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Smith

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(54) **CHRYSANTHEMUM PLANT NAMED**
‘YOTASHA’

(50) Latin Name: *Chrysanthemum*×*morifolium*
Varietal Denomination: **Yotasha**

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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(58) **Field of Classification Search** **Plt./295**
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Chrysanthemum* plant named
‘Yotasha’, characterized by its upright, outwardly spreading
and rounded plant habit; freely branching habit; dense and
full appearance; uniform and freely flowering habit; small
daisy-type inflorescences with elongated oblong-shaped ray
florets; ray florets initially yellow becoming bronze-colored
with development; bright yellow-colored disc florets; natu-
ral season flowering in mid-October in the Northern Hemi-
sphere; and good garden performance.

2 Drawing Sheets

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Botanical classification/cultivar designation: *Chrysanthemum*×*morifolium* cultivar Yotasha.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of *Chrysanthemum* plant, botanically known as
Chrysanthemum×*morifolium*, commercially known as a
garden-type *Chrysanthemum* and hereinafter referred to by
the name ‘Yotasha’.

The new cultivar is a product of a planned breeding
program conducted by the Inventor in Salinas, Calif. and
Alva, Fla. The objective of the breeding program is to create
new garden-type *Chrysanthemum* cultivars having inflores-
cences with desirable inflorescence forms, attractive floret
coloration and good garden performance.

The new *Chrysanthemum* originated from a cross-
pollination made in October, 1999 in Salinas, Calif., of the
Chrysanthemum×*morifolium* cultivar Alcala, disclosed in
U.S. Plant Pat. No. 10,211, as the female, or seed, parent
with a proprietary *Chrysanthemum*×*morifolium* seedling
selection identified as code number 97-L002, not patented,
as the male, or pollen, parent. The new *Chrysanthemum* was
discovered and selected by the Inventor as a single flowering
plant within the progeny of the stated cross-pollination
grown in a controlled environment in Alva, Fla. in
November, 2000. The selection of this plant was based on its
desirable inflorescence form, attractive floret coloration and
good garden performance.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal
vegetative cuttings in a controlled environment in Alva, Fla.
since January, 2001, has shown that the unique features of
this new *Chrysanthemum* are stable and reproduced true to
type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The cultivar Yotasha has not been observed under all
possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary
somewhat with variations in environment such as

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temperature, daylength and light intensity, without,
however, any variance in genotype.

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

1. Upright, outwardly spreading and rounded plant habit.
2. Freely branching habit; dense and full plants.
3. Uniform and freely flowering habit.
4. Small daisy-type inflorescences with elongated oblong-
shaped ray florets.
5. Ray florets initially yellow becoming bronze-colored
with development; bright yellow-colored disc florets.
6. Natural season flowering in mid-October in the North-
ern Hemisphere.
7. Good garden performance.

In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Alva, Fla. under
natural season conditions, plants of the new *Chrysanthemum*
differed from plants of the female parent, the cultivar Alcala,
in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* were smaller than
plants of the cultivar Alcala.
2. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* flowered about two
or three days later than plants of the cultivar Alcala.
3. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* and the cultivar
Alcala differed in ray floret coloration as plants of the
cultivar Alcala had dark pink-colored florets.

In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Alva, Fla. under
natural season conditions, plants of the new *Chrysanthemum*
differed from plants of the male parent, the proprietary
seedling selection identified as code number 97-L002, in the
following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* were smaller and
more rounded than plants of the male parent selection.
2. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* had smaller inflo-
rescences than plants of the male parent selection.

3. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* flowered about one month later than plants of the male parent selection.

4. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* and the male parent selection differed in ray floret coloration as plants of the male parent selection had white-colored ray florets.

Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* can be compared to plants of the *Chrysanthemum* cultivar Yogabriella, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 13,762. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Alva, Fla. under natural season conditions, plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* differed from plants of the cultivar Yogabriella in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* were more compact and more rounded than plants of the cultivar Yogabriella.
2. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* flowered about two to four weeks later than plants of the cultivar Yogabriella.
3. Ray florets of plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* were darker in color than ray florets of plants of the cultivar Yogabriella.

Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* can also be compared to plants of the *Chrysanthemum* cultivar Gedi One Sap, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 13,731. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Alva, Fla. under natural season conditions, plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* differed from plants of the cultivar Gedi One Sap in the following characteristics:

1. Inflorescences of plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* had fewer ray florets than inflorescences of plants of the cultivar Gedi One Sap.
2. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* flowered about ten days earlier than plants of the cultivar Gedi One Sap.
3. Ray florets of plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* resisted fading better than ray florets of plants of the cultivar Gedi One Sap.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying photographs illustrate the overall appearance of the new *Chrysanthemum*. These photographs show the colors as true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored reproductions 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 *Chrysanthemum*.

The photograph on the first sheet comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'Yotasha' grown in a container.

The photograph on the second sheet comprises a close-up view of typical inflorescences of the cultivar 'Yotasha'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 1995 Edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used. The following observations and measurements describe plants grown in Leamington, Ontario, Canada during the late summer and fall in an outdoor nursery and under conditions and practices which approximate those generally used in commercial garden-type *Chrysanthemum* production. One cutting was planted in a 15.25-cm container in mid-July. During the production of the plants, plants were exposed to natural season photoperiodic conditions with day temperatures averaging 26° C. and night

averaging 18° C. Measurements and numerical values represent averages for typical flowering plants.

Botanical classification: *Chrysanthemum*×*morifolium* cultivar Yotasha.

Commercial classification: Daisy-type garden *Chrysanthemum*.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—*Chrysanthemum*×*morifolium* cultivar Alcala, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 10,211.

Male, or pollen, parent.—Proprietary *Chrysanthemum*×*morifolium* seedling selection identified as code number 97-L002, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—Terminal vegetative cuttings.

Time to initiate roots, year-round.—About four days at 21° C.

Time to produce a rooted cutting, year-round.—About ten to twelve days at 21° C.

Root description.—Fine, fibrous; white in color.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching.

Plant description:

Plant form/growth habit.—Perennial herbaceous daisy-type garden *Chrysanthemum*. Inverted triangle with mounded crown; rounded plant habit. Stems initially upright, then outwardly spreading. Freely branching with lateral branches potentially developing at every node. Moderately vigorous to vigorous.

Plant height.—About 14.5 cm.

Plant diameter.—About 34 cm.

Lateral branches.—Length: About 17 cm. Diameter: About 4.5 mm. Internode length: About 1.4 cm. Strength: Strong. Texture: Pubescent. Color: Close to 144A.

Foliage description.—Leaf arrangement: Alternate. Length: About 3.8 cm. Width: About 2.7 cm. Apex: Mucronate. Base: Attenuate to truncate. Margin: Palmately and deeply lobed; sinuses parallel to divergent. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent. Color: Developing foliage, upper surface: More green than 147A. Developing foliage, lower surface: More green than 147B. Fully expanded foliage, upper surface: More green than 147A. Fully expanded foliage, lower surface: Close to 147B. Venation, upper surface: Close to 147A to 147B. Venation, lower surface: Close to 147B. Petiole: Length: About 7 mm. Diameter: About 2.5 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 146A to 146B.

Inflorescence description:

Appearance.—Daisy-type inflorescence form with elongated oblong-shaped ray florets. Inflorescences borne on terminals above foliage, arising from leaf axils. Disc and ray florets developing acropetally on a capitulum. Inflorescences face mostly upright or outwardly. Inflorescences slightly cupped. Uniform and freely flowering; about 22 inflorescences develop per lateral branch. Inflorescences persistent. Inflorescences not fragrant.

Flowering response.—Under natural season conditions, plants flower in mid-October in the Northern Hemisphere.

Inflorescence bud (before showing color).—Height: About 4.5 mm. Diameter: About 6 mm. Shape:

Oblate. Color (lower surface of phyllaries): Close to 147A to 146A.

Inflorescence size.—Diameter: About 3.75 cm. Depth(height): About 1.7 cm. Disc diameter: About 1 cm. Receptacle diameter: About 5 mm. Receptacle height: About 4.5 mm.

Ray florets.—Shape: Elongated oblong. Length: About 1.9 cm. Corolla tube length: About 3 mm. Width: About 5 mm. Apex: Emarginate. Margin: Fused. Texture: Smooth, glabrous; satiny. Surface: Concave to flat. Orientation: Initially upright, then curved upright. Number of ray florets per inflorescence: About 35 in about two to three whorls. Color: When opening, upper surface: Close to 6A. When opening, lower surface: Close to 6C to 6D. Fully opened, upper surface: Close to 6A to 6C overlain with 59A. Fully opened, lower surface: Close to 6C to 6D faintly underlain with 59A.

Disc florets.—Shape: Tubular; apex dentate, five-pointed. Length: About 4.5 mm. Width, apex: About 2 mm. Width, base: About 1 mm. Number of disc florets per inflorescence: Numerous. Color: Immature: Close to 9A to 12A. Mature: Apex: Close to 12A. Mid-section: Close to 144A. Base: Close to 155D.

Phyllaries.—Quantity per inflorescence: About 24. Length: About 5.5 mm. Width: About 4 mm. Shape:

Deltoid. Apex: Acute. Base: Truncate, fused. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper surface: Smooth, waxy. Texture, lower surface: Pubescent. Color, upper surface: Close to 146A. Color, lower surface: Close to 147A to 146A.

Peduncle.—Length: First peduncle: About 3.8 cm. Fourth peduncle: About 5.8 cm. Seventh peduncle: About 9 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Strength: Strong. Aspect: About 45 to 50° from vertical. Texture: Pubescent. Color: Close to 144A.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Present on disc florets only. Anther color: 9A to 12A. Pollen: Scarce. Pollen color: Close to 15A. Gynoecium: Present on both ray and disc florets.

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

Disease/pest resistance: Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* have not been shown to be resistant to pathogens and pests common to *Chrysanthemums*.

Garden performance: Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* have been observed to be have good garden performance and to be tolerant to rain, wind and temperatures ranging from 0 to greater than 38° C.

It is claimed:

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

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