were used. No tests were done on disease or insect resistance or susceptibility. No tests were done on cold or drought tolerance. This new variety produces large sized

2

blooms with yellow ray florets blooming for a period of 5 weeks.

From the cultivars known to inventor the most similar existing cultivar in comparison to 'Castor' is 'Erica' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 11,842). When 'Erica' and 'Castor' are being compared the following differences are noticed: The differences of 'Erica' and 'Castor' is (1) Natural flowering date. 'Castor' flowers earlier than 'Erica'.

The following is a description of the plant and characteristics that distinguish 'Castor' as a new and distinct variety.

The color designations are taken from the plant itself. Accordingly, any discrepancies between the color designations 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.

Table 1. Botanical Description of cultivar 'Castor'

Bud:

Size.—Large ;cross-section 1.2 cm, height 1.4 cm.

Outside color.—Yellow 13 A.

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.—Medium. 1.5–2.0 cm.

Size.—Large.

Fully expanded.—6.0–7.0 cm.

Number of blooms per branch.—Approx. 5–6 blooms per branch.

Performance on the plant.—5 weeks.

Seeds.—Produced in small quantities, ovate grey-brown 199A, 1½ mm in length.

Fragrance.—Typical chrysanthemum, slightly.

Color:

Center of the flower.—Immature yellow-green 151 B.

Mature yellow 13 B.

Color of upper surface of the ray-florets.—Yellow 13 B.

Color of the lower surface of the ray-florets.—Yellow 13 A.

Tonality from distance.—A garden mum with yellow flowers.

Color of upper surface of the ray-florets at aging of the plant.—Yellow 13 B.

Ray florets:

Texture.—Upper and under side smooth.

Number.—140–160.

Cross-section.—Concave.

Longitudinal axis of majority.—Reflexing.

Length of corolla tube.—Long. 1.2–1.7 cm.

Ray-floret margin.—Entire.

Ray-floret length.—2.8–3.2 cm.

Ray-floret width.—0.5–0.7 cm.

Ratio length / width.—Medium.

Shape of tip.—Pointed.

Disc florets: Not present.

Receptacle shape: Domed raised.

Reproductive organs:

Stamen.—Thin. 3 mm in length.

Stamen color.—Yellow-green 144 A.

Pollen.—Present in a very small amount.

Pollen color.—Yellow 13 A.

Styles.—Thin.

Style color.—Yellow-green 144A.

Style length.—4 mm.

Stigmas.—Thin. Yellow-green 144 A.

Stigma width.—1 mm.

Ovaries.—Enclosed in calyx.

Plant:

Shape.—When grown as a spray type pot mum, outdoor mounded and round.

Growth habit.—Vigorous.

Growth rate.—Moderate.

Height.—28 cm.

Width.—32–34 cm.

Stem color.—Green 138 A.

Stem strength.—Strong.

Stem brittleness.—Brittle.

Stem anthocyanin coloration.—Absent.

Length of lateral branch.—From top to bottom 13–14 cm.

Lateral branch color.—Green 138 A.

Lateral branch, attachment.—Brittle.

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

Peduncle length.—3.0–4.0 cm.

Peduncle color.—Green 138 A.

Natural season blooming date.—August 19–26.

Foliage:

Color.—Upper side yellow-green 148 A. Under side yellow-green 148 C.

Size.—Medium; length 5.0 cm, width 4.5 cm.

Quantity (number per lateral branch).—6–8.

Shape.—Ovate.

Texture upper side.—Glabrous.

Texture under side.—Pubescent.

Venation arrangement.—Palmate.

Shape of the margin.—Serrated.

Shape of base of sinus between lateral lobes.—Acute.

Margin of sinus between lateral lobes.—Diverging.

Shape of base.—Truncate.

Apex.—Mucronate.

TABLE 2

<u>Differences with the comparison varieties</u>		
	'CASTOR'	'ERICA'
Natural flowering date	August 19–26	September 25–30

I claim:

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

* * * * *

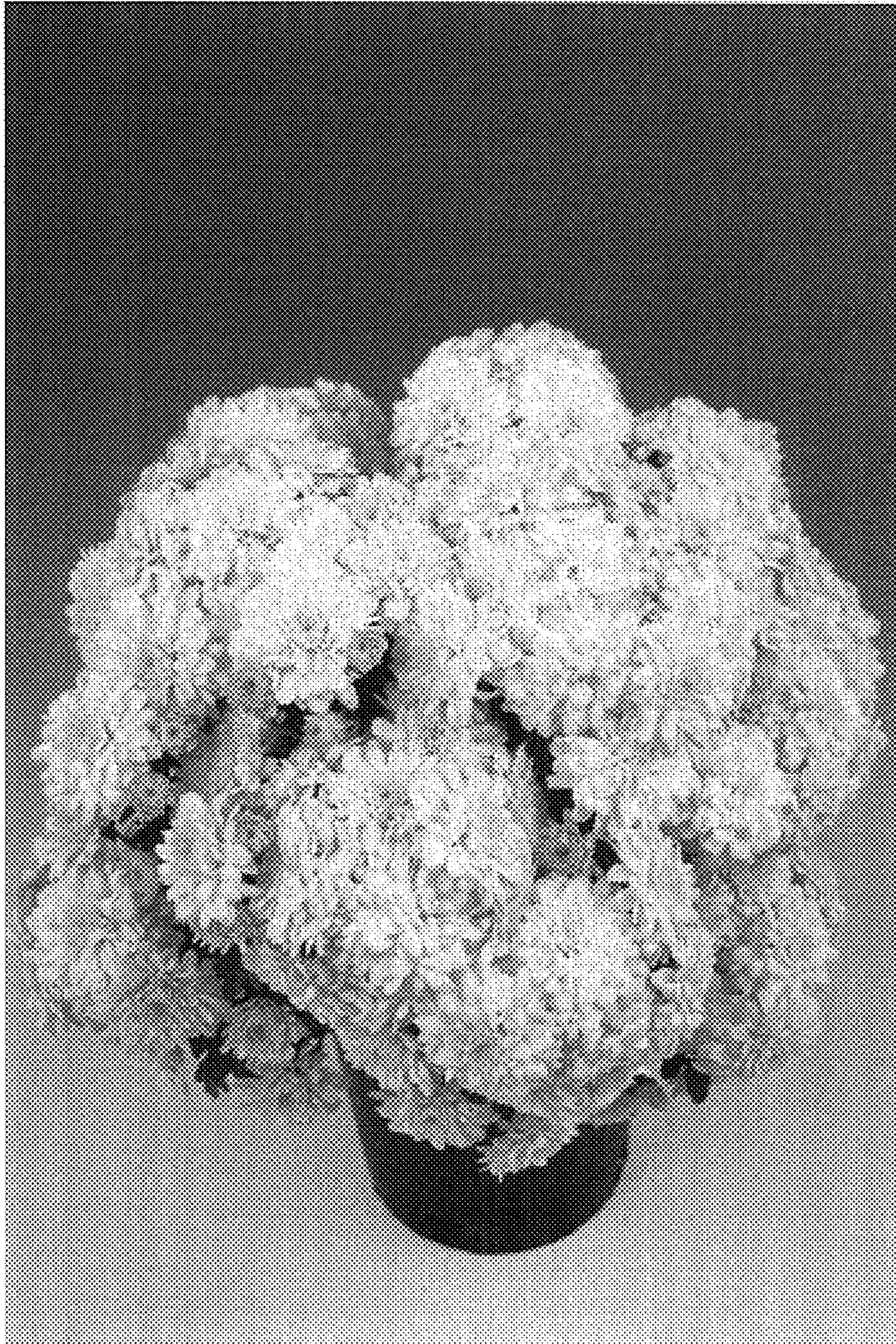


FIG. 1

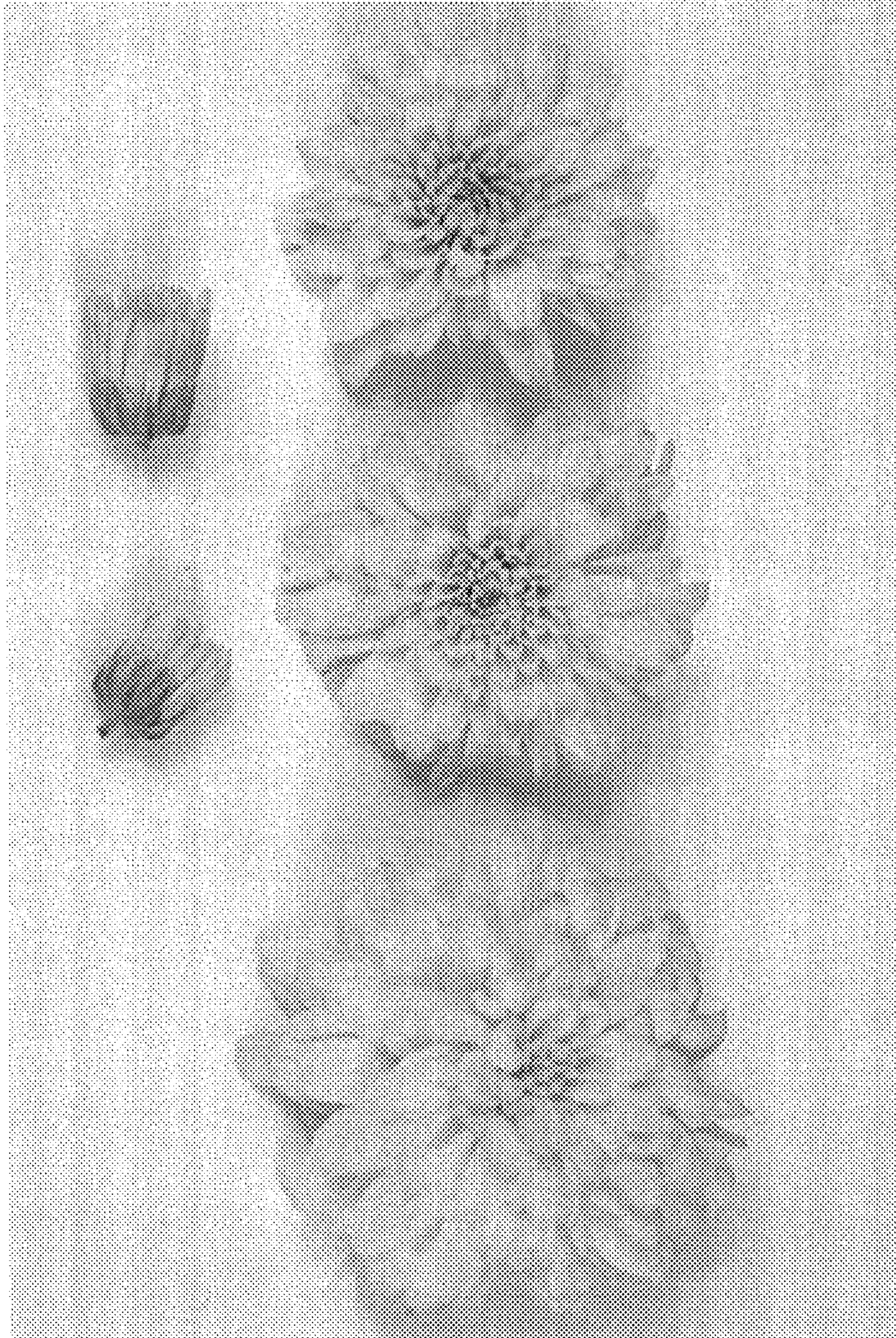


FIG. 2

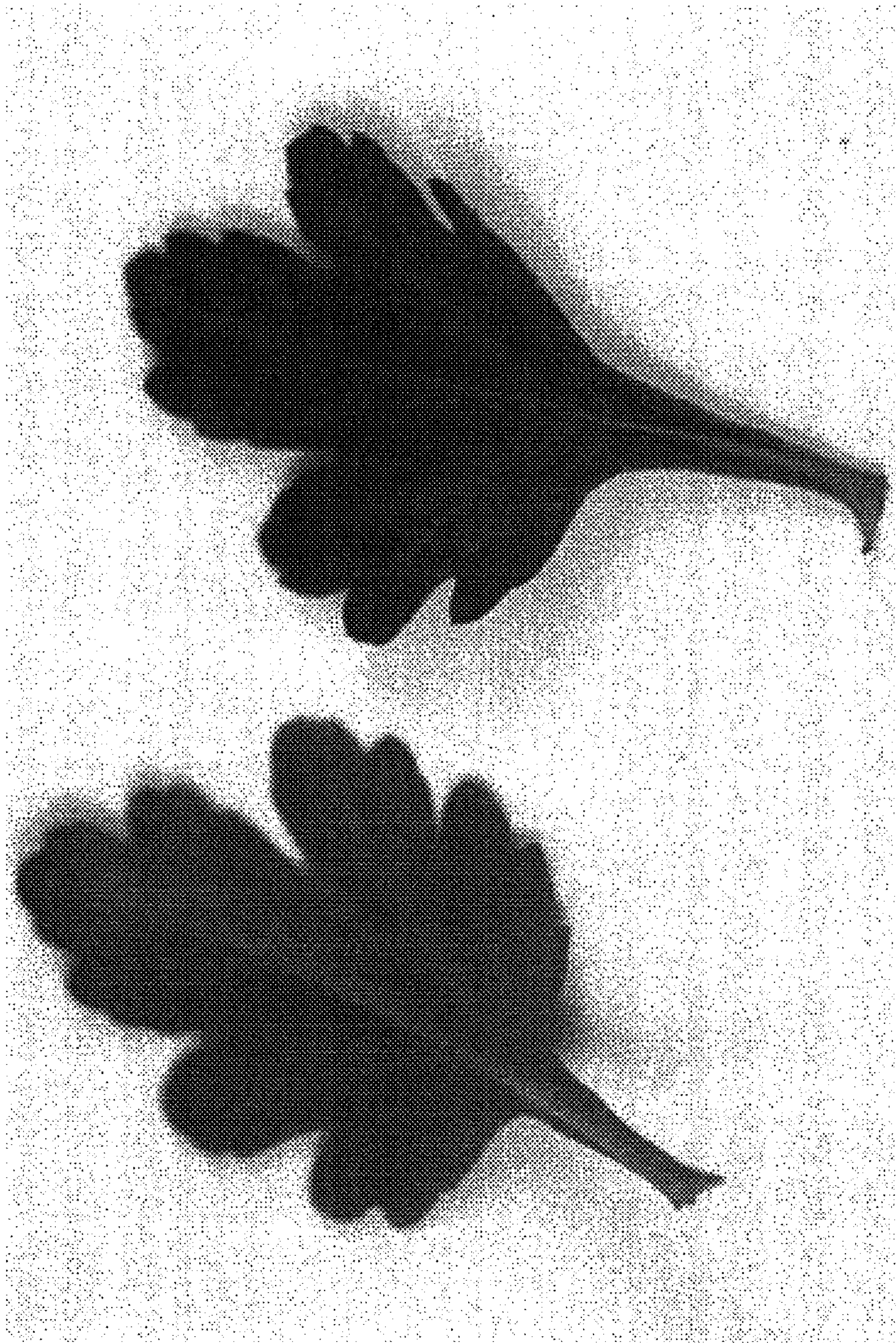


FIG. 3