

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

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(54) **GERANIUM PLANT NAMED ‘FISUM WHITE’**

(50) Latin Name: *Pelargonium ×hortorum*
Varietal Denomination: **Fisum White**

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(NL)

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of Zonal *Geranium* plant named
‘Fisum White’, characterized by its upright and slightly out-
wardly spreading plant habit; freely basal branching habit;
dark green-colored leaves; freely flowering habit; semi-
double white-colored flowers; and good garden perfor-
mance.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical designation: *Pelargonium ×hortorum*.
Cultivar denomination: ‘Fisum White’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of Zonal *Geranium*, botanically known as *Pelargonium ×*
hortorum, and hereinafter referred to by the name ‘Fisum
White’.

The new Zonal *Geranium* is a product of a planned breed-
ing program conducted by the Inventor in De Lier, The Neth-
erlands. The objective of the breeding program is to create
new freely-branching and freely-flowering Zonal *Geranium*
cultivars with attractive foliage and flower coloration.

The new Zonal *Geranium* originated from a cross-
pollination made by the Inventor in De Lier, The Nether-
lands of two unnamed selections of *Pelargonium ×hortorum*,
not patented, in August, 2003. The cultivar Fisum White 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 De Lier, The Netherlands, in
March, 2004.

Asexual reproduction of the new Zonal *Geranium* by veg-
etative terminal cuttings in a controlled environment in De
Lier, The Netherlands, since July, 2004, has shown that the
unique features of this new Zonal *Geranium* are stable and
reproduced true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The cultivar Fisum White has not been observed under all
possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary
somewhat with variations in environment and cultural prac-
tices 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 ‘Fisum
White’. These characteristics in combination distinguish
‘Fisum White’ as a new and distinct cultivar of Zonal *Gera-*
nium:

1. Upright and slightly outwardly spreading plant habit.
2. Freely basal branching habit.

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3. Dark green-colored leaves.
4. Freely flowering habit.
5. Semi-double white-colored flowers.
6. Good garden performance.

Plants of the new Zonal *Geranium* differ primarily from
plants of the parent selections in plant size and flower color.

Plants of the new Zonal *Geranium* can be compared to
plants of the *Pelargonium ×hortorum* cultivar Glacis, not pat-
ented. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in De Lier,
The Netherlands, plants of the new Zonal *Geranium* differed
from plants of the cultivar Glacis in the following character-
istics:

1. Plants of the new Zonal *Geranium* were more freely
branching than plants of the cultivar Glacis.
2. Plants of the new Zonal *Geranium* were more freely
flowering than plants of the cultivar Glacis.
3. Plants of the new Zonal *Geranium* and the cultivar Gla-
cis differed in petal color.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying colored photograph illustrates the
overall appearance of the new Zonal *Geranium*, 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 Zonal *Geranium*. The photograph comprises a side
perspective view of a typical flowering plant of ‘Fisum
White’ grown in a container.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photograph and following
observations, measurements and values describe plants
grown in De Lier, The Netherlands in a glass-covered green-
house during the winter and early spring and under condi-
tions which closely approximate commercial production.
During the production of the plants, day temperatures
ranged from 14° C. to 20° C., night temperatures ranged
from 8° C. to 18° C. and light levels ranged from 10,000 lux

to 50,000 lux. Plants were about three months old when the photographs and the descriptions were taken. In the detailed 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: *Pelargonium×hortorum* cultivar Fisum White.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Unnamed selection of *Pelargonium×hortorum*, not patented.

Male or pollen parent.—Unnamed selection of *Pelargonium×hortorum*, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—By vegetative terminal cuttings.

Time to initiate roots, summer.—About five to seven days at temperatures of 22° C.

Time to initiate roots, winter.—About five to ten days at temperatures of 22° C.

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

Time to produce a rooted young plant, winter.—About two to four weeks at temperatures of 20° C.

Root description.—Fine, fibrous.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching, moderately dense.

Plant description:

General appearance.—Upright and slightly outwardly spreading plant habit; uniformly mounded; densely foliated.

Growth and branching habit.—Moderately vigorous to vigorous growth habit. Freely basal branching habit with about ten lateral branches developing per plant.

Plant height, to top of umbels.—About 15 cm to 25 cm.

Plant width.—About 12 cm to 20 cm.

Lateral branches.—Length: About 5 cm to 25 cm.

Diameter: About 5 mm to 8 mm. Internode length:

About 4 mm to 3 cm. Texture: Pubescent. Strength:

Strong, sturdy. Color: 144B.

Foliage description:

Arrangement.—Alternate; simple.

Length.—About 6 cm.

Width.—About 6 cm to 9 cm.

Shape.—Orbicular.

Apex.—Rounded.

Base.—Cordate.

Margin.—Crenate; slightly undulate.

Venation pattern.—Palmate.

Texture, upper and lower surfaces.—Densely pubescent.

Color.—Developing foliage, upper surface: 144C.

Developing foliage, lower surface: 144B. Fully

developed, upper surface: 137A; venation, 144C.

Fully developed, lower surface: 143C; venation,

144D. Zonation pattern: Not observed.

Petiole.—Length: About 3 cm to 7 cm. Diameter:

About 2 mm to 3 mm. Texture, upper and lower sur-

faces: Pubescent. Color, upper and lower surfaces:

144B.

Flower description:

Flower arrangement.—Semi-double rotate flowers arranged in rounded hemispherical umbels arising from apical leaf axils. Umbels displayed above the foliage on strong peduncles. Flowers face upright to outward. Flowers persistent. Flowers not fragrant.

Quantity of flowers.—Freely flowering habit; about 5 to 30 flower buds and open flowers per umbel.

Flowering season.—Year-round under greenhouse conditions. In the garden in De Lier, The Netherlands, flowering is continuous from late spring until frost in autumn.

Flower longevity.—Individual flowers last about two to eight days on the plant.

Umbel height.—About 5 cm to 8 cm.

Umbel diameter.—About 5 cm to 8 cm.

Flower diameter.—About 4 cm to 5 cm.

Flower depth (height).—About 4 cm to 5 cm.

Flower buds.—Length: About 5 mm to 7 mm. Diameter: About 4 mm to 6 mm. Shape: Globular to elliptic. Color: 143C.

Petals.—Quantity per flower: About 5 to 15. Length: About 2 cm to 3 cm. Width: About 1.5 cm to 2.5 cm. Shape: Spatulate to obovate. Apex: Rounded. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color: When opening, upper surface: 157B. When opening, lower surface: 157A. Fully opened, upper surface: 155C. Fully opened, lower surface: 157C.

Petaloids.—Quantity per flower: About one to ten. Length: About 1 mm to 2 cm. Width: About 2 mm to 2 cm. Shape: Irregularly shaped; obovate to irregularly oblanceolate. Apex: Rounded. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color: When opening, upper and lower surfaces: 157B. Fully opened, upper and lower surfaces: 155C.

Sepals.—Quantity per flower: Five, arranged in a single whorl. Length: About 1 cm to 1.2 cm. Width: About 2 mm to 3 mm. Shape: Ovate, oblong. Apex: Acute. Base: Truncate. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Densely pubescent. Color, immature and mature, upper surface: 143C; towards the margin, 157A. Color, immature and mature, lower surface: 143C; towards the margin, 157A.

Peduncle (umbel stem).—Length: About 7 cm to 15 cm. Diameter: About 3 mm. Strength: Strong. Angle: Erect to about 30° C. from vertical. Texture: Pubescent. Color: 143B.

Pedicle (individual flower stem).—Length: About 1 cm to 1.8 cm. Diameter: About 1 mm to 2 mm. Strength: Moderately strong. Angle: Erect to about 60° C. from vertical. Texture: Pubescent. Color: 144B.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Stamen quantity per flower: About one to ten. Filament length: About 5 mm to 6 mm. Filament color: 155A. Anther length: About 2 mm to 3 mm. Anther shape: Oblong. Anther color: 171D. Pollen amount: Moderate. Pollen color: 170A. Gynoecium: Pistil quantity per flower. One. Pistil length: About 7 mm to 1 cm. Stigma shape: Tapering; reflexed. Stigma color: 142C. Style length: About 4 mm. Style color: 150D. Ovary color: 138D.

Seed.—Seed development has not been observed.

Disease/pest resistance: Plants of the new *Zonal Geranium* have not been observed to be resistant to pathogens and pests common to *Zonal Geraniums*.

Garden performance: Plants of the new *Zonal Geranium* have been observed to tolerate rain, wind, and temperatures ranging from about 0° C. to about 40° C. and have demonstrated good garden performance. It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct *Zonal Geranium* plant named 'Fisum White' as illustrated and described.

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