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Dekker

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

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

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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Chrysanthemum* plant named 'Dekringabronze', characterized by its single-type inflorescences with ovate-shaped, bronze-colored ray florets; strong and upright flowering stems; freely flowering habit; early and uniform flowering response; plants flower about 37 days after the start of photoinductive treatments; and good post-production longevity; plants maintain good substance for about three weeks in an interior environment.

1 Drawing Sheet

Botanical designation: *Chrysanthemum×morifolium.*
Cultivar Denomination: 'DEKRINGABRONZE'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of *Chrysanthemum* plant, botanically known as *Chrysanthemum×morifolium,* commercially grown as a cut flower and hereinafter referred to by the name 'Dekringabronze'.

The new *Chrysanthemum* is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Hensbroek, The Netherlands. The objective of the breeding program is to create new single-type *Chrysanthemum* cultivars with unique ray floret coloration and excellent postproduction longevity.

The new *Chrysanthemum* originated from a cross-pollination made by the Inventor in Hensbroek, The Netherlands on Sep. 22, 2004 of a proprietary selection of *Chrysanthemum×morifolium* identified as code number 03.7371.01, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with a proprietary selection of *Chrysanthemum×morifolium* identified as code number 03.7355.03, not patented. The cultivar new *Chrysanthemum* was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a flowering plant from within the progeny of the stated cross-pollination in a controlled environment in Hensbroek, The Netherlands on Apr. 12, 2005.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Chrysanthemum* by terminal cuttings in a controlled environment in Hensbroek, The Netherlands since May 1, 2005, has shown that the unique features of this new *Chrysanthemum* are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Plants of the cultivar Dekringabronze 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 'Dekringabronze'. These characteristics in combination distinguish 'Dekringabronze' as a new and distinct cultivar of *Chrysanthemum:*

1. Single-type inflorescences with ovate-shaped bronze-colored ray florets.
2. Strong and upright flowering stems.
3. Freely flowering habit.
4. Early and uniform flowering response; plants flower about 37 days after the start of photoinductive treatments.
5. Good postproduction longevity; plants maintain good substance for about three weeks in an interior environment.

Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* differ from plants of the female parent selection in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* have smaller leaves and inflorescences than plants of the female parent selection.
2. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* flower earlier than plants of the female parent selection.
3. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* and the female parent selection differ in ray florets coloration as a plants of the female parent selection have white-colored ray florets.

Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* differ from plants of the male parent selection in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* are not as vigorous as plants of the male parent selection.
2. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* are not as freely flowering as plants of the male parent selection.
3. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* flower later than plants of the male parent selection.
4. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* and the male parent selection differ in ray floret coloration as plants of the male parent selection have yellow-colored ray florets.

Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* can be compared to plants of the *Chrysanthemum* cultivar Dektanga Pink, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 18,903. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Hensbroek, The Netherlands, plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* differed from plants of the cultivar Dektanga Pink in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* were more freely branching and more freely flowering than plants of the cultivar Dektanga Pink.
2. Inflorescences of plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* were larger than inflorescences of plants of the cultivar Dektanga Pink.
3. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* flowered earlier than plants of the cultivar Dektanga Pink.
4. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* and the cultivar Dektanga Pink differed in ray florets coloration as plants of the cultivar Dektanga Pink had light purple-colored ray florets.
5. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* had longer peduncles than plants of the cultivar Dektanga Pink.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying colored photographs illustrate the overall appearance of the new *Chrysanthemum*. 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 *Chrysanthemum*.

The photograph at the top of the sheet comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering stem of 'Dekringabronze' grown as a spray type.

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

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 2001 Edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used. The aforementioned photographs and following observations and measurements describe plants grown during the spring in Hensbroek, The Netherlands, under commercial practice in a glass-covered greenhouse. Plants were initially given long day/short night treatments followed by short day/long nights treatments to induce flower initiation and development. During the production of the plants, day temperatures ranged from 18° C. to 25° C., night temperatures ranged from 20° C. to 22° C. and light levels were about seven kilolux. Plants were about eight weeks from plants when the photographs and the description were taken.

Botanical classification: *Chrysanthemum×morifolium* cultivar Dekringabronze.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Chrysanthemum×morifolium* identified as code number 03.7371.01, not patented.

Male, or pollen, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Chrysanthemum×morifolium* identified as code number 03.7355.03, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—Terminal vegetative cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—About six to seven days at 20° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant.—About 13 to 15 days at 20° C.

Root description/habit.—Fine, fibrous; light brown in color; freely branching.

Plant description:

Appearance/growth habit.—Herbaceous single-type cut flower that is typically grown as a spray-type. Moderately vigorous growth habit.

Flowering stem description.—Aspect: Erect. Length: About 65 cm. Spray diameter: About 10 cm to 15 cm. Diameter: About 5 mm to 6 mm. Number of lateral branches: About nine to eleven. Internode length: About 1.5 cm to 2 cm. Texture: Pubescent; longitudinally ridged. Color: Close to 146B to 146C.

Foliage description.—Arrangement: Alternate; simple. Length: About 5.5 cm to 8.5 cm. Width: About 2.5 cm to 4 cm. Apex: Cuspidate. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Palmately lobed; sinuses divergent. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent, slightly rough; veins prominent on lower surface. Color: Developing foliage, upper surface: Close to 146A to 146B. Developing foliage, lower surface: Close to 138B. Fully expanded foliage, upper surface: Close to 147A; venation, close to 146A. Fully expanded foliage, lower surface: Close to 147B; venation, 146B. Petiole: Length: About 7 mm to 12 mm. Diameter: About 2 mm to 4 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Rough. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 146B.

Inflorescence description:

Appearance.—Single-type inflorescence form with ovate-shaped ray florets. Inflorescences borne on terminals, arising from leaf axils. Ray and disc florets develop acropetally on a capitulum. Inflorescences slightly fragrant.

Flower response.—Under natural conditions, plant 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 and uniform flowering response; plants exposed to two weeks of long day/short night conditions after planting followed by photoinductive short day/long night conditions flower about 37 days later when grown as a spray-type.

Postproduction longevity.—In an interior environment, inflorescences and foliage will maintain good color and substance for about three weeks.

Quantity of inflorescences.—When grown as a spray type, freely flowering habit, about seven to nine inflorescences per flowering stem develop.

Inflorescence size.—Diameter: About 2.5 cm. Depth (height): About 1.5 cm. Disc diameter: About 7 mm to 9 mm. Receptacle height: About 2.5 mm. Receptacle diameter: About 2.5 mm. Receptacle color: Close to 145B to 145C.

Inflorescence buds.—Shape: Oblate. Height: About 2 mm to 3 mm. Diameter: About 4 mm to 5 mm. Color: Close to 137C.

Ray florets.—Length: About 9 mm to 14 mm. Width: About 5 mm to 7 mm. Shape: Ovate. Angle: Initially upright to about 45° from vertical. Apex: Tridentate. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; satiny. Number of ray florets per inflorescence: About 15 to 20 arranged in about two whorls. Color: When opening, upper surface: Close to 7A overlain with close to 53A.

When opening, lower surface: close to 6C underlain with close to 53A. Fully opened, upper surface: close to 7A overlain with close to 53A; color becoming closer to 7C overlain with close to 53A with development. Fully opened, lower surface: Close to 7D underlain with close to 53A.

Disc florets.—Shape: Fused tubular, elongated. Apex: Acute. Length: About 3 mm to 5 mm. Diameter: About 1 mm to 2 mm. Number of disc florets per inflorescence: About 150 Color: Immature: Apex: Close to 154A. Mid-section and base: Close to 145C. Mature: Apex: Close to 6A. Mid-section and base: Close to 145D.

Involucral bracts.—Length: About 6 mm to 7 mm. Width: About 2 mm to 4 mm. Shape: Ovate. Apex: Rounded. Base: Truncate. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper surface: Smooth, glabrous. Texture, lower surface: Pubescent; slightly rough. Number of involucral bracts per inflorescence: About 18 arranged in about two whorls. Color, upper surface: Close to 137C. Color, lower surface: Close to 137B.

Peduncles.—Length, first peduncle: About 5 cm to 6 cm. Length, fourth peduncle: About 6 cm to 6.5 cm. Diameter: About 1.5 mm to 2 mm. Angle: About 30° from vertical. Strength: Moderately strong. Texture: Pubescent; longitudinally ridged. Color: Close to 146A to 146B.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Not observed. Gynoecium: Present on both ray and disc florets. Style length: About 3 mm. Style color: Close to 154D.

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 conditions.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Chrysanthemum* plant named 'Dekringabronze' as illustrated and described.

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