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Pieters

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(54) **CHRYSANTHEMUM PLANT NAMED**
‘LESCONIL WHITE’

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

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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(58) **Field of Classification Search** **Plt./288**
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Chrysanthemum* plant named
‘Lesconil White’, characterized by its compact, upright, out-
wardly spreading and rounded plant habit; freely branching
habit; dense and full plant habit; uniform, early and freely
flowering habit; small decorative-type inflorescences with
white-colored ray florets; and excellent garden performance.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical designation: *Chrysanthemum*×*morifolium*.
Cultivar denomination: ‘LESCONIL WHITE’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar
of *Chrysanthemum* plant, botanically known as *Chrysante-*
mum×*morifolium*, and hereinafter referred to by the name
‘Lesconil White’.

The new *Chrysanthemum* plant is a product of a planned
breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Oostnieu-
wkerke, Belgium. The objective of the breeding program is to
create new freely flowering *Chrysanthemum* plants with
unique and attractive ray floret coloration.

The new *Chrysanthemum* plant originated from a cross-
pollination made by the Inventor in Oostnieuwkerke, Bel-
gium in September, 2004 of *Chrysanthemum*×*morifolium*
‘Pidoul’, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 10,218, as the
female, or seed, parent with *Chrysanthemum*×*morifolium*
‘Viterbo White’, not patented. The new *Chrysanthemum*
plant was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a flow-
ering plant from within the progeny of the stated cross-poll-
ination in a controlled greenhouse environment in Oostnieu-
wkerke, Belgium in September, 2005.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Chrysanthemum* plant by
vegetative cuttings was first conducted in a controlled green-
house environment in Oostnieuwkerke, Belgium in January,
2006. Asexual reproduction by cuttings has shown that the
unique features of this new *Chrysanthemum* plant 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 and cultural con-
ditions. The phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in
environment such as temperature, daylength and light inten-
sity, without, however, any variance in genotype.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are
determined to be the unique characteristics of ‘Lesconil

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White’. These characteristics in combination distinguish
‘Lesconil White’ as a new and distinct *Chrysanthemum* plant:

1. Compact, upright, outwardly spreading and rounded
plant habit.
2. Freely branching habit; dense and full plant habit.
3. Uniform, early and freely flowering habit.
4. Decorative-type inflorescences with white-colored ray
florets.
5. Excellent garden performance.

Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* differ primarily from the
female parent, ‘Pidoul’, in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* are more compact
than plants of ‘Pidoul’.
2. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* flower earlier than
plants of ‘Pidoul’.
3. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* have larger inflores-
cences than plants of ‘Pidoul’.

Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* differ primarily from the
male parent, ‘Viterbo White’, in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* are not as brittle as
plants of ‘Viterbo White’.
2. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* flower more uni-
formly than plants of ‘Viterbo White’.
3. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* flower earlier than
plants of ‘Viterbo White’.
4. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* have smaller inflo-
rescences than plants of ‘Viterbo White’.

Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* can also be compared to
plants of *Chrysanthemum*×*morifolium* ‘Baldato White’, not
patented. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Oost-
nieuwkerke, Belgium, plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* dif-
fered from plants of ‘Baldato White’ in the following charac-
teristics:

1. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* were more compact
and rounded than and not as tall and upright as plants of
‘Baldato White’.
2. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* were not as brittle as
plants of ‘Baldato White’.
3. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* flowered more uni-
formly than plants of ‘Baldato White’.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying photograph illustrates the overall
appearance of the new *Chrysanthemum* plant 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 *Chrysanthemum* plant.

The photograph comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'Lesconil White' grown in a container.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photograph and following observations and measurements describe plants grown in 19-cm containers in an outdoor nursery in Oostnieuwkerke, Belgium during the summer and autumn and under conditions and practices which approximate those generally used in commercial *Chrysanthemum* production. During the production of the plants, day temperatures ranged from 25° C. to 30° C. and night temperatures ranged from 15° C. to 20° C. Plants were 20 weeks old when the photograph and description were taken. In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 2005 Edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Botanical classification: *Chrysanthemum*×*morifolium* 'Lesconil White'.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—*Chrysanthemum*×*morifolium* 'Pidoul', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 10,218.

Male, or pollen, parent.—*Chrysanthemum*×*morifolium* 'Viterbo White', not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—Terminal vegetative cuttings.

Time to initiate roots, summer.—About 14 days at temperatures of about 20° C.

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

Time to produce a rooted young plant, summer.—About 30 days at temperatures of about 20° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, winter.—About 40 days at temperatures of about 20° C.

Root description.—Fine, fibrous; light brown in color.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching; moderately dense.

Plant description:

Appearance.—Perennial decorative-type *Chrysanthemum*; compact plant habit with stems upright and outwardly spreading giving a uniformly rounded appearance to the plant; very freely branching habit, about 25 to 30 primary lateral branches develop, each primary lateral branch with multiple secondary branches; pinching enhances lateral branch development; dense and full plant habit; moderately vigorous growth habit.

Plant height.—About 35 cm.

Plant width.—About 45 cm.

Lateral branches.—Length: About 20 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm to 3 mm. Internode length: About 1 cm. Strength: Strong. Texture: Pubescent; longitudinally ridged. Color: Close to 137A.

Leaves.—Arrangement: Alternate, simple. Length: About 2.5 cm to 4 cm. Width: About 1.5 cm to 2 cm. Apex: Rounded to cuspidate. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Palmately lobed and serrate, sinuses between lateral lobes divergent to parallel. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Slightly pubescent. Color: Develop-

ing leaves, upper surface: Close to 137C. Developing leaves, lower surface: Close to 137D. Fully expanded leaves, upper surface: Close to N137C; venation, close to 148C. Fully expanded leaves, lower surface: Close to 139C; venation, close to 147B to 147C. Petiole: Length: About 1 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Slightly pubescent and rough. Color, upper surface: Close to 146C. Color, lower surface: Close to 146D.

Inflorescence description:

Appearance.—Decorative-type inflorescence form; inflorescences borne on terminals above foliar plane; disc and ray florets arranged acropetally on a capitulum.

Fragrance.—Faintly fragrant, pungent.

Flowering response.—Under natural season conditions, plants flower early September in Belgium; flowering response time, about five weeks.

Postproduction longevity.—Inflorescences maintain good color and substance for about 35 to 40 days in an outdoor nursery; inflorescences persistent.

Quantity of inflorescences.—About 20 inflorescences develop per lateral branch.

Inflorescence bud.—Height: About 5 mm. Diameter: About 8 mm. Shape: Globular. Color: Close to 137C.

Inflorescence size.—Diameter: About 4.5 cm. Depth (height): About 3 cm. Disc diameter: About 2 mm. Receptacle diameter: About 3 mm. Receptacle height: About 2.5 mm to 3 mm. Receptacle color: Close to 144B.

Ray florets.—Length: About 3.5 cm to 4.5 cm. Width: About 3 mm. Shape: Oval. Apex: Rounded. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire. Aspect: Mostly flat. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Number of ray florets per inflorescence: About 150 to 200 arranged in about ten whorls. Color: When opening, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 155D. Fully opened, upper and lower surfaces: Close to N999D; color not changing with development.

Disc florets.—Length: About 3 mm. Diameter: About 0.5 mm to 1 mm. Shape: Tubular, elongated; apices acute. Number of disc florets per inflorescence: About 20 massed at the center of the inflorescence. Color, immature: Close to 145A. Color, mature: Close to 12A.

Phyllaries.—Number of phyllaries per inflorescence: About 25 arranged in two or three whorls. Length: About 4 mm to 6 mm. Width: About 2 mm to 3 mm. Shape: Ovate. Apex: Rounded. Base: Rounded to truncate. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, upper surface: Close to 137A. Color, lower surface: Close to N137B.

Peduncles.—Length, terminal peduncle: About 4 cm. Length, fourth peduncle: About 4 cm. Length, seventh peduncle: About 4 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Angle: About 30° from vertical. Strength: Moderately strong. Texture: Slightly pubescent. Color: Close to 137C.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: Not observed. Gynoecium: Not observed.

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

Disease/pest resistance: Resistance to pathogens and pests common to *Chrysanthemums* has not been observed on plants grown under commercial conditions.
Garden performance: Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* have demonstrated excellent garden performance and will tolerate temperatures ranging from about 0° C. to about 45° C.

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It is claimed:
1. A new and distinct *Chrysanthemum* plant named ‘Lesconil White’ as illustrated and described.

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