



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

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(54) **FITTONIA PLANT NAMED ‘SNOW STAR’**

(50) Latin Name: *Fittonia verschaffeltii*
Varietal Denomination: **Snow Star**

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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A01H 5/00 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./373**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** Plt./373
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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PP4,602 P * 10/1980 Cobia Plt./373

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Retrieval Software 2005/05 Citations for ‘Snow Star’.*

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Primary Examiner—Wendy Haas

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new cultivar of *Fittonia* plant named ‘Snow Star’ that is
characterized by small green and white leaves with green
veins.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical classification: *Fittonia verschaffeltii*.
Variety denomination: ‘Snow Star’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of *Fittonia* plant botanically known as *Fittonia verschaffeltii*
and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name ‘Snow Star’.

The new cultivar was discovered by the inventor in a
cultivated area of Haaren, The Netherlands in 2001. ‘Snow
Star’ was discovered as a naturally occurring whole plant
mutation of *Fittonia verschaffeltii* ‘White Anne’ (not
patented).

Asexual reproduction by terminal cuttings of the new
cultivar ‘Snow Star’ was first done in 2001 in Haaren, The
Netherlands. Since that time, under careful observation, the
unique characteristics of the new cultivar have been
uniform, stable and reproduced true to type in successive
generations of asexual reproduction.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following represent the distinguishing characteristics
of the new *Fittonia* cultivar ‘Snow Star’.

1. *Fittonia* ‘Snow Star’ exhibits small leaves.
2. *Fittonia* ‘Snow Star’ exhibits white and green leaves
with green veins.

The closest comparison cultivar is the parent *Fittonia*
‘White Anne’. The new cultivar ‘Snow Star’ is distinguish-
able from ‘White Anne’ by the following characteristics:

1. ‘Snow Star’ has leaf margins that are more wavy than
‘White Anne’.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

The accompanying photograph illustrates the distinguish-
ing traits of *Fittonia* ‘Snow Star’. The plant in the photo-
graph shows an overall view of a 12 week old plant. The

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photograph was taken using conventional techniques and
although colors may appear different from actual colors due
to light reflectance it is as accurate as possible by conven-
tional photographic techniques.

BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANT

The following is a detailed description of the new *Fittonia*
cultivar named ‘Snow Star’. Data was collected in Haaren,
The Netherlands from 12 week old greenhouse grown plants
in 8.5 cm. containers. The time of year was Spring and the
average temperature was 24 degrees Centigrade during the
day and 22 degrees Centigrade at night. No photoperiodic
treatments were used. Color determinations are in accor-
dance with The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart
2001 edition, except where general color terms of ordinary
dictionary significance are used. The growing requirements
are similar to the species. ‘Snow Star’ has not been tested
under all possible conditions and phenotypic differences
may be observed with variations in environmental, climatic,
and cultural conditions, however, without any variance in
genotype.

Botanical classification: *Fittonia verschaffeltii* ‘Snow Star’.

Use: Ornamental.

Parentage: ‘Snow Star’ is a naturally occurring whole plant
mutation of *Fittonia* ‘White Anne’.

Vigor: Moderate.

Growth rate: Moderate.

Growth habit: Broad spreading, upright.

Plant shape: Flattened globular.

Suitable container size: 8.5 cm. diameter container.

Height: Average 6.3 cm.

Width: Average 9.7 cm.

Hardiness: USDA Zone 10.

Propagation: Terminal cuttings.

Time to initiate roots: Approximately 21 days to produce
roots on an initial cutting at 24 degrees Centigrade.

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Time to produce a rooted cutting: Approximately 35 days to produce a rooted cutting at 24 degrees Centigrade.

Crop time: 12 weeks.

Root system: Fine and fibrous.

Stem:

Branching habit.—Moderately branching.

Average number of lateral branches—2.

Pinching.—Not needed.

Lateral branch diameter.—3 mm. in diameter.

Lateral branch length.—2.9 cm. in length.

Lateral branch strength.—Moderate.

Stem color.—144A to 144B.

Pubescence.—Dense, length 1.5 mm., color N155A.

Internode length.—1.9 cm. between nodes.

Shape.—Rounded, dull.

Surface.—Dull.

Stem strength.—Moderate.

Foliage:

Leaf arrangement.—Opposite.

Compound or single.—Single.

Leaf shape.—Obovate to broad obovate.

Leaf apex.—Rounded.

Leaf base.—Cordate.

Leaf texture.—Glabrous, slightly rugose, prominent venation.

Leaf length.—Average 4.5 cm. in length.

Leaf width.—3.6 mm. in width.

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Quantity of leaves per lateral branch.—Average 4.

Pubescence.—Short hairs on margins, 0.5 mm. in length, N155A.

Leaf margin.—Repand and considerably wavy.

Vein pattern.—Pinnate.

Young leaf color, (upper surface).—145D with small dark spots, 145C, and green margins, 137A.

Young leaf color, (lower surface).—145C with darker venation, 145B, and green margins, 137A to 137B.

Mature leaf color, (upper surface).—137A to 139A.

Mature leaf color, (lower surface).—138A to 138B with darker margins, 137A to 137B.

Vein color (upper surface).—157D.

Vein color (lower surface).—145C.

Leaf attachment.—Petiolate.

Petiole dimensions.—Average 1.2 cm. in length, 2 mm. in diameter, 1.5 mm. in height.

Petiole color.—144B.

Durability of foliage to stress.—High.

Flowers: Flowers have not been observed.

Disease and insect resistance: Plants of the new *Fittonia* have not been observed for disease or insect resistance.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct variety of *Fittonia* plant named ‘Snow Star’ as described and illustrated.

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