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Pieters

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(54) ***CHRYSANTHEMUM* PLANT NAMED 'ARAMIS WHITE'**

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

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Chrysanthemum* plant named 'Aramis White', characterized by its upright, outwardly spreading and uniformly rounded plant habit; moderately vigorous growth habit; freely branching habit; dense and full plant habit; dark green-colored leaves; uniform and freely flowering habit; and relatively large decorative-type inflorescences that are snow white in color.

1 Drawing Sheet

Botanical designation: *Chrysanthemum×morifolium.*
Cultivar denomination: 'ARAMIS WHITE'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of *Chrysanthemum* plant, botanically known as *Chrysanthemum×morifolium* and hereinafter referred to by the name 'Aramis White'.

The new *Chrysanthemum* plant is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Oostnieuwkerke, Belgium. The objective of the breeding program is to create new uniformly mounding and 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, Belgium in October, 2009 of *Chrysanthemum×morifolium* 'Bardi', not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with *Chrysanthemum×morifolium* 'Elani White', not patented. The new *Chrysanthemum* plant was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a flowering plant from within the progeny of the stated cross-pollination in a controlled greenhouse environment in Oostnieuwkerke, Belgium in September, 2010.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Chrysanthemum* plant by vegetative terminal cuttings was first conducted in a controlled greenhouse environment in Oostnieuwkerke, Belgium in January, 2011. Asexual reproduction by vegetative terminal 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 combinations of environmental conditions and cultural practices. The phenotype may vary somewhat

with variations in environmental conditions 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 'Aramis White'. These characteristics in combination distinguish 'Aramis White' as a new and distinct *Chrysanthemum* plant:

1. Upright, outwardly spreading and uniformly rounded plant habit; moderately vigorous growth habit.
2. Freely branching habit; dense and full plant habit.
3. Dark green-colored leaves.
4. Uniform and freely flowering habit.
5. Relatively large decorative-type inflorescences that are snow white in color.

Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* differ from the female parent, 'Bardi', in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* are taller and more upright than and not as broad as plants of 'Bardi'.
2. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* have smaller inflorescences than plants of 'Bardi'.

Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* differ from the male parent, 'Elani White', in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* are taller than plants of 'Elani White'.
2. Leaves of plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* are darker green in color than leaves of plants of 'Elani White'.
3. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* have decorative inflorescences whereas plants of 'Elani White' have daisy or single-type inflorescences.

Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* can be compared to plants of *Chrysanthemum×morifolium* 'Rosalba White', disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 21,803. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Oostnieuwkerke, Belgium, plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* differed from plants of 'Rosalba White' in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* were shorter than plants of 'Rosalba White'.

2. Leaves of plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* were darker green in color than leaves of plants of 'Rosalba White'.
3. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* had smaller inflorescences than plants of 'Rosalba White'.
4. Ray florets of plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* were snow white in color whereas ray florets of plants of 'Rosalba White' were creamy white in color.

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 'Aramis 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 spring and summer and under cultural practices generally used in commercial *Chrysanthemum* production. During the production of the plants, day temperatures ranged from 18° C. to 21° C. and night temperatures ranged from 10° C. to 15° 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* 'Aramis White'.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—*Chrysanthemum×morifolium* 'Bardi', not patented.

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

Propagation:

Type.—Vegetative terminal cuttings.

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

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

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

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

Root description.—Fine, fibrous; typically light brown in color, actual color of the roots dependent on substrate composition, water quality, fertilizers, substrate temperature and age of roots.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching; medium density.

Plant description:

Appearance.—Perennial decorative-type *Chrysanthemum*; stems upright and outwardly spreading giving a uniformly rounded appearance to the plant; plants nearly spherical in overall shape; very freely branching habit, about 25 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 40 cm.

Plant width.—About 60 cm.

Lateral branches.—Length: About 25 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm to 3 mm. Internode length: About 1.5 cm. Strength: Strong, flexible. Aspect: Upright to outwardly spreading. Texture: Pubescent; longitudinally ridged. Luster: Matte. Color: Close to 144A.

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. Luster, upper and lower surfaces: Matte. Color: Developing leaves, upper surface: Close to 139C. 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 147B; venation, close to 147B to 147C. Petioles: Length: About 1 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Slightly pubescent and slightly rough. Luster, upper and lower surfaces: Matte. 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.

Flowering time.—Under natural season conditions, plants flower in early October in Belgium.

Postproduction longevity.—Inflorescences maintain good color and substance for about five weeks on the plant grown in an outdoor nursery; inflorescences persistent.

Quantity of inflorescences.—Freely flowering habit with about 20 inflorescences developing per lateral branch with numerous inflorescences developing per plant.

Inflorescence buds.—Height: About 4 mm. Diameter: About 7 mm. Shape: Globular. Texture: Smooth. Color: Towards the base, close to 137C, and towards the apex, closer to 144A.

Inflorescence size and shape.—Diameter: Relatively large, about 4.5 cm. Depth (height): About 2 cm. Disc diameter: About 1 mm. Shape: Circular; raised dome. Receptacle diameter: About 3 mm. Receptacle height: About 2.5 mm to 3 mm. Receptacle texture: Smooth, glabrous. Receptacle color: Close to 144B.

Ray florets.—Quantity and arrangement: About 125 to 175 ray florets per inflorescence arranged in about seven whorls. Length: About 5 mm to 10 mm. Width: About 3 mm. Shape: Oval. Apex: Rounded. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire. Aspect: Mostly flat. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Luster, upper and lower surfaces: Matte. Color: When opening, upper and lower surfaces: Close to 155D. Fully opened, upper and lower surfaces: Close to N999D; color does not change with development.

Disc florets.—Quantity and arrangement: About 50 disc florets per inflorescence and massed at the

center of the receptacle; disc florets inconspicuous. Length: About 3 mm. Diameter: About 0.5 mm to 1 mm. Shape: Tubular, elongated; apices acute. Color, immature: Apex: Close to 144C. Mid-section: Close to 5B. Base: Close to 145D. Color, mature: Apex: Close to 12A. Mid-section: Close to 12A. Base: Close to 12A.

Phyllaries.—Quantity and arrangement: About 25 phyllaries per inflorescence arranged in about 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. Luster, upper and lower surfaces: Matte. Color, upper surface: Close to 137A. Color, lower surface: Close to N137B.

Peduncles.—Length, terminal peduncle: About 4 cm. Length, fourth peduncle: About 6 cm. Length, seventh peduncle: About 8 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Angle: About 30° from vertical. Strength: Moderately strong. Texture: Slightly pubescent. Luster: Matte. Color: Close to 146B.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: None observed. Gynoecium: None observed.

Seeds and fruit.—Seed and fruit production have not been observed on plants of the new *Chrysanthemum*.

Disease & pest resistance: Resistance to pathogens and pests common to *Chrysanthemum* plants has not been observed on plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* grown under commercial production 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.

It is claimed:

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

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