



US00PP17274P2

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

(10) **Patent No.: US PP17,274 P2**
(45) **Date of Patent: Dec. 12, 2006**

(54) ***FITTONIA* PLANT NAMED ‘WHITE ANGEL’**

(50) Latin Name: ***Fittonia verschaffeltii***
Varietal Denomination: **White Angel**

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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 11 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **11/172,359**

(22) Filed: **Jun. 30, 2005**

(51) **Int. Cl.**
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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* cited by examiner

Primary Examiner—Wendy Haas

(57) **ABSTRACT**

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

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical classification: *Fittonia verschaffeltii*.
Variety denomination: ‘White Angel’.

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 ‘White
Angel’.

The new cultivar was discovered by the inventor in a
cultivated area of Haaren, The Netherlands in 2002. ‘White
Angel’ 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 ‘White Angel’ was first done in 2002 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 ‘White Angel’.

1. *Fittonia* ‘White Angel’ exhibits small leaves.
2. *Fittonia* ‘White Angel’ exhibits green leaves with green
and white veins.

The closest comparison cultivars are *Fittonia* ‘Minima’
(unpatented) and *Fittonia* ‘Titanic’ (unpatented). The new
cultivar ‘White Angel’ is distinguishable from ‘Minima’ by
the following characteristics:

1. ‘White Angel’ has a more compact habit.

The new cultivar ‘White Angel’ is distinguishable from
‘Titanic’ by the following characteristics:

1. ‘White Angel’ has a faster growth rate.

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The new cultivar ‘White Angel’ is distinguishable from
the parent plant ‘White Anne’ by the following characteris-
tics:

1. ‘White Angel’ has a more compact habit than ‘White
Anne’.
2. ‘White Angel’ has smaller leaves than ‘White Anne’.
3. ‘White Angel’ has stronger stems than ‘White Anne’.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

The accompanying photograph illustrates the distinguish-
ing traits of *Fittonia* ‘White Angel’. The plant in the
photograph shows an overall view of a 12 week old plant.
The 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
conventional photographic techniques.

BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANT

The following is a detailed description of the new *Fittonia*
cultivar named ‘White Angel’. 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 Centi-
grade during the day and 22 degrees Centigrade at night. No
photoperiodic treatments were used. Color determinations
are in accordance 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. ‘White Angel’ 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 verschoffeltii* 'White Angel'.

Use: Ornamental.

Parentage: 'White Angel' 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 6.2 cm.

Width: Average 11.7 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.

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.—Freely branching.

Average number of lateral branches.—3.

Pinching.—Not needed.

Lateral branch diameter.—3 mm. in diameter.

Lateral branch length.—3.5 cm. in length.

Lateral branch strength.—Moderate.

Stem color.—138A.

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

Internode length.—1.3 cm. between nodes.

Internode color.—144B.

Shape.—Rounded, dull.

Surface.—Dull.

Stem strength.—Moderate.

Foliage:

Leaf arrangement.—Opposite.

Compound or single.—Single.

Leaf shape.—Elliptic, slightly curved.

Leaf apex.—Rounded to bluntly acute.

Leaf base.—Attenuate.

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

Leaf length.—Average 4.9 cm. in length.

Leaf width.—2 mm. in width.

Quantity of leaves per lateral branch.—Average 6.

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

Leaf margin.—Entire and slightly repand.

Vein pattern.—Pinnate.

Young leaf color, (upper surface).—Between 136A and 139A.

Young leaf color, (lower surface).—138A.

Mature leaf color, (upper surface).—Slightly darker than 139A.

Mature leaf color, (lower surface).—N138B.

Vein color (upper surface).—157D, darker towards base, 145A to 145B.

Vein color (lower surface).—144B to 144C.

Leaf attachment.—Petiolate.

Petiole dimensions.—Average 1.5 cm. in length, 2 mm. in diameter, 1.25 mm. in height.

Petiole color.—144B to 144C.

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 'White Angel' as described and illustrated.

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