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Smith

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

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

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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 'Yowanda', characterized by its upright, outwardly spreading and mounding plant habit; freely branching habit; dense and full plant habit; uniform and freely flowering habit; decorative-type inflorescences with lavender-colored ray florets; and natural season flowering about October 3rd in the Northern Hemisphere.

1 Drawing Sheet

Botanical designation: *Chrysanthemum×morifolium.*
Cultivar denomination: 'YOWANDA'.

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 perennial garden *Chrysanthemum*,

The objective of the breeding program is to create new perennial garden-type *Chrysanthemum* cultivars having uniformly rounded plant habit, inflorescences with desirable inflorescence forms, attractive floret colors and good garden performance.

The new *Chrysanthemum* originated from a cross-pollination made by the Inventor in February, 2003, in Salinas, Calif. of *Chrysanthemum×morifolium* 'Yotabitha', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 16,110, as the female, or seed, parent with *Chrysanthemum×morifolium* 'Yoursula', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 13,641, as the male, or pollen, parent. The new *Chrysanthemum* was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a single flowering plant within the progeny of the stated cross-pollination in a controlled greenhouse environment in Alva, Fla. in November, 2003.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Chrysanthemum* by vegetative cuttings was first conducted in a controlled greenhouse environment in Alva, Fla. in January, 2004. Asexual reproduction by cuttings 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 new *Chrysanthemum* 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 'Yowanda'. These characteristics in combination distinguish 'Yowanda' as a new and distinct garden *Chrysanthemum* cultivar:

1. Upright, outwardly spreading and mounded plant habit.
2. Freely branching habit; dense and full plant habit.
3. Uniform and freely flowering habit.
4. Decorative-type inflorescences.
5. Lavender-colored ray florets.
6. Natural season flowering occurs about October 3rd in the Northern Hemisphere.

In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Alva, Fla., plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* differed from plants of the female parent, 'Yotabitha', in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* were not as spherical as plants of 'Yotabitha'.
2. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* flowered three days later than plants of 'Yotabitha' when grown under natural season conditions.
3. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* and 'Yotabitha' differed in ray floret color as plants of 'Yotabitha' had red-colored ray florets.

In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Alva, Fla., plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* differed from plants of the male parent, 'Yoursula', in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* were larger than plants of 'Yoursula'.
2. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* had larger inflorescences than plants of 'Yoursula'.
3. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* flowered two weeks later than plants of 'Yoursula' when grown under natural season conditions.

Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* can be compared to plants of *Chrysanthemum×morifolium* 'Bold Yomelissa', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 14,735. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Alva, Fla., plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* differed from plants of 'Bold Yomelissa' in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* were more rounded than and not as upright as plants of 'Bold Yomelissa'.
2. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* were stronger than plants of 'Bold Yomelissa'.
3. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* had slightly smaller inflorescences than plants of 'Bold Yomelissa'.

Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* can be compared to plants of *Chrysanthemum×morifolium* 'Amor Dark Pink', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 14,592. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Alva, Fla., plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* differed from plants of 'Amor Dark Pink' in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* were more rounded than and not as upright as plants of 'Amor Dark Pink'.
2. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* were stronger than plants of 'Amor Dark Pink'.
3. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* flowered more uniformly than plants of 'Amor Dark Pink'.
4. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* flowered five days earlier than plants of 'Amor Dark Pink' when grown under natural season conditions.
5. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* had slightly smaller inflorescences than plants of 'Amor Dark Pink'.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying 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 bottom of the sheet comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'Yowanda' grown in a container.

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

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photographs and following observations and measurements describe plants grown in Alva, Fla. during the late spring and summer in a polycarbonate-covered greenhouse and under conditions and practices which approximate those generally used in commercial garden *Chrysanthemum* production. During the production of the plants, day temperatures averaged 32° C. and night temperatures averaged 21° C. Plants were grown in 15-containers under short day/long night conditions. Plants were ten weeks from planting when the photographs and description were taken. 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: *Chrysanthemum×morifolium* 'Yowanda'.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—*Chrysanthemum×morifolium,* 'Yotabitha', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 16,110.

Male, or pollen, parent.—*Chrysanthemum×morifolium* 'Yoursula', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 13,641.

Propagation:

Type.—Terminal vegetative cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—About four days at temperatures of about 21° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant.—About ten to twelve days at temperatures of about 21° C.

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

Root habit.—Freely branching.

Plant description:

Appearance.—Perennial decorative-type garden *Chrysanthemum*. Stems upright and outwardly spreading giving a uniformly mounded appearance to the plant. Freely branching habit, about six lateral branches each with multiple secondary branches; pinching is not required; dense and full plant habit. Strong and vigorous growth habit.

Plant height.—About 17 cm.

Plant width.—About 34 cm.

Lateral branches.—Length: About 16 cm. Diameter: About 5 mm. Internode length: About 1 cm. Strength: Strong. Texture: Pubescent; longitudinally ridged. Color: Close to 148B to 148C.

Leaves.—Arrangement: Alternate, simple. Length: About 5.7 cm. Width: About 4.5 cm. Apex: Broadly acute. Base: Truncate with attenuate tendencies. Margin: Palmately lobed, sinuses between lateral lobes mostly parallel. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescence; veins prominent on lower surface. Color: Developing and fully expanded foliage, upper surface: Close to 147A; venation, close to 147B. Developing and fully expanded foliage, lower surface: Close to 147B; venation, close to 147B. Petiole: Length: About 1.5 cm. Diameter: About 4 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent. Color, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 147C.

Inflorescence description:

Appearance.—Decorative-type inflorescence form with obovate-shaped ray florets. Inflorescences borne on terminals above foliage. Disc and ray florets arranged acropetally on a capitulum. Inflorescences fragrant, pungent.

Flowering response.—Under natural season conditions, plants flower about October 3rd in the Northern Hemisphere.

Postproduction longevity.—Inflorescences maintain good color and substance for about 3.5 weeks in an outdoor nursery. Inflorescences persistent.

Quantity of inflorescences.—About 33 inflorescences develop per lateral branch.

Inflorescence bud.—Height: About 1.5 cm. Diameter: About 1.3 cm. Shape: Oblate. Color: Close to 77C.

Inflorescence size.—Diameter: About 5 cm. Depth (height): About 1.9 cm. Disc diameter: About 1 mm. Receptacle diameter: About 2.4 cm. Receptacle height: About 7 mm. Receptacle color: Close to 147A.

Ray florets.—Shape: Obovate. Orientation: Initially upright, then about 90° from vertical. Aspect: Initially incurved, then mostly flat. Length: About 2.5 cm. Width: About 7 mm. Apex: Emarginate. Base: Acute. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; velvety, longitudinally ribbed. Number of ray florets per inflorescence: About 182 arranged in about 16 whorls. Color: When opening, upper surface: Close to 78C. When opening, lower surface: Close to 77D. Fully opened, upper surface: Close to 77C; color becoming closer to 84C with development. Fully opened, lower surface: Close to 84C; color becoming close to 84D with development.

Disc florets.—Shape: Tubular, elongated. Length: About 3 mm. Diameter: Less than 1 mm. Number of disc florets per inflorescence: About three. Color, immature and mature: Apex and mid-section: Close to 153D. Base: Close to 145D.

Phyllaries.—Number of phyllaries per inflorescence: About 20 arranged in about two whorls. Length: About 1 cm. Width: About 2 mm. Shape: Lanceolate. Apex: Acute. Base: Truncate. Texture, upper surface: Smooth, glabrous. Texture, lower surface: Pubescent. Color, upper surface: Close to 146A. Color, lower surface: Close to 147B.

Peduncles.—Length, terminal peduncle: About 2 cm. Length, fourth peduncle: About 3.3 cm. Diameter, terminal peduncle: About 3 mm. Angle: Mostly upright to 30° to 45° from vertical. Strength: Strong. Texture: Pubescent. Color: Close to 148B to 148C.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Stamen number: About five per floret. Filament length: About 1 mm. Filament color: Close to 154D. Anther length: About 1.5 mm. Anther shape: Oblong. Anther color: Close to 5B. Pollen amount: Scarce. Pollen color: Close to 5B. Gynoecium: Pistil length: About 5 mm. Stigma shape: Bi-parted. Stigma color: Close to 11A. Style length: About 2 mm. Style color: Close to 11C. Ovary color: Close to 155D.

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

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

Garden performance: Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* have demonstrated excellent garden performance and will overwinter in USDA Zones 5 and higher; plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* have been observed to tolerate high temperature of about 38° C.

It is claimed:

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

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