



US00PP15904P3

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

(10) **Patent No.:** **US PP15,904 P3**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Aug. 2, 2005**

(54) **ARGYRANTHEMUM FRUTESCENS PLANT**
NAMED 'ARGYDOWITIS'

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

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
patent is extended or adjusted under 35
U.S.C. 154(b) by 103 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **10/706,774**

(22) Filed: **Nov. 12, 2003**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2005/0102725 P1 May 12, 2005

(51) **Int. Cl.⁷** **A01H 5/00**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./263**

(58) **Field of Search** **Plt./263**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A distinct cultivar of Marguerite Daisy plant named 'Argy-
dowitis' characterized by its upright vigorous plant habit,
good field performance, large semi-double white flowers,
dark green colored leaves, freely flowering with numerous
inflorescences per plant.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Latin name of the genus and species of the plant claimed:
Argyranthemum frutescens.
Varietal denomination: 'Argydowitis'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of Marguerite Daisy plant, botanically known as *Argyran-*
themum frutescens and referred to by the cultivar name
'Argydowitis'. The new cultivar is a product of a planned
breeding program conducted by the inventor in Enkhuizen,
The Netherlands. The objective of the breeding program was
to develop a more vigorous plant that flowers early with a
good field performance during the whole summer.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

This new Marguerite Daisy plant is illustrated by the
accompanying photographic drawing which shows blooms,
buds and foliage of the plant in full color, the color shown
being as true as can be reasonably obtained by conventional
photographic procedures (FIG. 2). The depicted plant is of
the same age as disclosed in the botanical description.

The dimensions of the florets of this new Marguerite
Daisy are illustrated more precisely by the accompanying
photographic drawing which shows the florets next to a ruler
(FIG. 1).

DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW CULTIVAR

The following detailed descriptions set forth the distinc-
tive characteristics of this new Marguerite Daisy plant. The
data which defines these characteristics were collected from
asexual reproductions carried out in Enkhuizen, The Neth-
erlands. The plant history was taken on 20 weeks old plants,
grown in the greenhouses in Enkhuizen, The Netherlands
with day temperatures ranging from 12 to 18 degree C., and
night temperatures ranging from 10 to 14 degrees Celsius.

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Color references are primarily to The R.H.S. Colour Chart
of The Royal Horticultural Society of London where general
terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

- 5 The plant:
Classification
Botanical.—*Argyranthemum frutescens* 'Argydowitis'.
Parentage:
10 *Female parent*.—Proprietary seedling selection of
Argyranthemum frutescens, identified as number 'A
40-1' (unpatented). Breederscode of the new plant is
'C 45-6'.
Male parent.—Unidentified selection of *Argyranthe-*
mum frutescens.
15 Propagation:
Type cuttings.—Terminal cuttings.
Time to initiate roots.—7 to 10 days at air temperature
of 21 degree C.
20 *Time to develop roots*.—7 to 14 days at air temperature
of 18 degree C.
Plant description:
Growth habit.—Upright.
Plant height.—25–28 cm.
Vigor.—Vigorous.
Spreading area of plant.—25–30 cm.
Strength.—Very good.
Branching character.—Freely branching, plants do not
require pinching.
30 *Crop time*.—About 10 weeks are required to produce a
finished flowering plant in a 10.5 cm container from
a good developed cutting.
The stem:
Diameter.—4 mm.
35 *Shape*.—Round, bit grooved.
Anthocyan pigmentation.—Absent.
Length of internode.—1.5–2.5 cm.
Pubescence.—Absent.
Color.—143C.

The foliage:
Arrangement.—Alternate.
Shape of leaf.—Bipinnatisect.
Leaf apex.—Acute.
Leaf base.—Attenuate.
Texture.—Thick glabrous smooth.
Length.—6–7 cm.
Width.—3–3.5 cm.
Depth of incision=margin.—Lacinate.
Color relating to both juvenile and mature leaves.—
Upper side: 133A–139A. Lower side: 138B.
Pubescens.—Absent.
Petiole.—Absent.
Venation.—Shape: Pinnate. Color: 138A.

The flower bud:
Peduncle.—Length: 6–10 cm. Strength: Strong. Texture: Smooth. Color: 144A.
Size bud.—Diameter: 4–7 mm. Length: 4–5 mm.
Shape flower bud.—Flattened, round.
Color bud.—163C.

Inflorescence:
Diameter.—4.2–5.0 cm.
Form.—Capitula with 2 series of ray florets and 10–15 series of grown disc florets, which give the semi double impression.
Receptacle height.—0.5 cm.
Involucre/phyllaries.—3 series of 5 bracts, tightly to receptacle. Shape: Elliptic, with broad apex. Margin: Entire. Length: 2–3 mm. Color: Upper: 143A. Lower: 143A.
Fragrance.—Absent.
Quantity of inflorescences.—±60–100 flowers/plant depending on age and growing conditions.
Flowering period.—April till October in N-W Europe, plants flower continuously during this period.
Lastingness of blooms.—7–10 days.

Ray florets:
Shape of ray florets.—Ligulate.
Apex.—Rounded, little incised.
Base.—Cordate.
Margin.—Entire.
Color.—155C.
No. of ray florets per inflor.—22–26.
Size of the ray floret.—Length: 1.4–1.7 cm. Width: 0.4–0.7 cm.
Texture.—Smooth.

Disc florets:
Shape of disc florets.—Tubular (trumpet shape) with 5 lobes.
Color.—12A.
Diameter of disc floret.—Young: 1 mm. Old: 3 mm.
Number of disc florets/flower.—±80.

Androecium:
Anther color.—Yellow 15A.
Pollen color.—Yellow 15A.
Amount of pollen.—Only in disc florets little pollen.

Gynoecium:
Pistil number.—One per floret (ray florets only).
Pistil length.—About 2 mm.
Style color.—Yellow green 144D.
Style length.—About 2 mm.
Stigma color.—Yellow orange 14A.
Stigma shape.—Bilobed.
Ovary color.—144C.

Disease resistance: No susceptibility nor resistance to fungal, bacterial or viral pathogens has been noted. Material is free of virus and *Chrysanthemum* stunt viroid (CSVd).

Seed: Seed production is not observed.

Physiological and ecological characteristics: Comparison with ‘Sugar Button’ and ‘Argydowitis’ on characteristics in which the new plant differs:

	‘Sugar Button’ (PP 11,980)	‘Argydowitis’
Plant height	19–22 cm	25–28 cm
Plant habit	compact	upright
Flower diameter	3.0–3.5 cm	4.2–5.0 cm
Foliage color	137A–137B	133A–139A

No description on parental lines available. Material no longer exists as such.

What is claimed is:

1. A new and distinct variety of *Argyranthemum* plant, substantially as herein illustrated and described, characterized particularly as to novelty by its vigorous but sturdy upright plant habit with continuous flowering during the season, large semi-double white flowers and dark green foliage, flowering the whole summer.

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