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McDonald

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(54) ***ARGYRANTHEMUM* PLANT NAMED 'SUPA930'**

(50) Latin Name: ***Argyranthemum frutescens***
Varietal Denomination: **Supa930**

(75) Inventor: **Daniel Bede McDonald**, Seven Hills (AU)

(73) Assignee: **NuFlora Intl. Pty. Ltd.**, Macquarie Fields, NSW (AU)

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See application file for complete search history.

Primary Examiner—Kent Bell
Assistant Examiner—Annette Para
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—C. A. Whealy

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Argyranthemum* plant named 'Supa930', characterized by its compact, uniform, outwardly spreading and mounded plant habit; freely branching growth habit; freely flowering habit; decorative-type inflorescences with red purple-colored ray florets; and good garden performance.

1 Drawing Sheet

Botanical designation: *Argyranthemum frutescens.*
Cultivar denomination: 'Supa930'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of *Argyranthemum* plant, botanically known as *Argyranthemum frutescens* and hereinafter referred to by the name 'Supa930'.

The objective of the breeding program is to create new compact *Argyranthemum* cultivars with desirable and unique inflorescence form and floret colors.

The new *Argyranthemum* originated from a cross-pollination in Cobbitty, New South Wales, Australia in 2003, of a proprietary selection of *Argyranthemum frutescens* identified as code number X01.367.7, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with a proprietary selection of *Argyranthemum frutescens* identified as code number X01.69.1, as the male, or pollen, parent. The new *Argyranthemum* was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a single flowering plant within the progeny of the stated open-pollination in a controlled environment Cobbitty, New South Wales, Australia in 2003.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Argyranthemum* by vegetative tip cuttings in a controlled environment in Cobbitty, New South Wales, Australia has shown that the unique features of this new *Argyranthemum* are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Plants of the cultivar Supa930 have not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in environment such as 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 'Supa930'. These characteristics in combination distinguish 'Supa930' as a new and distinct potted *Argyranthemum* cultivar:

1. Compact, uniform, outwardly spreading and mounded plant habit.

2. Freely branching growth habit.
3. Freely flowering habit.
4. Decorative-type inflorescences with red purple-colored ray florets.
5. Good garden performance.

Plants of the new *Argyranthemum* differ from plants of the female parent selection primarily in ray floret color as plants of the female parent selection have light pink-colored ray florets. Plants of the new *Argyranthemum* differ from plants of the male parent selection primarily in inflorescence form and ray floret color as plants of the male parent selection have daisy-type inflorescences with pink-colored ray florets.

Plants of the new *Argyranthemum* can be compared to plants of the *Argyranthemum* cultivar Summer Melody, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 11,763. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Cobbitty, New South Wales, Australia, plants of the new *Argyranthemum* differed primarily from plants of the cultivar Summer Melody in ray floret coloration as plants of the cultivar Summer Melody had pink-colored ray florets.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying photographs illustrate the overall appearance of the new *Argyranthemum.* 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 *Argyranthemum.*

The photograph on at the bottom of the sheet comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'Supa930'.

The photograph at the top of the sheet is a close-up view of typical inflorescences of 'Supa930'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photographs and following observations and measurements describe plants grown during the late winter and early spring in Encinitas, Calif. and under conditions and practices which approximate those generally

used in commercial potted *Argyranthemum* production. Plants were initially grown in a polyethylene-covered greenhouse and then grown for the last two months in an outdoor nursery. During the production of the plants, day temperatures averaged 24° C. and night temperatures averaged 19° C. Plants were pinched about six weeks after planting. Plants used in the photographs and for the description were about five months old. 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.

Botanical classification: *Argyranthemum frutescens* cultivar Supa930.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Argyranthemum frutescens* identified as code number X01.367.7, not patented.

Male, or pollen, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Argyranthemum frutescens* identified as code number X01.69.1, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—Terminal cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—About ten days at temperatures of about 20° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant.—About three weeks at temperatures of about 20° C.

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

Rooting habit.—Freely branching; dense.

Plant description:

Appearance.—Herbaceous decorative-type potted *Argyranthemum*. Compact, uniform, outwardly spreading and mounded plant habit. Strong and freely branching growth habit with lateral branches potentially developing at every node; dense and full plants. Vigorous growth habit.

Plant height.—About 20 cm.

Plant width.—About 42 cm.

Lateral branches.—Length: About 18 cm. Diameter: About 3.5 mm. Internode length: About 6 mm. Strength: Strong; young stems, flexible. Texture: Young stems, smooth, glabrous; older stems, woody. Color, young stems: 147C. Color, older stems: 199A.

Foliage description:

Arrangement.—Alternate, simple.

Length.—About 4.2 cm.

Width.—About 2.2 cm.

Shape.—Deeply dissected with five lobes.

Apex.—Acute.

Base.—Attenuate.

Margin.—Pinnatifid; entire.

Texture, upper and lower surfaces.—Smooth, glabrous.

Venation pattern.—Pinnate.

Color.—Developing foliage, upper surface: 147A. Developing foliage, lower surface: 137A. Fully expanded foliage, upper surface: 147A; venation, 147B. Fully expanded foliage, lower surface: 147B; venation, 147B.

Petiole length.—About 1.9 cm.

Petiole diameter.—About 3 mm.

Petiole texture, upper and lower surfaces.—Smooth, glabrous.

Petiole color, upper and lower surfaces.—147B.

Inflorescence description:

Appearance.—Decorative-type inflorescence form with ligulate-shaped ray florets. Inflorescences borne on terminals above foliage. Disk and ray florets arranged acropetally on a capitulum. Inflorescences not fragrant.

Flowering season.—Plants flower from spring to early fall in Southern California; flowering continuous during this period.

Inflorescence longevity.—Inflorescences last about two weeks on the plant; inflorescences persistent.

Quantity of inflorescences.—Freely flowering, about 150 inflorescences develop per plant.

Inflorescence bud.—Height: About 1.4 cm. Diameter: About 9 mm. Shape: Oblate. Color: 155D tinged with 70C.

Inflorescence size.—Diameter: About 4.7 cm. Depth (height): About 2 cm. Diameter of disc: About 3 mm; inconspicuous. Receptacle height: About 8 mm. Receptacle diameter: About 1.3 cm.

Ray florets.—Shape: Ligulate. Orientation: Initially upright, then about 35° to 40° from vertical, outer ray florets perpendicular to peduncle; longitudinally reflexing giving a quilled appearance. Length: About 2 cm. Width: About 5 mm. Apex: Emarginate. Base: Acute. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; satiny. Number of ray florets per inflorescence: About 220 arranged in about twelve whorls. Color: When opening, upper surface: 155D tinted with 70B to 70C; with development, color becomes closer to 70A darkening to 60C to 60B. When opening, lower surface: 155D; with development, color becomes closer to 70D darkening to 71D. Fully opened, upper surface: 60A. Fully opened, lower surface: 71C.

Disc florets.—Arrangement: Massed at center of receptacle. Shape: Tubular, elongated. Apex: Five-pointed. Length: About 6 mm. Width, at apex: About 1 mm. Width, at base: Less than 1 mm. Number of disc florets per inflorescence: About three or five. Color: Immature: 155D. Mature: Apex: 155D. Mid-section: 158C. Base: 145D.

Phyllaries.—Number of phyllaries per inflorescence: About 28 in three or four whorls. Length: About 4 mm. Width: About 2 mm. Shape: Elliptical. Apex: Acute. Base: Truncate. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, upper surface: 145D. Color, lower surface: 144B.

Peduncles.—Length, terminal peduncle: About 3.8 cm. Length, second peduncle: About 5.5 cm. Length, fourth peduncle: About 6 cm. Diameter: About 1.5 mm. Angle: Erect to about 35° to 45° from vertical. Strength: Strong, flexible. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: 144A.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: None observed. Gynoecium: Only observed on ray florets. Pistil length: About 5 mm. Stigma shape: Two-parted. Stigma color: 15A. Style length: About 3 mm. Style color: 145D. Ovary color: 145D.

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

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

Garden performance: Plants of the new *Argyranthemum* have been observed to have good garden performance and to tolerate wind, rain and temperatures from about −1° C. to about 30° C.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Argyranthemum* plant named 'Supa930' as illustrated and described.

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