



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

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(54) **ARGYRANTHEMUM PLANT NAMED**
'SUPACREST'

(50) Latin Name: *Argyranthemum frutescens*
Varietal Denomination: **Supacrest**

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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(58) **Field of Search** **Plt./263**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Argyranthemum* plant named
'Supacrest', characterized by its compact, upright and
mounded plant habit; freely branching habit, dense and
bushy plants; freely flowering habit with numerous inflo-
rescences per plant; anemone-type inflorescence form with
purple-colored ray florets and yellow-colored disc florets.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical classification/cultivar denomination: *Argyranthemum frutescens* cultivar Supacrest.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of *Argyranthemum* plant, botanically known as *Argyranthemum frutescens* and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar
name 'Supacrest'.

The new *Argyranthemum* is a product of a planned
breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Cobbitty,
New South Wales, Australia. The objective of the program
is to create and develop new compact *Argyranthemum*
cultivars with numerous inflorescences, interesting inflores-
cence form and attractive ray floret coloration.

The new *Argyranthemum* originated from a cross-
pollination by the Inventor in September, 2000, of the
Argyranthemum frutescens cultivar Summer Melody, dis-
closed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 11,763, as the female, or seed,
parent, with the *Argyranthemum frutescens* cultivar Sam,
not patented, as the male, or pollen, parent. The new
Argyranthemum was discovered and selected by the Inven-
tor as a plant within the progeny of the stated cross-
pollination in a controlled environment in Cobbitty, New
South Wales, Australia in September, 2001. The selection of
the new *Argyranthemum* was based on its attractive inflo-
rescence form and ray floret coloration.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Argyranthemum* by
terminal cuttings in a controlled environment in Cobbitty,
New South Wales, Australia since September, 2001, has
shown that the unique features of this new *Argyranthemum*
are stable and reproduced true to type in successive genera-
tions.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The new *Argyranthemum* 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.

The following characteristics have been repeatedly
observed and are determined to be basic characteristics of

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'Supacrest' and distinguish the new *Argyranthemum* as a
new and distinct cultivar:

1. Compact, upright and mounded plant habit.
2. Freely branching habit, dense and bushy plants.
3. Freely flowering habit with numerous inflorescences
per plant.
4. Anemone inflorescence form with purple-colored ray
florets and yellow-colored disc florets.

Plants of the new *Argyranthemum* differ from plants of the
female parent, the cultivar Summer Melody, primarily in
inflorescence form and ray floret coloration as plants of the
cultivar Summer Melody have double-type inflorescences
with pink-colored ray florets. In addition, plants of the new
Argyranthemum are taller than plants of the cultivar Summer
Melody. Plants of the new *Argyranthemum* differ from
plants of the male parent, the cultivar Sam, in inflorescence
form and ray floret coloration as plants of the cultivar Sam
have daisy-type inflorescences and primrose-colored ray
florets. In addition, plants of the new *Argyranthemum* are
slightly more compact than plants of the cultivar Sam.

Plants of the new *Argyranthemum* differ from plants of the
cultivar Supacre, disclosed in a U.S. Plant Patent application
filed concurrently, primarily in floret coloration. In addition,
plants of the new *Argyranthemum* are more freely branching
than plants of the cultivar Supacre.

Plants of the new *Argyranthemum* can be compared to
plants of the cultivar Supaglow, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat.
No. 14,158. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in
Cobbitty, New South Wales, Australia, plants of the new
Argyranthemum differed primarily from plants of the culti-
var Supaglow in ray and disc floret coloration.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

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

The photograph at the bottom of the sheet comprises a side perspective view of typical flowering plants of 'Supacrest' grown in a container.

The photograph at the top of the sheet comprises a close-up view of typical inflorescences of 'Supacrest'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photographs, following observations and averaged measurements describe plants grown in Encinitas, Calif., in an outdoor nursery under full sunlight during the winter and spring with day temperatures ranging from 15 to 24° C. and night temperatures ranging from 10 to 19° C. Plants were grown in one-gallon containers with two plants per container. Plants were pinched one time about five weeks after planting. Plants had been growing for about 16 weeks when the photographs and description were taken. 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: *Argyranthemum frutescens* cultivar Supacrest.

Parentage:

Female or seed parent.—*Argyranthemum frutescens* cultivar Summer Melody, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 11,763.

Male or pollen parent.—*Argyranthemum frutescens* cultivar Sam, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—Terminal vegetative cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—About 10 days at 20° C.

Time to produce a rooted cutting.—About three weeks at 20° C.

Root description.—Fibrous, fine; white in color.

Rooting description.—Freely branching; dense.

Plant description:

General appearance.—Inverted triangle; compact, upright and mounded plant form with dense foliage and inflorescences held above and beyond the foliage. Vigorous growth habit.

Plant height.—About 32 cm.

Plant width, single plant.—About 27.5 cm.

Lateral branch description.—Quantity per plant: About nine primary lateral branches; each with about four secondary lateral branches. Length: About 27 cm. Diameter: About 4 mm. Internode length: About 1.2 cm. Aspect: Upright to outwardly spreading. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: 145A.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Alternate, simple. Length: About 5 cm. Width: About 2.5 cm. Shape: Pinnatifid, deeply and finely dissected. Apex: Acute. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire; deeply and finely dissected; sinuses parallel. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Venation pattern: Pinnate. Petiole length: About 1.8 cm. Petiole diameter: About 2.5 mm. Petiole texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color: Developing foliage, upper surface: 137A. Developing foliage, lower surface: 137C. Fully expanded foliage, upper surface: 147A. Fully expanded foliage, lower surface: 147B. Venation, upper and lower surfaces: 147B. Petiole, upper and lower surfaces: 147B.

Inflorescence description:

Appearance.—Anemone-type inflorescence form with ligulate ray florets. Disc and ray florets develop acropetally on a capitulum. Inflorescences held

upright and outwardly on terminal and axillary peduncles. Inflorescences positioned perpendicular to the peduncles. Inflorescences persistent.

Flowering response.—Under natural conditions, plant flower from spring to early fall in Southern California; plants flower continuous during this period.

Inflorescence longevity.—Inflorescences last about ten days on the plant.

Quantity of inflorescences.—Freely flowering, about 12 open inflorescences per lateral branch.

Fragrance.—Strong, unpleasant.

Inflorescence size.—Diameter: About 4.2 cm. Depth (height): About 1 cm. Diameter of disc: About 1.8 cm. Receptacle height: About 6 mm. Receptacle diameter: About 1.3 cm.

Inflorescence buds, at stage of showing color.—Height: About 1 cm. Diameter: About 8 mm. Shape: Ovoid. Color: 80C.

Ray florets.—Quantity per inflorescence: About 35 arranged in two whorls. Shape: Ligulate. Length: About 2.2 cm. Width: About 5 mm. Apex: Emarginate. Base: Acute. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, satiny. Aspect: Initially upright; when mature, horizontal to slightly upright. Color: When opening, upper surface: 80C. When opening, lower surface: 78D. Fully opened, upper surface: 78C to 78D; towards the base, 155D; color becoming close to 75D with development eventually fading to close to 155D. Fully opened, lower surface: 75C.

Disc florets.—Arrangement: Massed at the center of the inflorescence. Quantity per inflorescence: About 80. Shape: Tubular, enlarged; apex, five-pointed; base, fused. Length: About 8 mm. Diameter, apex: About 2 mm. Diameter, base: Less than 1 mm. Color: Apex: 9A; color becoming closer to 158C with development. Mid-section and base: 155D.

Involucral bracts (phyllaries).—Appearance: Scale-like; margins, papery. Quantity per inflorescence: About 20. Length: About 4 mm. Width: About 2 mm. Shape: Elliptic. Apex: Acute. Base: Truncate. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Glabrous, smooth. Color, upper and lower surfaces: 144A.

Peduncle.—Strength: Moderately strong; wiry. Aspect: Upright to about 45° from vertical. Length, terminal inflorescence: About 8.5 cm. Diameter: About 1 mm. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: 144A.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Present on disc florets only. Quantity per floret: Five. Anther shape: Oblong. Anther length: Less than 1 mm. Anther color: 15A. Amount of pollen: Scarce. Pollen color: 15A. Gynoecium: Present on ray and disc florets. Quantity per floret: One. Pistil length: About 6 mm. Stigma shape: Two-parted. Stigma color: 14A. Style length: About 4 mm. Style color: 145D. Ovary color: 157B. Seed/fruit: Seed and fruit production has not been observed.

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

Temperature/weather tolerance: Plants of the new *Argyranthemum* have been observed to be tolerant to rain, wind and to temperatures from -1 to 30° C.

It is claimed:

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

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