

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

(10) **Patent No.:** **US PP16,633 P2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Jun. 13, 2006**

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

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

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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 71 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **11/055,833**

(22) Filed: **Feb. 11, 2005**

(51) **Int. Cl.**
A01H 5/00 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./295**

(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
'Yoveracruz', characterized by its uniform and outwardly
spreading plant habit; strong and freely branching growth
habit; dark green-colored foliage; uniform flowering
response and habit; typically grown as a spray-type; early
flowering habit; daisy-type inflorescences with spoon or
quill-shaped ray florets; golden bronze-colored ray florets
and green-colored disc florets that develop slowly; and good
postproduction longevity with plants maintaining good sub-
stance and color for about three to five weeks in an interior
environment.

2 Drawing Sheets

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

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present Invention relates to a new and distinct culti-
var of *Chrysanthemum plant*, botanically known as
Chrysanthemum×*morifolium* and hereinafter referred to by
the name 'Yoveracruz'.

The new *Chrysanthemum* is a product of a planned
breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Salinas,
Calif. and Fort Myers, Fla. The objective of the program is
to create or discover new potted *Chrysanthemum* cultivars
that are suitable for year-round production with uniform
plant growth habit, good vigor and strong branching habit,
numerous inflorescences, desirable inflorescence form and
florete colors, fast and uniform flowering response, and good
postproduction longevity.

The new *Chrysanthemum* originated from a cross-
pollination made by the Inventor in May, 1998, in Salinas,
Calif., of the *Chrysanthemum* cultivar Spears, disclosed in
U.S. Plant Pat. No. 5,620, as the female, or seed, parent with
a proprietary *Chrysanthemum* seedling selection identified
as code number YB-5897, not patented, as the male, or
pollen, parent. The new *Chrysanthemum* was discovered and
selected by the Inventor in March, 1999, as a single flow-
ering plant from within the resulting progeny of the stated
cross-pollination grown in a controlled environment in Fort
Myers, Fla.

The selection of this plant was based on its uniform plant
growth habit, good vigor and strong branching habit, numer-
ous inflorescences, desirable inflorescence form and florete
colors, fast and uniform flowering response, and good
postproduction longevity.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Chrysanthemum* by
vegetative tip cuttings was first conducted in Fort Myers,
Fla. in June, 1999. Asexual reproduction by cuttings has

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shown that the unique features of this new *Chrysanthemum*
are stable and reproduced true to type in successive genera-
tions.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The cultivar Yoveracruz has not been observed under all
possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary
somewhat with variations in environment such as
temperature, daylength, and/or light level, without, however,
any variance in genotype.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and
are determined to be the unique characteristics of 'Yover-
acruz'. These characteristics in combination distinguish
'Yoveracruz' as a new and distinct *Chrysanthemum*:

1. Uniform and outwardly spreading plant habit.
2. Strong and freely branching growth habit.
3. Dark green-colored foliage.
4. Uniform flowering response and habit.
5. Typically grown as a spray-type.
6. Early flowering, eight week response time.
7. Daisy-type inflorescences with spoon and quill-shaped
ray florets.
8. Golden bronze-colored ray florets and green-colored
disc florets that develop slowly.
9. Good postproduction longevity with plants maintaining
good substance and color for about three to five weeks
in an interior environment.

Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* can be compared to
plants of the female parent, the cultivar Spears. Plants of the
new *Chrysanthemum* differ from plants of the cultivar
Spears primarily in ray floret coloration as plants of the
cultivar Spears have white-colored ray florets. In addition,
plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* are more vigorous than
plants of the cultivar Spears.

Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* can be compared to plants of the male parent selection. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* differ from plants of the male parent selection primarily in ray floret coloration as plants of the male parent selection have red purple-colored ray florets. In addition, plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* flower about one week earlier than plants of the male parent selection.

Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* can be compared to plants of the cultivar Golden State, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 8,694. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Fort Myers, Fla., plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* differed from plants of the cultivar Golden State in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* were shorter than plants of the cultivar Golden State.
2. Plant habit of the new *Chrysanthemum* was more uniform than plant habit of the cultivar Golden State.
3. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* and the cultivar Golden State differed in inflorescence form as plants of the cultivar Golden State had anemone-type inflorescences.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying colored photographs illustrate the overall appearance of the new *Chrysanthemum* showing the colors as true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored reproductions of this type. Colors in the photographs may differ 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 typical flowering plants of 'Yoveracruz' grown as spray-types.

The photograph on the second sheet comprises a close-up view of typical inflorescences of 'Yoveracruz' grown as spray-types.

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 aforementioned photographs, following observations and measurements describe plants grown and flowered during the autumn in Salinas, Calif., in a fiberglass-covered greenhouse and under conditions which approximate those generally used in commercial potted *Chrysanthemum* production. During the production of these plants, the following conditions were measured: day temperatures, 21 to 27° C.; night temperatures, 17 to 19° C.; and light levels, 5,000 to 6,000 foot-candles. Four unrooted cuttings were directly stuck in 15-cm containers, exposed to long day/short night conditions, and pinched once about two weeks later. At the time of the pinch, the photoinductive short day/long night treatments were initiated. Plants used for the description were grown as spray-types. Measurements and numerical values represent averages of typical flowering plants.

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

Commercial classification: Daisy-type potted *Chrysanthemum*.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—*Chrysanthemum*×*morifolium* cultivar Spears, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 5,620.

Male, or pollen, parent.—Proprietary *Chrysanthemum*×*morifolium* seedling selection identified as code number YB-5897, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—Terminal tip cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—About four days at 21° C.

Time to produce a rooted cutting.—About ten days at 21° C.

Root description.—White, close to 155D; fibrous.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching; moderately dense.

Plant description:

Appearance.—Herbaceous daisy-type potted *Chrysanthemum* that is typically grown as a spray-type. Upright with lateral branches outwardly spreading; uniformly mounded crown. Strong and freely branching growth habit; about three to four lateral branches develop after removal of terminal apex (pinching); dense and full plants.

Plant height.—About 21 cm.

Plant width.—About 44 cm.

Lateral branches.—Length: About 24 cm. Diameter: About 5 mm. Internode length: About 2.75 cm. Strength: Strong. Texture: Pubescent. Color: Close to 146A.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Alternate; simple. Length: About 9.75 cm. Width: About 6.5 cm. Apex: Mucronate. Base: Attenuate with truncate tendencies. Margin: Palmately lobed, sinuses between lateral lobes parallel to divergent. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent. Color: Developing foliage, upper surface: Darker green than 147A. Developing foliage, lower surface: Close to 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 2.8 cm. Petiole diameter: About 3 mm. Petiole color, upper surface: More green than 147A. Petiole color, lower surface: Close to 147B.

Inflorescence description:

Appearance.—Daisy-type inflorescence form with spoon and quill-shaped ray florets. Inflorescences borne on terminals above foliage. Disk and ray florets develop acropetally on a capitulum. Inflorescences not fragrant.

Flowering response.—Under natural conditions, plants flower in the autumn/winter in the Northern Hemisphere. At other times of the year, inflorescence initiation and development can be induced under short day/long night conditions (at least 13.5 hours of darkness). Early flowering; plants exposed to two weeks of long day/short night conditions followed by photoinductive short day/long night conditions flower about eight weeks later.

Postproduction longevity.—Inflorescences maintain good color and substance for about three to five weeks in an interior environment.

Quantity of inflorescences.—Grown as a spray-type, about eight inflorescences develop per lateral branch.

Inflorescence bud.—Height: About 5.5 mm. Diameter: About 8 mm. Shape: Oblate. Color: Close to 146A.

Inflorescence diameter.—About 10.5 cm.

Inflorescence depth (height).—About 2.2 cm.

Diameter of disc.—About 2 cm.

Receptacle diameter.—About 1 cm.

Ray florets.—Shape: Spoon or quilled-shaped. Orientation: Initially upright, then about 20° from perpendicular. Aspect: Mostly straight. Length: About 5.2 cm. Width: About 7 mm. Corolla tube length: About 3.6 cm. Corolla tube diameter: About 2 mm. Apex: Acute or emarginate. Base: Fused into a corolla tube. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; satiny. Number of ray florets per inflorescence: About 34 arranged in a single whorl. Color: When opening and fully opened, upper surface: Close to 6A overlain with close to 45A; color becoming closer to 6A with development. When opening and fully opened, lower surface: Close to 6D underlain with close to 46A; color becoming closer to 6D with development.

Disc florets.—Arrangement: Massed at center of receptacle. Shape: Tubular. Apex: Five-pointed. Length: About 8 mm. Diameter, apex: About 2 mm. Diameter, base: About 1 mm. Number of disc florets per inflorescence: Numerous, about 190. Color: Immature: Close to 144A; disc florets develop

slowly. Mature, apex: 9A. Mature, mid-section: Close to 145C. Mature, base: Close to 155D.

Phyllaries.—Quantity per inflorescence: About 28. Length: About 9 mm. Width: About 5 mm. Shape: Lanceolate. Apex: Acute. Base: Truncate. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper surface: Waxy, smooth. Texture, lower surface: Pubescent. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 146A.

Peduncles.—Length, terminal peduncle: About 3.9 cm. Length, fourth peduncle: About 7.1 cm. Diameter: About 3 mm. Strength: Strong. Texture: Pubescent. Color: Close to 146A.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Present on disc florets only. Anther color: Close to 12A. Pollen amount: None observed. Gynoecium: Present on both ray and disc florets. Style color: Close to 144B to 144C. Stigma color: Close to 9A.

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

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

It is claimed:

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

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