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UPOV

TWF/XVI/23

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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

GENEVA

TECHNICAL WORKING PARTY
FOR
FRUIT CROPSSixteenth Session
Aarslev, Denmark, June 19 to 21, 1985

REPORT

adopted by the Technical Working Party for Fruit CropsOpening of the Session

1. The sixteenth session of the Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops (hereinafter referred to as "the Working Party") was held in Aarslev, Denmark, from June 18 to 21, 1985. The list of participants is given in the Annex to this report. Meetings of the Subgroups for Fruit Crops for Tropical and Sub-tropical Regions and Temperate Regions were held at the same place on June 18, 1985.

2. Mr. Poulsen, Director of the Research Center for Horticulture, welcomed the participants to the station at Aarslev, near Odense, Denmark. The session was opened by Mr. F. Schneider, Chairman of the Working Party.

Adoption of the Agenda

3. The Working Party unanimously adopted the agenda of the sixteenth session as reproduced in document TWF/XVI/1, after having agreed to make small changes in the order of the items to be discussed.

Adoption of the Report on the Fifteenth Session

4. The Working Party adopted the report on its fifteenth session (document TWF/XV/15 Prov.) after having agreed to the changes reproduced in Circular U 979.

Important Decisions Taken During the Last Session of the Technical Working Party and of the Technical Committee

5. The Working Party noted documents TWF/XV/15 Prov. and TC/XX/12 Prov. and agreed to discuss the details under item 14 of the Agenda.

Test Guidelines for Avocado

6. The Working Party noted that no comments had been received from the professional organizations on document TG/97/1(proj.). It noted, however, comments on this document received from Australia, Israel, South Africa and the United States of America (documents TWF/XVI/9, TWF/XVI/10, TWF/XVI/14, TWF/XVI/15 and TWF/XVI/21) and the changes in document TG/97/1(proj.) made by the Subgroup which had met on June 18. During the discussion, it was pointed out that different example varieties were recommended by different member States in that document. Such lack of unity in example varieties would be inevitable, also in other Test Guidelines for tropical fruits, due to a lack of central collection of reference varieties as well as a lack of example varieties independent of environmental conditions. The Working Party was aware of the risk that the inclusion of different example varieties known always only in a given region carried with it. It decided, however, to include the example varieties in the document to stimulate the offices in one region and to also observe example varieties of other regions which so far were not grown by it. The Working Party finally agreed to send the Test Guidelines to the Technical Committee for adoption after the following changes had been incorporated in the document TG/97/1(proj.):

(i) Changes made in the Technical Notes:Technical Note

- 1 to have the words "supplied should be two or more years old and" deleted
- 4 to have the word "races" replaced by "types" and to have the example variety "Edranol" replaced by "Nabal"
- 10 to have the word "minimum" deleted
- 14 to have the word "flower" replaced by "inflorescence"
- 15 to receive at the end the following bracketed information "(seed coat color changed from pale brown to brown)"

(ii) Changes made in the Table of Characteristics:Characteristics

- 12 to have the state "cuspidate" replaced by "attenuate"
- 29 to have an additional characteristic included after characteristic 29 reading: "Mature fruit: shape of basal part of fruit (in longitudinal section from widest part to pedicel end)" with the states and example varieties as indicated on page 7 of document TWF/XVI/21 under paragraph 9
- 29 to have the additional example varieties "Topa Topa (3)" and "Ferdyn (7)"
- 30 to have the additional example varieties "G-22, Nabal (3)", "Bacon (5)" and "Hornhim (7)"
- 31 to be deleted; in its place a new characteristic to be inserted reading: "Mature fruit: stalk cavity" with the states "absent (Sharwil, Wurtz (1)), present (Bacon, Ettinger (9))"

- 33 to have the additional example varieties "Ettinger, Ferdyn (3)",
"Wurtz (4)" and to have the example variety "Topa Topa" deleted
- 34 to be placed after characteristic 41
- 37 to have the additional state "light green"
- 38 to read: "Mature fruit: conspicuousness of lenticels" with the
states "inconspicuous (Topa Topa (1)), conspicuous (Ettinger (2))"
- 39 to have the states "diffused, in linear bands" and the example
variety "Ettinger" replaced by "Sharwil"
- 40 to have the additional example varieties "Horshim (3)"
"Ettinger (5)" and "Duke, Santana, Topa Topa (7)"
- 41 to have the additional example varieties "Ferdyn, Topa Topa (1)",
"Ettinger (3)", "Alboyce, Horshim (5)"
- 43 to have the additional example variety "Nabal (1)"
- 45 to have the word "conspicuity" replaced by "conspicuousness" and to
have the additional example varieties "Nabal, Topa Topa (2)"
- 46 to have the additional example varieties "Ferdyn, Sharwil (2)"
- 47 to be placed after characteristic 48 and to have the additional
example variety "Wurtz (1)"
- 48 to have the additional example varieties "Ferdyn, Horshim (1)"
- 50 to have the additional example varieties "Ferdyn, Topa Topa (1)"
and "Ettingen (2)"
- 51 to have the example varieties "Anaheim, Pinkerton (1)," no example
variety for state (2), "Duke, Ferdyn Teague (3)", and no example
variety for state (4), and (5), "Hass, Topa Topa (6)"
- 52 to be placed after characteristic 54 and to have the additional
example varieties "Edranol (3)" and "Ettinger, Nabal (7)" and to
have the example variety "Alboyce" replaced by "Sharwil"
- 53 to have the example variety "Bacon" replaced by "Ettinger, Topa
Topa (1)" and to have the additional example variety "Edranol (5)"
- 54 to have the additional example varieties "Ettinger, Topa Topa (1)"
"Edranol, Santana (2)" and "Nabal (3)"
- 55 to have the states "whitish (Bacon, Ettinger, Teague (1)), pale
green (2), cream (Alboyce, Fuerte (3)), yellow (Nabal (4))"
- 56 to have the states "pale green (Santana (1)), green (Fuerte,
Sharwil (2)), yellow green (Duke (1))"
- 57 to have the states "narrow, medium, wide" and the additional
example variety "Santana (3)"
- 58 to read: "Ripe fruit: conspicuousness of fibres in flesh" with
additional example varieties "Santana (1), Ryan (2))"

- 60 to have the additional example variety "Santana (5)"
- 63 to have the example variety "Nabal (2)"
- 65 to have the state "flattened" replaced by "oblate" and to have the additional example varieties "Topa Topa (1)", "Edranol (4)", "Ferdyn (5)" and "Ettinger (6)"
- 66 after this characteristic, a new characteristic to be inserted reading: "Seed: polyembryony" with the states "absent, present"
- 67 to have the additional example variety "Ettinger (2)"
- 72, 73 to be deleted

Test Guidelines for Kiwifruit

7. The Working Party noted that no comments had been received from the professional organizations on document TG/98/1 (proj.). The document could therefore be presented to the Technical Committee for adoption without further changes.

Test Guidelines for Olive

8. The Working Party noted that no comments had been received from the professional organizations on document TG/99/1(proj.). It noted, however, a few comments made by the experts in the Working Party and agreed to include the following main changes in that document:

(i) In the Table of Characteristics, characteristics 22 and 29 received an asterisk. After characteristic 23, a new characteristic reading "Fruit: marbling" with the states "absent, present" was added;

(ii) For paragraph 5.1 of the Technical Questionnaire, the characteristics 22, 29, 32 and 33 of the Table of Characteristics were selected;

(iii) The experts from Israel were asked to send to the Office of UPOV the names of example varieties outstanding in the document.

Test Guidelines for Quince

9. The Working Party noted that no comments on document TG/100/1(proj.) had been received from the professional organizations. It noted, however, a few comments made by the experts in the Working Party and agreed to include the following changes to that document:

(i) Changes made in the Table of Characteristics:

Characteristic

- 11 after this characteristic, a new characteristic to be added reading: "Leaf blade: shape of base" with the states "cuneate, straight, lobed"
- 13 to delete the state "acute"

(ii) The denominations of several example varieties were corrected.

10. During the discussions on the denomination of virus free root stock varieties (EM A and C taken as example varieties), it was stressed that example varieties for the DUS Test should be free of virus.

Comparison of the Descriptor List for Grape Vine Varieties and Vitis Species with the UPOV Test Guidelines for Vine

11. The Working Party noted document TWF/XVI/2 which contained a proposal for the revised Test Guidelines for Vine, prepared by the Office of UPOV, on the basis of the examination made by the expert from France, who had compared UPOV Test Guidelines for Vine with the Descriptor List for Grape Vine Varieties and Vitis Species established by the International Vine and Wine Office (IWO). The Working Party had no comments on that document and agreed to present it for adoption to the Technical Committee.

List of Reference Books and Documents

12. The Working Party noted documents TWF/XVI/16 and TC/XX/9 and agreed to enlarge the list of standard books and documents and to update the list yearly by correspondence. As far as the layout of the list was concerned, the Working Party agreed to keep the basic form given in document TC/XX/9 and to make the following proposals to be presented to the Technical Committee for further discussion:

(i) The list should consist of a general part and specific parts (ornamentals, vegetables, fruit crops, etc);

(ii) It should be set out under the Latin genus name, supplemented if need be with common names;

(iii) The name of the country which had given the information should be deleted;

Improvement of Contacts and Cooperation with International Bodies Working on Fruit Species

13. The Working Party noted paragraph 31 of document TC/XX/12 and document TWF/XVI/11 which contained the answer received from the International Fruit Genetic Resource Project (IFGRP). The Working Party regretted that this answer was based on a misunderstanding of the attitude of UPOV and agreed to make efforts to resolve such misunderstandings. The discussion concentrated on how to improve the exchange of information with international bodies, in particular the harmonization of descriptors between different bodies, and it was pointed out that it would be necessary to have contacts with other bodies, such as the International Registration Organization and the EC, as well as to improve present contacts, for instance with IBPGR. The Working Party recognized the difficulty in achieving an enlargement of contacts with other bodies because this would involve a large amount of time and money and finally recommended the following as possible solutions for the present:

(i) to make contact with other bodies at a national level;

(ii) to send the draft Test Guidelines to a larger range of professional organizations;

14. During the discussion, some experts proposed that it would be meaningful to invite some experts from other bodies to Technical Working Parties for the discussion of certain Test Guidelines. The experts in the Working Party were reminded, however, that, according to the decision of the Council, such experts should be invited not as representatives from other bodies but as experts on the species concerned. Nevertheless, the Working Party agreed to propose during the next session of the Technical Committee that permission be sought to invite for the discussions on Test Guidelines an expert from the IBPGR to its next session.

Standard Test Guidelines

15. The Working Party noted document TWO/XVII/3, which contained the proposal for standard Test Guidelines prepared by experts from the Netherlands and the comments made by the Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops, reproduced in paragraph 43 of document TWA/XIV/14 Prov. After a short discussion, the Working Party agreed to propose to the Technical Committee the standards as laid down in document TWO/XVIII/3, but with the difference that the numbering of paragraphs in each section would begin with number "1."

Proposals for the Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs

16. The Working Party noted that some advances had been made in the application of computers very recently in its field where statistical analysis had less importance compared with the field of cereals and it stressed that it would be necessary for the Working Party to work more actively with computers. For the time being, however, the Working Party agreed that it had no special proposal for the Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs.

17. During the discussion, it was pointed out that it would be possible to introduce computers for the grouping of varieties before individual testing and that the selection of characteristics suitable for computer screening would be necessary.

Color Chart

18. The Working Party agreed that it would make no further comment on the Color Chart and that it would maintain the recommendations already made by the Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees, as reproduced in paragraph 60 of document TC/XX/3.

19. The expert from the Netherlands reported to the Working Party that the Society of Dutch Flower Auction (VBAN) and the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) would discuss at their meeting to be held in the first week of July 1985 the possibility of reprinting the RHS Colour Chart.

Sanitary Status of Plant Material Sent in for Examination

20. The Working Party noted paragraph 33 of document TC/XX/12 Prov. It regretted that no member State had sent the lists of diseases that had been requested during the last session. During the discussion, some experts mentioned that the diseases for which import restrictions existed would be beyond the competence of the Working Party and that they would be a matter for plant sanitary inspection services. The Working Party agreed, nevertheless, to collect such lists of diseases for those States which did tests for other

States. All member States were requested to send the lists of diseases and comments, if any, to the Office of UPOV by the end of the year.

Test Guidelines for Apple

21. The expert from Switzerland reported on the decision of the Subgroup which had met on June 18. The discussion was based on document TWF/XVI/7. The Working Party confirmed that it would maintain the previous decision to combine three groups of varieties, namely, fruit varieties, ornamental varieties and root stock varieties, in one Test Guidelines document. It was explained once more that a given expression of a characteristic would have the same value in all three groups if they were combined together in one characteristic. The Working Party agreed to make some changes to document TWF/XVI/7 and to send it to the Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees for further discussion. The main changes made were as follows:

(i) Changes made in the Technical Notes:

Paragraph

- 5 to cancel the suggestion to delete the last sentence and characteristic (v) and to insert the words "of fruit" between "grouping" and "varieties" in that sentence; a comparable sentence would have to be included for ornamental varieties
- 6 to delete the word "fruit" the second time it appears in the first sentence
- 7 to add the sentence "The description should be supplemented by photographs or shadowgraphs of two typical leaves (showing characteristic 38)" at the end of the paragraph;
- 10 the first part of the paragraph to read: "In the case of fruit varieties and ornamental varieties observations of dormant one-year-old shoots should be made on trees that ...".

(ii) Changes made in the Table of Characteristics:

Characteristics

- 12, 13, 20, 67, 91, 92, 98, 99, 100 to be deleted
- 1a), 4, 28, 29 39, 42, 43, 57, 58, 59, 63, 76, 77, 86, 87, 88 to have the plus sign (+) deleted
- 6, 19a), 66 71a) to have the asterisks (*) deleted
- 8 to receive a general asterisk "(*)"
- 62 to receive an asterisk for ornamental varieties "(*O)"
- 87 to receive an additional asterisk for fruit varieties "(*F)"
- 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 25, 39, 51, 56, 57, 63, 68, 72, 73, 74, 78, 80, 84, 85, 86, 87, 90, 97, to have the suggestions to delete example varieties canceled
- 4 to have the example varieties "M 13, M 27" (5) and "M 11" (7) deleted

- 5 to have the example varieties "MM 106" (3) and "M 1, M 104" (7) deleted
- 6 to have the example variety "Jonagold" (2) deleted
- 9 to have the example variety "M 26" deleted
- 11 to have the typing of example variety "M 11" (9) corrected
- 22 to have the word "open" inserted between "10%" and "flowers"
- 28, 30 to have the word "inner" replaced by the word "upper"
- 29 to have the word "outer" replaced by the word "lower"
- 39 to have the state "up-folded" deleted, to have the Notes 3, 5, 7 and to have the example variety "M 27" transferred to Note 3
- 40 to have the position of the states "cuspidate" and "acuminate" inverted
- 43 to have the states "weak, medium, strong"
- 54 to be replaced by the alternative "b" on page 37 with example varieties submitted by the expert from the United Kingdom
- 57 to have the states "very weak, weak, medium, strong, very strong" with the example varieties "Belle de Boskoop (3), Golden Delicious (5) and Red Delicious (7)"
- 62 to have the spelling of "calyx" corrected
- 72 to have the word "unevenness" replaced by "relief"
- 78 to have the state "red" deleted
- 79 to have the words "percentage" and "overall present" replaced by "amount" and "very high" respectively, and to have the example variety "Cherry Cox" deleted
- 82 to have the words "weak" and "strong" replaced by "low" and "high," respectively
- 86 to have the additional states "very soft (Astrahan (1)), very firm (9)," to have the example variety "Pfirsichroter Sommerapfel" deleted and to have the word "firmometer" replaced by "penetrometer"
- 97 after this characteristic, a new characteristic (97a) to be inserted reading: "Time of picking (for commercial harvest)" with the states "early, medium, late"

(iii) The characteristics 22, 31, 95, 96, 97, 97a were placed at the end of the Table of Characteristics in the following chronological order: 96, 31, 22, 97a, 97, 95.

(iv) The experts from the United Kingdom were asked to send to the Office of UPOV the names of example varieties still outstanding in the document. The experts from Switzerland were asked to prepare the drawings for characteristics 5 and 34.

Test Guidelines for Raspberry

22. The Working Party noted documents TWF/XVI/4, TWF/XVI/12, TWF/XVI/17 and TWF/XVI/20. The discussion was based on document TWF/XVI/4. The Working Party made the following changes to that document:

(i) Changes made in the Technical Notes:Paragraph

- 1 to have the words "one year old" deleted from the recommended quantity of the plant material
- 5 to have characteristic 31 "main fruiting on current year's canes" as a recommended characteristic for grouping varieties
- 10 to read: "All observations on the very young shoots (characteristics 2 and 3) should be made when the shoots are 15 cm long; all observations on the young shoots (characteristics 4 to 10) should be made when the shoots are about 1 m long; all observations on the new cane (characteristics 11 and 12) and the leaf should be made after picking"
- 11 to have the word "canes" replaced by "shoots"
- 12 to be deleted
- 13 to have the words "in winter" deleted
- 14 to read: "The time of flowering should be observed when 80% of the plants have opened their first flowers."
- 15 to be deleted
- 16 to read: "The time of fruit ripening should be recorded as the time of the first picking"
- 17 to have the word "fourth" replaced by "third."

(ii) Changes made in the Table of Characteristics:Characteristics

- 9, 14 to be deleted
- 1, 2, 3, 10, 13, 17, 19, 22, 24 to receive an asterisk (*)
- 2, 3 to have the wording "young shoots" replaced by "very young shoots"
- 2 to have the example variety "Schönemann" replaced by "Gelbe Antwerpener" and "Malling Exploit" by "Malling Promise"
- 4-10 to have the wording "new cane" replaced by "young shoot"
- 4 to have the name of the example variety "Clover" corrected to "Clova"
- 5 to have the example varieties "Glen Moy (1), Malling Promise (9)"

- 6 to have the example varieties "Chilcotin (5), Zeva 1, Spica (7), Camenzind (9)"
- 7 to have the states "none or very sparse" and "very dense" deleted and to have the example varieties "Malling Exploit, Spica (3), Multiraspa, Zeva 2 (5), Camenzind, Lloyd George (7)"
- 8 to have the example varieties "Roode Radboud, Skeena (1), Gigant, Malling Promise (3), Camenzind, Nootka (5), Lloyd George (7)"
- 10 to have the state "violet purple" deleted and to have Notes from 1 to 9
- 12 to have the bracketed word "(remontant)" deleted
- 15 to have the Notes from 3 to 7
- 18 to be reduced to three states reading: "spaced (3), touching (5), overlapping (7)" with the example varieties "Zeva 1 (3), Malling Orion, Schönemann (5), Gigant (7)"
- 22 to have the example varieties "Gelbe Antwerpener (1), Willamette (8)"
- 24 to have the bracketed words "on central third of the cane" deleted, to have the additional states reading: "very short (1), very long (9)" with example varieties "Canby (1), Meeker (9)"
- 25 to include additional colors "orange (5), purple (6), black (7)" only if the experts from New Zealand send the example varieties to the Office of UPOV.
- 27 to have the states "roundish, conical, long conical"
- 30 to have all example varieties receive two more Notes
- 31 to include the example varieties "Malling Promise (1), Baronne de Wavre (9)."

(iii) In the Technical Questionnaire, under paragraph 5, the following additional characteristics were included: 4, 10, 15, 25, 26, 27, 33.

(iv) The experts from the Federal Republic of Germany were asked to send to the Office of UPOV the names of example varieties and drawings still outstanding in the document.

Test Guidelines for Banana

23. Since the Working Paper on the Test Guidelines for Banana had not been completed, the discussion had to be postponed until the seventeenth session of the Working Party. The experts from Israel were asked to complete that Working Paper.

Test Guidelines for Guava

24. The Working Party noted document TWF/XVI/6. The experts from South Africa will be asked to provide this document for the next session of the Working Party with example varieties, asterisks (*) and drawings to explain the characteristics.

Test Guidelines for Macadamia

25. The Working Party noted document TWF/XVI/13. Regrettably, owing to a lack of participation by specialists for Macadamia, detailed discussion had to be postponed until the next session of the Working Party. The Working Party agreed, however, to ask the experts from South Africa for the description of the two species and of their hybrids, for reinvestigation of the characteristics chosen for grouping and for the names of example varieties outstanding in the document.

Test Guidelines for Mango

26. The Working Party noted documents TWF/XVI/3 and TWF/XVI/22. It agreed that the Office of UPOV would prepare new draft Test Guidelines for the next session, combining the above two documents as both were originally drafted by the experts from South Africa.

Lack of Participation of Specialists for Tropical Fruit Crops in the Working Party

27. The Working Party regretted that at the present session it could not discuss in detail the Test Guidelines for Tropical Fruit Crops such as Banana, Guava, Macadamia and Mango owing to a lack of participation in the Working Party by specialists for such crops. It noted that this problem should also be discussed in the Technical Committee so that the member States concerned would be able to send their specialists for tropical fruits to sessions of the Working Party. It is envisaged to convene a subgroup meeting of two days only for these species immediately before the next session of the Working Party if the participation of these experts can be assured.

Test Guidelines for Blackberry

28. The Working Party noted documents TG/73/3 and TWF/XVI/19. The Working Party discussed the contents of the Table of Characteristics and agreed to make the following changes to document TG/73/3:

(i) Changes made in the Table of Characteristics:

Characteristic

- | | |
|---|--|
| 3 | to include example variety "Tayberry (7)" |
| 4 | to include example variety "Tayberry (5)" |
| 5 | to include example varieties "Black Satin (3), Mersereau (5), Wilsons Early (7)" |
| 6 | to be deleted |

- 8 to be converted into a qualitative characteristic with states from 1 to 9; the experts from the Federal Republic of Germany would prepare new wordings, drawings and example varieties
- 9 to have the example variety "Thornless Evergreen" replaced by "Black Satin"
- 10 to have all example varieties replaced by "Philadelphia (1), Wilson's Early (3), Himalaya (5), Bedford Giant (7), Sunberry (9)"
- 11 to have the example varieties of states (3) and (5) replaced by "Sunberry (3)" and "Bedford Giant (5)"
- 13 after this characteristic, two new characteristics to be added reading: "Very young shoot: anthocyanin coloration" with states "absent or very weak, weak, medium, strong, very strong" and "Very young shoot: green coloration" with states "light, medium, dark" and example varieties to be selected by the experts from the Federal Republic of Germany
- 17 after this characteristic, three new characteristics to be added reading: "Color of petal" with the states "white (1), white with violet tinge (2)" with example varieties "Philadelphia (1), Black Satin (2)"; "Wrinkling of Petals" with the states "weak, medium, strong"; "Shape of petals" with the states "roundish, long ovate"
- 19 to include the two additional states "very small, very large" with the example variety "Tayberry" for the latter
- 20 to include an additional state "narrow ovate" with the example variety "Tayberry"
- 21 after this characteristic a new characteristic to be added reading: "Time of leaf bud burst (in spring)" with states "early, medium, late"

(ii) The experts from the Federal Republic of Germany were asked to prepare a complete draft Test Guidelines document with the names of outstanding example varieties, drawings and a suggestion for the revision of the Technical Notes.

Test Guidelines for Chestnut

29. The Working Party noted document TWF/XVI/5 which contained a working paper on the Test Guidelines for Chestnut. The Working Party could not discuss it, however, owing to a lack of time and all member States were asked to examine this document and send their comments to the expert from France before the end of the year.

Test Guidelines for Gooseberry

30. The Working Party noted document TWF/XVI/18 which contained a working paper on the Test Guidelines for Gooseberry. The detailed discussion was postponed, however, to the next session of the Working Party due to the little time remaining. All member States were asked to send comments on that document to the expert from the Federal Republic of Germany before the end of the year.

Minimum Distances Between Varieties

31. The Working Party noted paragraphs 49 and 50 of document TC/XX/12 Prov. Since it seemed that there were no new developments in that question, the Working Party agreed not to discuss the subject at the present session.

Additional Matters Resulting from the Twentieth Session of the Technical CommitteeTesting of Distinctness

32. The Working Party noted paragraph 16 of document TC/XX/12 (Prov.). It confirmed that this was a problem specific to vegetatively propagated plants and agreed that for fruit crops there should not be a gap between the distance for distinctness and the distance for homogeneity and that when one applicant variety with obvious off-types was rejected because of a lack of homogeneity, those off-types should be accepted as a new variety if all other conditions were fulfilled.

Testing for Homogeneity

33. The Working Party noted paragraph 18 of document TC/XX/12 Prov. which explained the difficulties in selecting control varieties for the testing of homogeneity. The Working Party confirmed that this was a problem specific to seed propagated crops such as cereals and agreed not to discuss it in the Working Party although problems could occur in the case of some seed propagated root stock varieties.

Different Approaches Within the Member States with Respect to the Testing of Distinctness, Homogeneity and Stability

34. The Working Party noted and agreed on the recommendations made during the twentieth session of the Technical Committee, which were reproduced in document TC/XX/12 Prov. paragraph 22(i)-(iv). It pointed out, however, that Test Guidelines for Fruit Crops were normally made on the basis of comments collected from the other member States.

Harmonization of Lists of Characteristics Established by Different Bodies

35. The Working Party noted paragraph 31 of document TC/XX/3. It made no further comments on this subject since it had already been discussed under item 8, reproduced in paragraphs 13 and 14 of this report.

Revision of Test Guidelines

36. The Working Party noted paragraph 34 of document TC/XX/12 Prov. and agreed on the recommendations, made during the twentieth session of the Technical Committee, to base the first working paper on the adopted Test Guidelines concerned without changing the original numbering of the characteristics when revising the Test Guidelines.

Presentation of Papers for the Working Parties

37. The Working Party noted document TC/XX/12 Prov. paragraph 36. However, some experts expressed their preference for the source and the date of the paper being repeated on each page and provided with a reference number.

Criteria for the Inclusion of Characteristics in Test Guidelines

38. The Working Party noted paragraph 38 of document TC/XX/12 Prov. It held no further discussions on this subject. However, it was pointed out that it would be possible to obtain new descriptions and new states through the combination of characteristics.

Status of Test Guidelines

39. The Working Party agreed that the draft Test Guidelines for Avocado, for Kiwifruit, for Olive and for Quince should be sent to the Editorial Committee and the Technical Committee for final adoption.

40. The Working Party agreed that the draft Test Guidelines for Vine (revision) should be sent directly to the Editorial Committee and the Technical Committee for final adoption.

41. The Working Party agreed that the draft Test Guidelines for Raspberry (revision) should be sent to the professional organizations for comments as soon as the questions still outstanding had been settled.

42. The Working Party agreed that the draft Test Guidelines for Apple should be sent to the professional organizations if the Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees agreed to it.

43. The Working Party agreed that the working papers on Test Guidelines for Banana, for Blackberry (revision), for Chestnut, for Gooseberry (revision), for Guava, for Macadamia and for Mango should be rediscussed at its next session.

Future Program, Date and Place of Next Session

44. At the invitation of the expert from Switzerland, the Working Party agreed to hold its seventeenth session at Wädenswil, Switzerland, from September 17 to 19, 1986. Some Subgroups were to meet at the same place on September 16, 1986. The Working Party asked the expert from South Africa whether, in view of the species to be discussed during the next session, it would be possible to send one expert directly from South Africa with extended knowledge of Banana, Guava, Macadamia and Mango. If that were possible, Subgroups on those species would also meet on September 15, 1986. It is planned to discuss the following items at that session of the Working Party:

(i) Short reports on new developments in the member States in Plant Variety Protection in fruit species (oral reports by experts);

(ii) important decisions taken during the last sessions of the Working Party and of the Technical Committee;

- (iii) final discussion of draft Test Guidelines for:
 - Apple (revision)
 - Raspberry (revision)
- (iv) list of reference books and documents (Chairman to collect additional information);
- (v) standard Test Guidelines;
- (vi) color chart;
- (vii) sanitary status of plant material sent in for examination (UPOV to collect information);
- (viii) additional matters resulting from the twenty-first session of the Technical Committee;
- (ix) discussion of working papers on Test Guidelines for:
 - Banana (IL to prepare a working paper)
 - Blackberry (revision) (DE to prepare a new working paper)
 - Chestnut (FR to collect comments)
 - Gooseberry (revision) (DE to collect comments)
 - Guava (ZA to prepare missing information)
 - Macadamia (ZA to prepare missing information)
 - Mango
 - Prunus rootstocks (FR to prepare new working paper).

Visits

45. In the afternoon of June 19, 1985, the Working Party visited the glass-houses of the Horticultural Research Center in Aarslev and on June 20, 1985, it visited two private fruit farmers, namely, Mr. Franzen on the island of Taasinge and Mr. Pederson on the island of Langeland.

46. This report has been adopted by correspondence.

[Annex follows]

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ANNEX

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS IN THE SIXTEENTH SESSION
OF THE TECHNICAL WORKING PARTY FOR FRUIT CROPS
AARSLEV, DENMARK, JUNE 19 TO 21, 1985

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