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

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

(50) Latin Name: *Chrysanthemum morifolium*
Varietal Denomination: **Babita**

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(NL)

(73) Assignee: **Chrysanthemum Breeders**
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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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(21) Appl. No.: **10/756,375**

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(51) **Int. Cl.**⁷ **A01H 5/00**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./289**

(58) **Field of Search** **Plt./289**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A *Chrysanthemum* plant named 'Babita' characterized by its
small sized blooms with orange ray florets and prolific
branching; natural season flower date September 8–13;
blooming for a period of 5 weeks.

2 Drawing Sheets

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

'Babita' is a product of a breeding and selection program
for outdoor pot mums (garden mums) which had the objec-
tive of creating new *Chrysanthemum* cultivars with a deco-
rative type flower, a natural season flower date around
September 8–13; blooming for a period of 5 weeks. The new
plant of the present invention comprises a new and distinct
cultivar of *Chrysanthemum* plant 'Babita' is a seedling
resulting from the crossing of the female parent '22.0724'
with a mixed population of *Chrysanthemum* plants serving
as male parents maintained under the control of the inventor
for breeding purposes. The new and distinct cultivar was
discovered and selected as one flowering plant by Mark
Roland Boeder on a cultivated field in Rijsenhout Holland in
September 2001. The plant has been asexually reproduced
by cuttings in greenhouses at Rijsenhout Holland. The new
cultivar has been found to retain its distinctive characteris-
tics 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 photo-
graphs of this type.

FIG. 1 shows a plant of the cultivar in full bloom.

FIG. 2 shows the various stages of bloom 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 in week 23 in 2002. The natural
blooming date of this crop was September 8–13 (week 37).
The average height of the plants was 35 cm. 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 small sized
blooms with orange ray florets blooming for a period of 5
weeks.

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From the cultivars known to inventor the most similar
existing cultivar in comparison to 'Babita' is 'Zesty Barbara'
(U.S. Plant Pat. No. 9,569). When 'Zesty Barbara' and
'Babita' are being compared the following differences are
noticed. The differences of 'Zesty Barbara' and 'Babita' are
(1) Ray-floret color. The ray-florets of 'Zesty Barbara' are
purple colored, while those of 'Babita' are soft orange with
purple edges. (2) Color of center of immature flowers. The
center of 'Zesty Barbara' is soft green, while that of 'Babita'
is orange.

The following is a description of the plant and character-
istics that distinguish 'Babita' as a new and distinct variety.
The color designations are taken from the plant itself.
Accordingly, any discrepancies between the color designa-
tions 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 'Babita'

Bud:

Size.—Small; cross-section 0.8 cm, height 0.5 cm.

Outside color.—Yellow-green 145C.

Involucral bracts.—2 rows, length 7 mm, width 3 mm.

Involucral bracts among disc-florets.—Not present.

Involucral bracts color.—Yellow-green 148C.

Bloom:

Type.—Decorative.

Size.—Small.

Fully expanded.—4 cm.

Peduncle length.—7.5 cm.

Peduncle color.—Yellow-green 148C.

Number of blooms per branch.—Approx. 8 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 Greyed-orange 172C.
Mature Yellow-orange 15B.

Color of upper surface of the ray-florets.—Yellow-
orange 23D with Greyed-purple 186C at edges.

Color of the lower surface of the ray-florets.—Orange 24D.

Tonality from distance.—A garden mum with orange flowers and a center of darker shade.

Color of upper surface of ray-florets at aging of the plant.—Yellow-orange 23D and Greyed-purple 186C.

Ray florets:

Texture.—Upper and under side smooth.

Number.—150.

Cross-section.—Flat.

Longitudinal axis of majority.—Straight.

Length of corolla tube.—Short, 0.3 cm.

Ray-floret margin.—Entire.

Ray-floret length.—1.5 cm.

Ray-floret width.—0.4 cm.

Ratio length/width.—Medium.

Shape of tip.—Rounded.

Disc florets:

Disc diameter.—0.3 cm.

Distribution of disc florets.—Few, visible only in mature stage.

Shape.—Tubular.

Color.—Yellow-green 145C.

Receptacle shape.—Conical raised.

Reproductive organs:

Stamen.—Present in disc florets only.

Stamen color.—Yellow-green 144A.

Pollen.—Produced in small amount.

Pollen color.—Yellow 7A.

Styles.—Thick.

Style color.—Yellow 13A.

Style length.—4 mm.

Stigma color.—Yellow-green 144A.

Stigma width.—1 mm.

Ovaries.—Enclosed in calyx.

Plant:

Form.—A garden mum outdoor mounded and round.

Growth habit.—Spreading.

Growth rate.—High.

Height.—35 cm.

Width.—45 cm.

Stem color.—Yellow-green 146C.

Stem strength.—Strong.

Stem brittleness.—Not brittle.

Stem anthocyanin coloration.—Absent.

Internode length.—2.5 cm.

Length of lateral branch.—From top to bottom 15 cm.

Lateral branch color.—Yellow-green 147C.

Lateral branch, attachment.—Medium strength.

Branching (average number of lateral branches).—

Good with 7 breaks after pinching.

Natural season blooming date.—September 8–13.

Foliage:

Leaf color.—Upper side Yellow-green 147A. Under side Green 138B.

Color midvein.—Upper side Green 139D. Under side Green 138D.

Size.—Small; length 2.5 cm, width 2 cm.

Quantity (number per lateral branch).—25.

Shape.—Cordiform.

Texture upper side.—Glabrous.

Texture under side.—Pubescent.

Venation arrangement.—Palmate.

Shape of the margin.—Serrated.

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

Margin of sinus between lateral lobes.—Diverging.

Shape of base.—Obtuse.

Apex.—Rounded.

Petiole length.—0.2 cm.

Petiole color.—Green 139D.

TABLE 2

	<u>Differences with the comparison variety</u>	
	'Babita'	'Zesty Barbara'
Color of ray-florets	Yellow-orange 23D with Greyed purple 186C	Red-purple 58A
Color of disc in immature flowers	Greyed-orange 172C	Yellow-green 144C

I claim:

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

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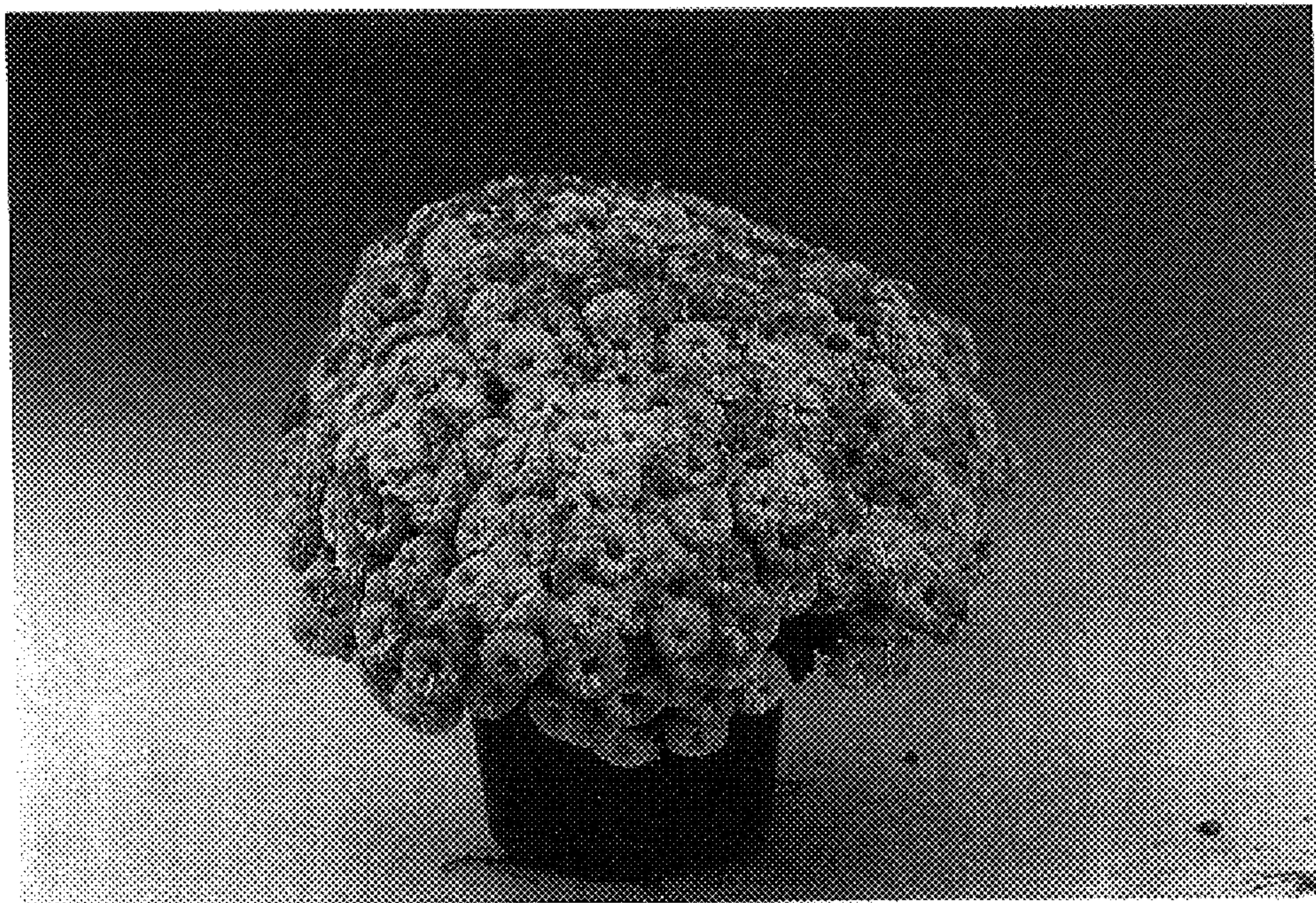


FIG. 1

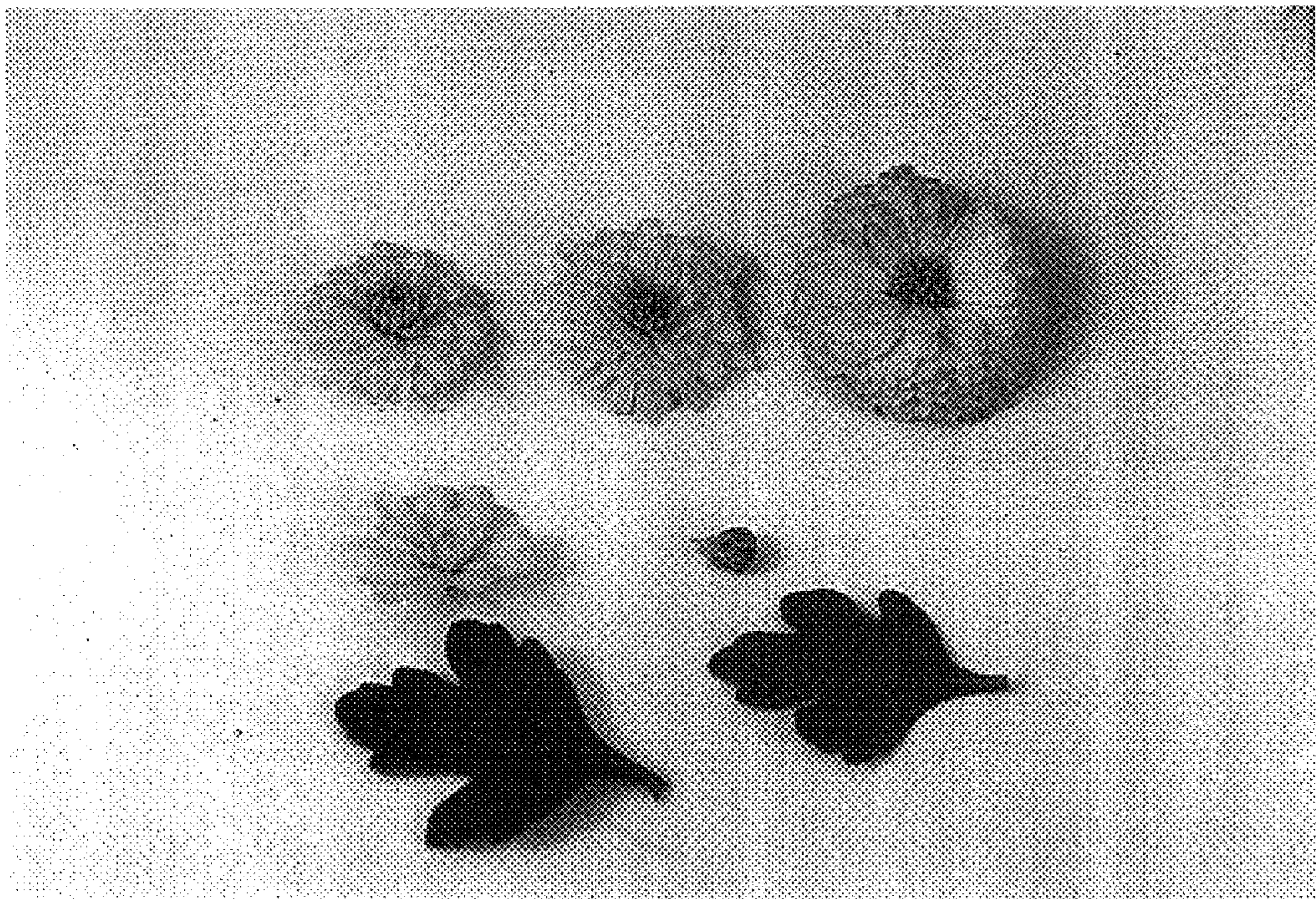


FIG. 2