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Wain

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

(50) Latin Name: *Chrysanthemum X morifolium*
Varietal Denomination: **Fichryaftora**

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Chrysanthemum* plant named
'Fichryaftora', characterized by its upright to outwardly
spreading and uniformly and broadly mounded plant habit;
moderately vigorous growth habit; freely branching habit;
dense and full plant form; uniform and freely flowering
habit; medium-size decorative-type inflorescences with
bronze orange-colored ray florets; late season flowering
habit, grown under natural season conditions, plants begin
flowering in early to mid-October in the United Kingdom;
and good garden performance.

1 Drawing Sheet

1

Botanical designation: *Chrysanthemum X morifolium*.
Cultivar denomination: 'FICHRYAFTORA'.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct *Chry-*
santhemum plant, botanically known as *Chrysanthemum X*
morifolium, commercially grown as a garden *Chrysanthe-*
mum plant, referred to as code number 65667 in U.S.
Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/497,574 and
hereinafter referred to by the name 'Fichryaftora'.

The new *Chrysanthemum* plant is a product of a planned
breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Fareham,
Hampshire, United Kingdom. The objective of the breeding
program is to create new late season flowering garden
Chrysanthemum plants with numerous attractive inflores-
cences.

The new *Chrysanthemum* plant originated from a cross-
pollination made in January, 2010 by the Inventor in Fare-
ham, Hampshire, United Kingdom of a proprietary selection
of *Chrysanthemum X morifolium* identified as code number
82796, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with a
proprietary selection of *Chrysanthemum X morifolium* iden-
tified as code number 92113, not patented, as the male, or
pollen, parent. The new *Chrysanthemum* plant was discov-
ered and selected by the Inventor as a single flowering plant
from within the progeny of the stated cross-pollination in a
controlled greenhouse environment in Fareham, Hampshire,
United Kingdom in September, 2010.

Asexual reproduction of the new *Chrysanthemum* plant
by terminal vegetative cuttings was first conducted in Fare-
ham, Hampshire, United Kingdom in December, 2010.

2

Asexual reproduction by terminal vegetative 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 tem-
perature, 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 'Fichryaf-
tora'. These characteristics in combination distinguish
'Fichryaftora' as a new and distinct *Chrysanthemum* plant:

1. Upright to outwardly spreading and uniformly and
broadly mounded plant habit.
2. Moderately vigorous growth habit.
3. Freely branching habit; dense and full plant form.
4. Uniform and freely flowering habit.
5. Medium-size decorative-type inflorescences with
bronze orange-colored ray florets.
6. Late season flowering habit, grown under natural
season conditions, plants begin flowering in early to
mid-October in the United Kingdom.
7. Good garden performance.

Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* can be compared to
plants of the female parent selection. Plants of the new
Chrysanthemum differ primarily from plants of the female
parent selection in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* flower later than plants of the female parent selection.
2. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* and the female parent selection differ in ray floret color as plants of the female parent selection have inflorescences with yellow-colored ray florets.

Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* can be compared to plants of the male parent selection. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* differ primarily from plants of the male parent selection in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* flower later than plants of the male parent selection.
2. Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* and the male parent selection differ in ray floret color as plants of the male parent selection have inflorescences with golden yellow-colored ray florets.

Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* can be compared to plants of *Chrysanthemum X morifolium* 'Fichrydayor', disclosed in a U.S. Plant patent application Ser. No. 15/732, 507. In side-by-side comparisons, plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* differ primarily from plants of 'Fichrydayor' in time to flower as plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* flower much later than plants of 'Fichrydayor'. In addition, plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* have slightly smaller inflorescences than plants of 'Fichrydayor'.

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 is a top perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'Fichryaftora' grown in a 14-cm container.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photograph and following observations and measurements describe plants grown during the summer and autumn in 14-cm containers in a glass-covered greenhouse in Fareham, Hampshire, United Kingdom and under cultural practices typical of commercial garden *Chrysanthemum* production. During the production of the plants, day and night temperatures ranged from 17° C. to 21° C. and light levels averaged 6,000 lux. Plants were grown under long day/short night conditions for about six weeks (including propagation period) and then grown under short day/long night conditions to induce inflorescence initiation and development. Plants were twelve weeks old when the photograph and detailed description were taken. In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, Fifth Edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Botanical classification: *Chrysanthemum X morifolium* 'Fichryaftora'.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Chrysanthemum X morifolium* identified as code number 82796, not patented.

Male, or pollen, parent.—Proprietary selection of *Chrysanthemum X morifolium* identified as code number 92113, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—Terminal vegetative cuttings.

Time to initiate roots, summer.—About ten days at temperatures about 21° C.

Time to initiate roots, winter.—About twelve days at temperatures about 21° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, summer.—About three weeks at temperatures about 21° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant, winter.—About four weeks at temperatures about 21° C.

Root description.—Medium in thickness, fibrous; typically light brown in color, actual color of the roots is dependent on substrate composition, water quality, fertilizer type and formulation, substrate temperature and physiological age of roots.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching; medium density.

Plant description:

Plant and growth habit.—Herbaceous decorative-type garden *Chrysanthemum*; stems upright to outwardly spreading giving a uniformly broadly mounded appearance to the plant; numerous lateral branches and relatively short internodes, dense and full plant form; moderately vigorous growth habit.

Plant height.—About 23 cm.

Plant width.—About 36 cm.

Branching habit.—Freely branching habit; about 17 lateral branches develop after removal of terminal apex (pinching).

Lateral branches.—Length: About 19 cm. Diameter: About 4 mm. Internode length: About 1.2 cm. Strength: Strong. Aspect: About 5° from vertical and then bending upwardly. Texture: Fine pubescence. Color: Close to 146C.

Leaf description:

Arrangement.—Alternate, simple.

Length.—About 3.9 cm.

Width.—About 2.9 cm.

Shape.—Palmately-lobed; roughly ovate with three to five lobes.

Apex.—Broadly acuminate.

Base.—Attenuate.

Margin.—Slightly dentate and palmately lobed; sinuses between lateral lobes mostly divergent.

Texture, upper and lower surfaces.—Fine pubescence; slightly rough; veins prominent on lower surface.

Color.—Developing leaves, upper surface: Close to 139A. Developing leaves, lower surface: Close to N138B. Fully expanded leaves, upper surface: Close to N137A; venation, close to 148B. Fully expanded leaves, lower surface: Close to 147B; venation, close to 138B.

Petioles.—Length: About 9 mm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Fine pubescence; slightly rough. Color, upper surface: Close to 148B. Color, lower surface: Close to 138B.

Inflorescence description:

Form and flowering habit.—Decorative-type inflorescence form with ligulate-shaped ray florets; inflorescences borne on terminals above and beyond the foliar plane; disc and ray florets arranged acropetally

on a capitulum; freely flowering habit with about 289 inflorescences developing per plant during the flowering season.

Fragrance.—Fragrant; pungent, herbaceous.

Flowering response.—Late season flowering habit, plants exposed to natural season conditions begin flowering in early to mid-October in the United Kingdom; plants flower uniformly and continuously during the flowering season.

Inflorescence longevity.—Inflorescences maintain good color and substance for about three to five weeks on the plant; inflorescences persistent.

Inflorescence buds.—Height: About 4 mm. Diameter: About 6 mm. Shape: Oblate. Color: Close to 143A.

Inflorescence diameter.—About 4 cm.

Inflorescence height.—About 1.2 cm.

Disc diameter.—Not conspicuous.

Receptacles.—Height: About 2 mm. Diameter: About 3 mm. Shape: Conical. Color: Close to 145A.

Ray florets.—Number of ray florets per inflorescence: About 119 arranged in about nine whorls. Orientation: Initially upright, then about 80° from vertical. Length: About 1.3 cm. Width: About 5 mm. Shape: Ligulate. Apex: Emarginate. Base: Fused into a short tube. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; double-keeled. Color: When opening, upper surface: Close to N25A. When opening, lower surface: Close to 14C. Fully opened, upper surface: Close to N163A; with development, color becoming closer to 167A. Fully opened, lower surface: Close to 162A; with development, color becoming closer to 164C.

Disc florets.—Number of disc florets per inflorescence: About 19 massed at the center of the receptacle; inconspicuous. Length: About 4 mm. Diameter: About 1 mm. Shape: Tubular, elongated; apices,

acute. Texture, inner and outer surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color, when opening: Apex: Close to 9A. Mid-section: Close to 9B. Base: Close to 9C. Color, fully opened: Apex: Close to 14B. Mid-section: Close to 5B. Base: Close to 139D.

Phyllaries.—Number of phyllaries per inflorescence: About 18 arranged in about three whorls. Length: About 6 mm. Width: About 2 mm. Shape: Lanceolate. Apex: Acute. Base: Obtuse. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper surface: Smooth, glabrous; waxy. Texture, lower surface: Fine pubescence; waxy. Color, upper surface: Close to 143B. Color, lower surface: Close to 143A.

Peduncles.—Length, terminal peduncle: About 3.2 cm. Diameter, terminal peduncle: About 1 mm. Angle: Erect to about 10° from vertical. Strength: Moderately strong; flexible. Texture: Densely pubescent. Color: Close to 147B.

Reproductive organs.—Androecium: None observed. Gynoecium: Present only on ray florets. Pistil length: About 3 mm. Stigma shape: Bi-parted. Stigma color: Close to 9B. Style length: About 1 mm. Style color: Close to 1B. Ovary color: Close to 155A.

Seeds and fruits.—Seed and fruit production has not been observed on plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* to date.

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

Garden performance: Plants of the new *Chrysanthemum* have demonstrated good garden performance and to tolerate temperatures from about 0° C. to about 35° C. It is claimed:

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

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