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Houbraken

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

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

(75) Inventor: **Anna M. W. P. Houbraken**, Enkhuizen (NL)

(73) Assignee: **Syngenta Seeds B.V.**, Enkhuizen (NL)

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(58) **Field of Classification Search** Plt./263
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Primary Examiner—Anne Marie Grunberg
Assistant Examiner—S. B. McCormick-Ewoldt
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Bruce Vrana

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Argyranthemum frutescens* plant, substantially as herein illustrated and described, characterized particularly as to novelty by its compact rounded plant habit, good field performance, dark green colored leaves, freely flowering with numerous inflorescences per plant, and daisy-type inflorescences with pink double flowered inflorescences, organized in a crumpled way.

1 Drawing Sheet

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

BACKGROUND OF THE NEW PLANT

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of Marguerite Daisy plant, botanically known as *Argyranthemum frutescens* and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name 'Argyminpifi.'

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 create new, compact *Argyranthemums* with early freely flowering habit, which can be grown without growth regulators.

The new *Argyranthemum* originated from an open pollination conducted in Enkhuizen, The Netherlands in 2000 of a proprietary selection of *Argyranthemum frutescens* identified as code number 'D0107,' not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with an unknown selection of *Argyranthemum frutescens* as the male, or pollen, parent.

The cultivar 'Argyminpifi' was discovered and selected as a single plant within the progeny of the stated open pollination in a controlled environment in Enkhuizen, The Netherlands in August 2001. Asexual reproduction of the new *Argyranthemum* by terminal cuttings in a controlled environment in Enkhuizen, The Netherlands since August 2001, has shown that the unique features of this new *Argyranthemum* are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The new *Argyranthemum* has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in environment such as temperature and light intensity without, however, any variance in genotype.

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The following characteristics have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be basic characteristics of 'Argyminpifi' and distinguish to new *Argyranthemum* as a new and distinct cultivar:

1. Compact, upright and rounded plant habit
2. Freely branching habit and short internodes; dense and bushy plant habit.
3. Early flowering habit
4. Freely flowering habit with numerous inflorescences per plant.
5. Daisy-type inflorescences with pink ray florets in double inflorescences.

Plants of the new 'Argyminpifi' have a more compact habit compared to their maternal parent. In addition, 'Argyminpifi' has a frizzled flower shape (petals of inner whorls are crumpled), wherein the maternal parent have petals of inner whorls that are straight. The maternal parent is also more vigorous than 'Argyminpifi.'

Plants of the new *Argyranthemum* can be compared to plants of the cultivar 'Summer Melody,' 'Argywhimi' and 'Summer Stars Pink.' In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Enkhuizen, The Netherlands, plants of the new *Argyranthemum* differed from plants of the comparison varieties in the following characteristics:

TABLE 1

Differences between the new cultivar 'Argyminpifi' and three similar cultivars

	'Argyminpifi'	'Summer Melody' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 11,763)
Plant Height	25 cm	26 cm
Flower shape	Double crumpled frizzy	Double
Flower color	Pink	Rose

TABLE 1-continued

Differences between the new cultivar 'Argyminpifi' and three similar cultivars

	'Summer Stars pink' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 11,939)	'Argywhimi' (Not patented)
Plant Height	50 cm	26 cm
Flower shape	Double crumpled frizzy	Single
Flower color	Pink	White

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

The accompanying colored photographs illustrate the overall appearance of the new cultivar, showing the colors as true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored reproductions of this type. Colors in the photograph may differ slightly from the color values cited in the detailed botanical description which accurately describe the colors of the new *Argyranthemum.*

DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW CULTIVAR

The aforementioned photographs, following detailed observations and averaged measurements describe plants of this new Marguerite Daisy plant. The data were collected from plants from asexual reproductions carried out in Enkhuizen, The Netherlands. The plant history was taken on 30 week old plants, grown in the open field in Enkhuizen, The Netherlands with day temperatures ranging from 16 to 30 degrees C., and night temperatures ranging from 10 to 16 degrees C.

Color references are primarily to The R.H.S. Colour Chart of the Royal Horticultural Society, 1995 Edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

The plant:

Classification.—Botanical: *Argyranthemum frutescens* cv. 'Argyminpifi'.

Parentage:

Female parent.—Proprietary seedling section of *Argyranthemum frutescens,* identified as number 'D 107' (not patented). Breeder's code of the new plant is 'E0155-1.'.

Male parent.—Unidentified section of *Argyranthemum frutescens* (not patented).

Propagation:

Type cuttings.—Terminal vegetative cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—7-10 days at air temperature of 21 degrees C.

Time to develop roots.—7-14 days at air temperature of 18 degrees C.

Root description.—Fibrous, relatively fine, white in color.

Rooting description.—Freely branching, dense.

Plant description:

Growth habit.—Compact and rounded shape.

Plant height.—About 25 cm.

Vigor.—Compact, less vigorous.

Spreading area of plant.—About 30-35 cm.

Strength.—Very good.

Branching character.—Freely branching, plants do not require pinching.

Crop time.—About 9 weeks are required to produce a finished flowering plant in a 10.5 cm container from a good developed cutting.

Lateral branch description:

Length.—14 cm.

Diameter.—4 mm.

Shape.—Round, bit grooved.

Anthocyanin pigmentation.—Absent.

Texture.—Smooth, glabrous.

Length of internode.—0.5–1.5 cm.

Pubescence.—Absent.

Color.—144A.

The foliage:

Arrangement.—Alternate, simple.

Shape of leaf.—Bipinnatisect.

Leaf apex.—Broadly acute.

Leaf base.—Attenuate, clasping.

Margin.—Deeply dissected, serrated.

Texture.—Thick glabrous smooth.

Length.—3-4 cm.

Width.—1-2 cm.

Depth of incision.—Lanciniate.

Color.—Upper side: 137A. Lower side: 137A. Old leaf: 137A.

Pubescence.—Absent.

Petiole.—Length: About 0.5-1 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Texture: Smooth glabrous. Color: 137B.

Venation.—Shape: Pinnate. Color: 137A.

Inflorescence description:

Appearance.—Daisy-type inflorescences with ligulate ray florets. Disc and ray florets develop acropetally on a capitulum. Inflorescences held upright and outwardly on terminal and axillary peduncles. Inflorescences positioned perpendicular to the peduncles. Inflorescences persistent.

Flowering response.—Under natural conditions, plants flower from spring to early fall in N-W Europe; plants flower continuous during this period.

Inflorescence longevity.—Inflorescences last about twelve days on the plant.

Quantity of inflorescences.—Freely flowering, about 200 open inflorescences and inflorescence buds per plant.

Flower bud:

Peduncle.—Length: 3.5-4 cm. Diameter: 1 mm. Strength: Strong. Aspect: Upright to slightly outward. Anthocyan: Present. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: 144A.

Inflorescence bud.—Height: 3-5 mm. Diameter: 5-7 mm. Shape: Round. Color: 161B.

Inflorescence:

Size. —Diameter: 3-3.5 cm. Depth: About 1 cm.

Diameter of disc.—About 3 mm.

Form.—Double flowered with ray florets crumpled (frizzly).

Receptacle.—Height: About 5 mm. Diameter: About 9 mm.

Involucre/phyllaries.—3 series of 5 bracts, tightly to receptacle. Appearance: Margins, papery and membranous. Shape: Elliptic. Apex: Broad. Base: Truncate. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Margin: Entire. Length: 3 mm. Width: 1-2 mm. Color: Upper: 144A; Lower: 139B.

Fragrance.—Absent.

Ray florets:

Shape of ray florets.—Ligulate.

Apex.—Emarginate.

Base.—Attenuate.

Margin.—Entire.

Color.—Upper surface: 75D. Lower surface: 75D.

No. of ray florets per inflorescence.—25 arranged in each 6-8 whorls, organized frizzly.

Size outer ray florets.—Length: 12 mm; Width: 4 mm.

Size inner ray florets.—Length: 6 mm, Width: 4 mm.

Texture.—Smooth, glabrous, longitudinally ridged.

Disc florets:

Arrangement.—Massed at the center of the inflorescence.

Shape of disc florets.—Tubular, elongated, five-pointed, base, fused.

Color.—Immature: 68B; tip is N57B. Mature: 14B.

Diameter of disc floret.—Apex: 1 mm. Base: <1 mm.

Length of disc floret.—2 mm.

Quantity per inflorescence.—Numerous, ±50.

Androecium: Present only on disc florets.

Stamen quantity per floret.—Five.

Anther length.—About 1 mm.

Anther shape.—Oval.

Anther color.—Yellow 21A.

Pollen color.—Not observed.

Amount of pollen.—Not observed.

Gynoecium: Present on ray and disc florets.

Pistil number.—One per floret.

Pistil length.—±3 mm.

Style color.—Yellow green 144D.

Style length.—±1 mm.

Stigma color.—Yellow orange 14A.

Stigma shape.—Bilobed.

Ovary color.—144C.

Seed/fruit: Seed and/or fruit production has not been observed to date.

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

Temperature/Weather Tolerance: Plants of the new *Argyranthemum* have been observed to be tolerant to rain, wind and to temperatures ranging from 0 to 36 degrees C.

What is claimed is:

1. A new and distinct variety of *Argyranthemum frutescens* plant named 'Argyminpifi,' as substantially illustrated and described herein.

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