

# TECHNICAL WORKING PARTY FOR ORNAMENTAL PLANTS AND FOREST TREES

Forty-Fifth Session

## PREPARATORY WORKSHOP

Jeju, Republic of Korea  
August 5, 2012

### PROGRAM

1. Introduction to UPOV
2. Overview of the General Introduction  
(document TG/1/3 and TGP documents)
3. Guidance on drafting Test Guidelines (document TGP/7)
  - (a) Selection of characteristics
  - (b) Guidance on drafting characteristics
    - (i) *Types of expression (QL, QN, PQ), notes and distinctness*
    - (ii) *Method of observation (V/M; G/S)*
    - (iii) *Asterisked, grouping and TQ characteristics*
    - (iv) *Example varieties*
  - (c) The process for developing UPOV Test Guidelines

## **PROGRAM**

4. Situation in UPOV Concerning the possible use of Molecular Techniques in the DUS Examination
5. UPOV databases (UPOV-ROM Plant Variety Database; GENIE database)
6. The UPOV website
7. Role of UPOV Technical Working Parties (TWPs) and the BMT
8. Agenda for the TWV Session
9. Feedback

## **1. INTRODUCTION TO UPOV**

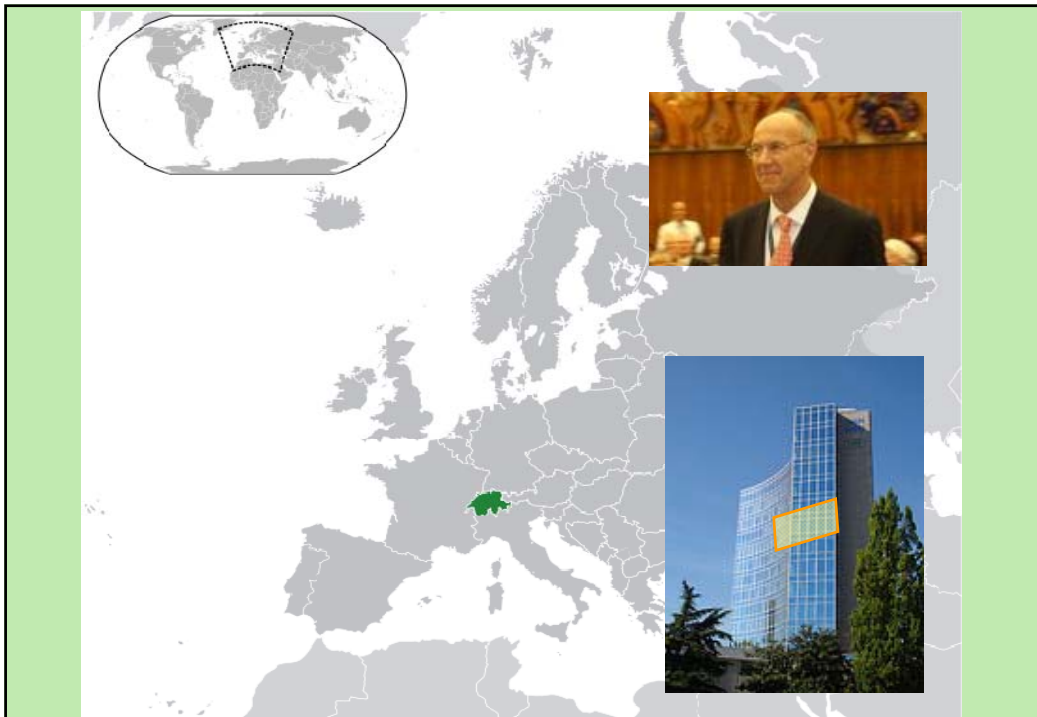
**UPOV: INDEPENDENT INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION**

**The International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants**

established in 1961

**The International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants**

**Union internationale pour la protection des obtentions végétales**



## 2. OVERVIEW OF THE GENERAL INTRODUCTION

(DOCUMENT TG/1/3 AND TGP DOCUMENTS)

### GUIDANCE FOR DUS EXAMINATION

#### THE CONDITIONS FOR GRANTING A BREEDER'S RIGHT

*Criteria to be satisfied*

- NOVELTY
- **D**ISTINCTNESS
- **U**NIFORMITY
- **S**TABILITY



**"DUS"**

## THE CONDITIONS FOR GRANTING A BREEDER'S RIGHT

### *Other conditions*

- VARIETY DENOMINATION
- FORMALITIES
- PAYMENT OF FEES

**NO OTHER CONDITIONS!**

## Guidance for DUS Examination

### **facilitates:**

#### **BEST PRACTICE** (based on experience)

- => good decisions
- => good definition of the object of protection  
(strong protection)
- => efficiency in method of examination (learn from the best)

#### **HARMONIZATION**

- => efficiency
  - mutual acceptance of DUS reports  
(minimize cost of examination for individual authorities)
  - mutual recognition of variety descriptions  
(all parties speak the same "language")
  - simple and cheap system for applicants  
(minimize cost for breeders)

## UPOV provides guidance by:

- The “General Introduction” (TG/1/3)
  - General technical principles
  - Organization of DUS Testing
  - Associated “TGP” Documents (e.g. statistical methods)

= version 3

### TG/1/3 General Introduction



#### “Associated” TGP Documents

Ref.	Title
TG/00	List of TGP Documents and Latest Issue Dates
TGP/1	General Introduction With Explanations
TGP/2	List of Test Guidelines Adopted by UPOV
TGP/3	Varieties of Common Knowledge
TGP/4	Constitution and Maintenance of Variety Collections
TGP/5	Experience and Cooperation in DUS testing
TGP/6	Arrangements for DUS testing
TGP/7	Development of Test Guidelines
TGP/8	Trial Design and Techniques Used in the Examination of DUS
TGP/9	Examining Distinctness
TGP/10	Examining Uniformity
TGP/11	Examining Stability
TGP/12	Special Characteristics
TGP/13	Guidance for New Types and Species
TGP/14	Glossary of Technical, Botanical and Statistical Terms Used in UPOV Documents
TGP/15	New Types of Characteristics

### 3. GUIDANCE ON DRAFTING TEST GUIDELINES

#### UPOV provides guidance by:

- The “General Introduction” (TG/1/3)
  - General technical principles
  - Organization of DUS Testing
  - Associated “TGP” Documents (e.g. statistical methods)

AND

- **“Test Guidelines”**
  - **Species/Crop-specific recommendations developed by crop experts**
  - **TGP/7 “Development of Test Guidelines” adopted**

**E**

**UPOV**  
 TG/250/1  
 ORIGINAL: English  
 DATE: 2009-04-01

**INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS**  
 GENEVA

**YAM**  
 UPOV Code:  
 DIOSC\_ALA; DIOSC\_BAT; DIOSC\_JAP  
*Dioscorea alata* L.; *Dioscorea polystachya* TURCZ.;  
*Dioscorea japonica* THUNB.

**GUIDELINES  
 FOR THE CONDUCT OF TESTS  
 FOR DISTINCTNESS, UNIFORMITY AND STABILITY**

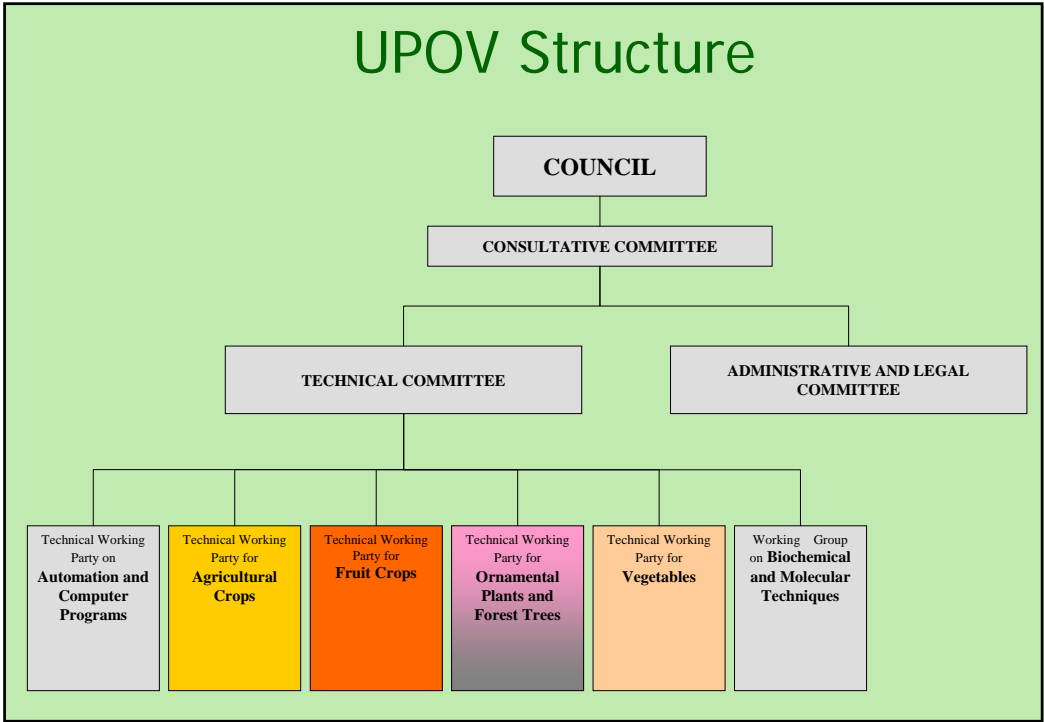
Alternative Names:<sup>1</sup>

Botanical name	English	French	German	Spanish
<i>Dioscorea alata</i> L.	Creole yam, Guyana arrowroot, Yam-swath yam, White yam, White yam, Winged yam, Yam	Grande igname, Igname aile,, Igname de Chine	Geffigebir Yam, Wasur- Yamwurz	Sama Minoos, Sama de agua, Tabana
<i>Dioscorea polystachya</i> Turcz., <i>Dioscorea batatas</i> DCROE.	Chinese yam, Chinese potato, Cinnamom-vine	Ignome	Chinesische Yamwurz	
<i>Dioscorea japonica</i> Thunb.	Japanese yam	Ignome japonaise		

The purpose of these guidelines ("Test Guidelines") is to elaborate the principles contained in the General Introduction (document TG/1/1), and its associated TGP documents, into detailed practical guidance for the harmonized examination of distinctness, uniformity and stability (DUS) and, in particular, to identify appropriate characteristics for the examination of DUS and production of harmonized variety descriptions.

**ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS**  
 These Test Guidelines should be read in conjunction with the General Introduction and its associated TGP documents.

<sup>1</sup> These names were correct at the time of the introduction of these Test Guidelines but may be revised or updated. Readers are advised to consult the UPOV Code, which can be found on the UPOV Website (www.uipo.int), for the latest information.





# **TGP/7**

## **“Development of Test Guidelines”**

### **1. Introduction**

### **2. Procedure for the Introduction and Revision of UPOV Test Guidelines**

### **3. Guidance for Drafting Test Guidelines**

- The **TG Template**
- Additional Standard Wording** for the TG Template
- Guidance Notes** for the TG Template

<b>UPOV</b>	E TG/Doc: Doc ORIGINAL: Doc DATE: Doc			
<b>INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS</b> GENEVA				
<b>DRAFT</b>				
Please select: "View" then "Comments" from the Word menu to see all tracks				
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> <p style="margin: 0;">(MAIN COMMON NAME)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">(types of) botanical name</p> <p style="margin: 0;">(UPOV Code)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">{ EN1 - Botanical name }</p> </div>				
<b>GUIDELINES</b> <b>FOR THE CONDUCT OF TESTS</b> <b>FOR DISTINCTNESS, UNIFORMITY AND STABILITY</b> <i>prepared by [an expert] / [experts] from</i> <i>[describing country(ies) / organization(s)]</i> <i>to be considered by the</i> <i>Technical Working Party for [year] at its [year] session</i> <i>to be held in [year] from [year]</i>				
Alternative Names:				
Botanical name	English	French	German	Spanish
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
The purpose of these guidelines ("Test Guidelines") is to elaborate the principles contained in the General Introduction (document TG/1/2), and its associated TCP documents, into detailed practical guidance for the harmonized examination of distinctness, uniformity and stability (DUS) and, in particular, to identify appropriate characteristics for the examination of DUS and production of harmonized variety descriptions.				
These names were correct at the time of the introduction of these Test Guidelines but may be revised or updated. Readers are advised to consult the UPOV Code, which can be found on the UPOV Website (www.upov.int) for the latest information.				

## 10 Chapters of UPOV Test Guidelines

1. Subject of the Test Guidelines
2. Material Required
3. Methods of Examination
4. Assessment of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability
5. Grouping of Varieties and Organization of the Growing Trial
6. Introduction to the Table of Characteristics
- 7. Table of Characteristics**
8. Explanation on the Table of Characteristics
9. Literature
10. Technical Questionnaire

### 3. TEST GUIDELINES

#### (a) Selection of characteristics

#### **"CHARACTERISTICS"**

- may have direct commercial relevance
  - Flower color (ornamental)
  - Fruit color
- but **commercial relevance NOT required**
  - Leaf shape

## Selection of Characteristics

The basic requirements that a characteristic should fulfill before it is used for DUS testing or producing a variety description are that its expression (TG/1/3: Section 4.2.1) :

- (a) **results from a given genotype** or combination of genotypes;
- (b) is sufficiently **consistent and repeatable** in a **particular environment**;
- (c) exhibits sufficient **variation between varieties** to be able to establish distinctness;
- (d) is capable of **precise definition and recognition**;
- (e) allows **uniformity requirements** to be fulfilled;
- (f) allows **stability requirements** to be fulfilled, meaning that it produces consistent and repeatable results after repeated propagation or, where appropriate, at the end of each cycle of propagation.

## Selection of Characteristics

- **Yield ???**
- **Straw strength ???**

**Etc.**

## Selection of Characteristics

Criteria	Fruit: color	Leaf: shape	Yield
(a) results from a given genotype or combination of genotypes	Yes	Yes	
(b) sufficiently consistent and repeatable in a particular environment	Yes	Yes	
(c) exhibits sufficient variation between varieties to be able to establish distinctness	Yes	Yes	
(d) is capable of precise definition and recognition	Yes	Yes	
(e) allows uniformity requirements to be fulfilled	Yes	Yes	
(f) allows stability requirements to be fulfilled	Yes	Yes	
Commercial value	Yes	No	
<b>ACCEPTABILITY</b>	Yes	Yes	

## Selection of Characteristics

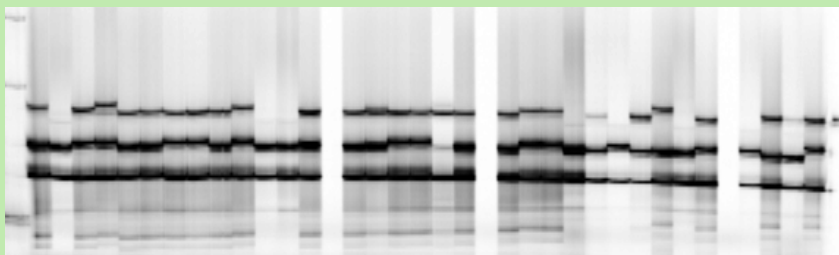
Criteria	Fruit: color	Leaf: shape	Yield
(a) results from a given genotype or combination of genotypes	Yes	Yes	Yes
(b) sufficiently consistent and repeatable in a particular environment	Yes	Yes	(No)
(c) exhibits sufficient variation between varieties to be able to establish distinctness	Yes	Yes	???
(d) is capable of precise definition and recognition	Yes	Yes	(No)
(e) allows uniformity requirements to be fulfilled	Yes	Yes	???
(f) allows stability requirements to be fulfilled	Yes	Yes	???
Commercial value	Yes	No	Yes
<b>ACCEPTABILITY</b>	Yes	Yes	No

## Special Characteristics: Disease Resistance

Criteria	Disease Resistance
(a) results from a given genotype or combination of genotypes	*Knowledge of nature of genetic control of resistance is important
(b) sufficiently consistent and repeatable in a particular environment	*Standardize conditions (greenhouse / laboratory) & methodology *Standardize inoculum *Ring-test
(c) exhibits sufficient variation between varieties to be able to establish distinctness	*Susceptible / Resistant OR varying degrees of resistance?
(d) is capable of precise definition and recognition	*Define and recognize races and strains
(e) allows uniformity requirements to be fulfilled	see above
(f) allows stability requirements to be fulfilled	see above
	<i>Difficult and expensive</i>



## Molecular Techniques?



### **3. TEST GUIDELINES**

#### **(b) Guidance on drafting characteristics**

*(i) Types of expression (QL, QN, PQ),  
notes and distinctness*

TYPE OF EXPRESSION OF  
CHARACTERISTICS  
**(QL, QN, PQ)**

## Types of Expression

**QL: QUALITATIVE**

**QN: QUANTITATIVE**

**PQ: PSEUDO-QUALITATIVE**

7. Table of Characteristics/Tableau des caractères/Merkmalstabelle/Tabla de caracteres

Char. No.	English	français	Deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielsorten Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
<b>1.</b> (*) (+)	<b>Plant: growth habit</b>	<b>Plante : port</b>	<b>Pflanze: Wuchsform</b>	<b>Planta: porte</b>		
<b>QN</b>	upright	dressé	aufrecht	erecto	Inuppink	1
	semi-upright	semi dressé	halbaufrrecht	semierecto	D0158-1	2
	spreading	étalé	breitwüchsig	abierto	Sunnem 03	3
	semi-trailing	semi-étalé	halbhängend	semirrastrero	Inupsaf	4
	trailing	coureux	hängend	rastrero	Organza	5
<b>2.</b> (+)	<b>Plant: height</b>	<b>Plante : hauteur</b>	<b>Pflanze: Höhe</b>	<b>Planta: altura</b>		
<b>QN</b>	short	basse	niedrig	baja	Yateye	3
	medium	moyenne	mittel	media	D0158-1	5
	tall	haute	hoch	alta	Inuppink	7





## QUALITATIVE Characteristics

“Qualitative characteristics” are those that are **expressed in discontinuous states** (e.g. sex of plant: dioecious female (1), dioecious male (2), monoecious unisexual (3), monoecious hermaphrodite (4)).

These states are self-explanatory and independently meaningful. All states are necessary to describe the full range of the characteristic, and every form of expression can be described by a single state. The order of states is not important. As a rule, the **characteristics are not influenced by environment**.

### Qualitative characteristic

Clematis: Leaf: type



1  
simple



2  
ternate



3  
biternate



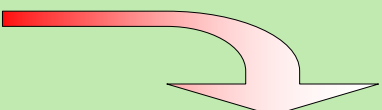
4  
trternate









## Qualitative (QL) characteristic?

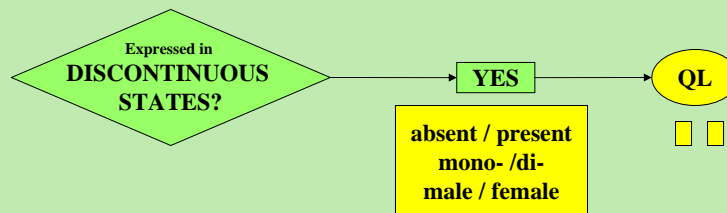
Anthocyanin coloration: QL (=absent / present)?

**NO!**



	Variety A	Variety B	Variety C
Environment A	 absent	 present	 absent
Environment B	 absent	 present	 present

## QL, QN or PQ?

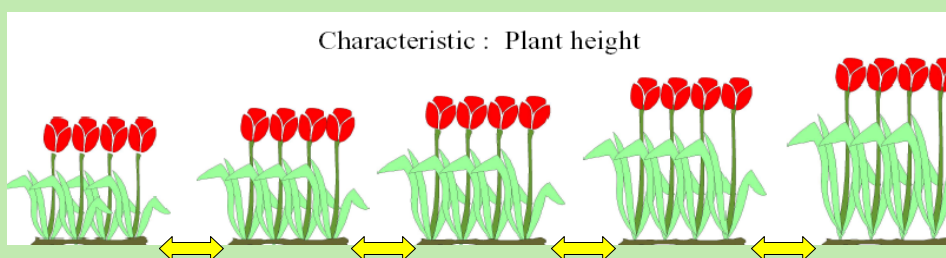


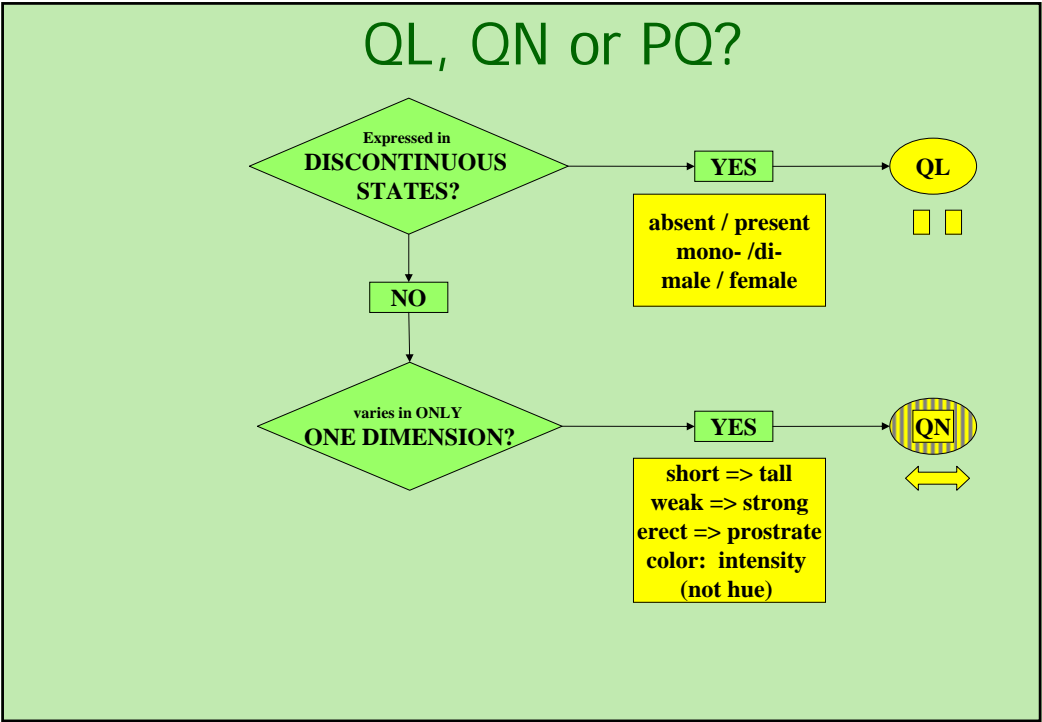
# QUANTITATIVE Characteristics



“Quantitative characteristics” are those where the expression covers the full range of variation from one extreme to the other. The **expression can be recorded on a one-dimensional, continuous or discrete, linear scale**. The range of expression is divided into a number of states for the purpose of description (e.g. length of stem: very short (1), short (3), medium (5), long (7), very long (9)). The division seeks to provide, as far as is practical, an even distribution across the scale. The Test Guidelines do not specify the difference needed for distinctness. The states of expression should, however, be meaningful for DUS assessment.

## Quantitative Characteristic

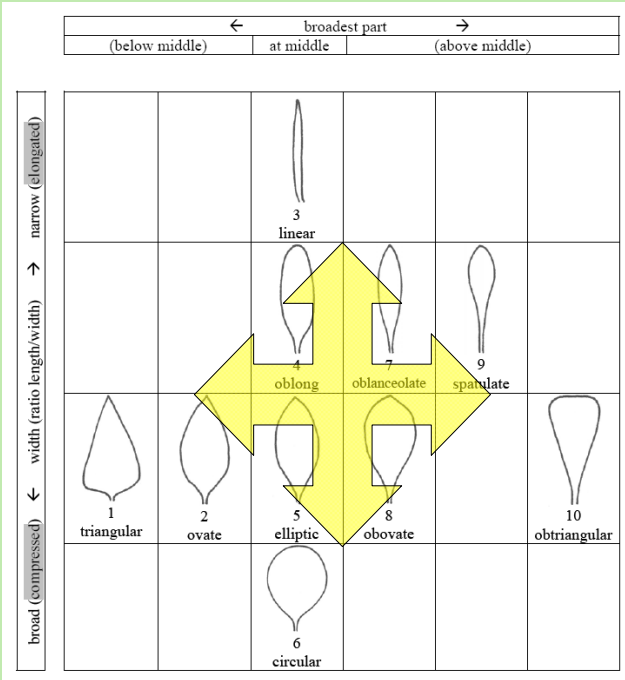
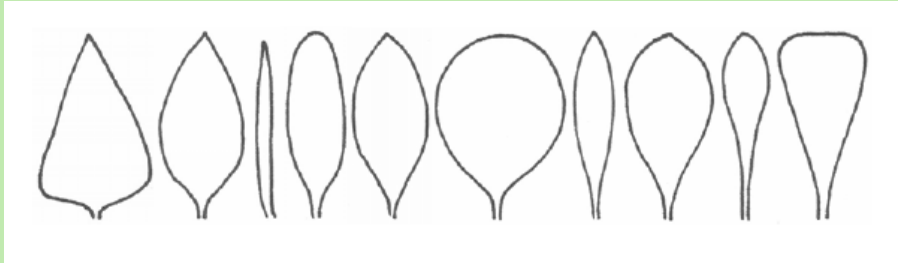


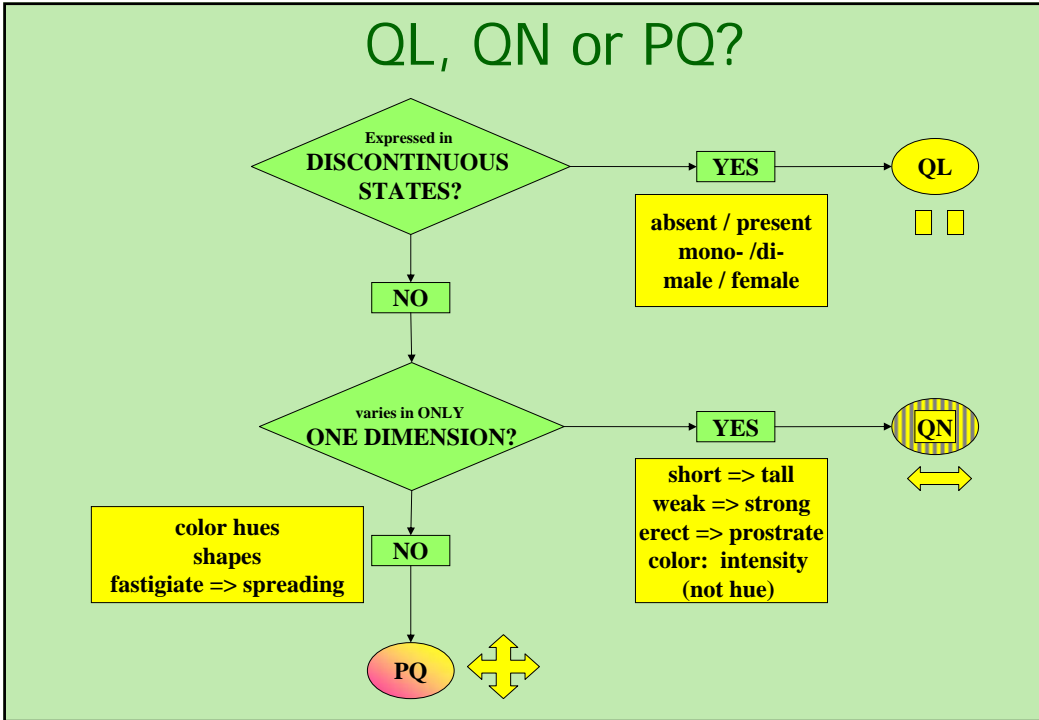
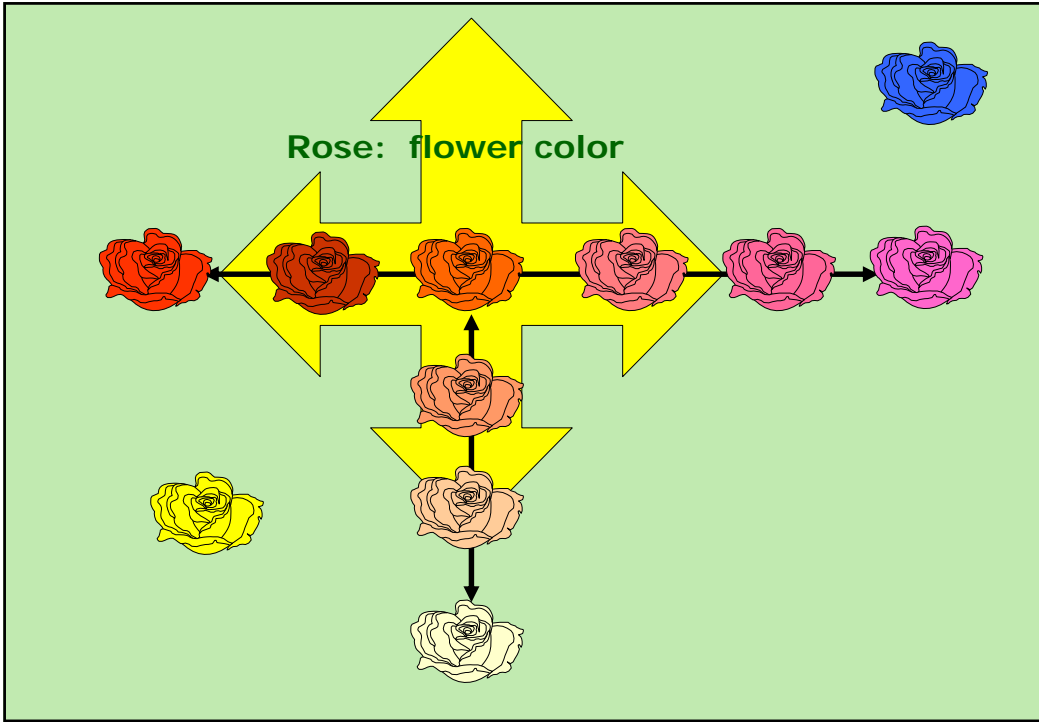


## PSEUDO-QUALITATIVE Characteristics

In the case of “pseudo-qualitative characteristics,” the **range of expression is at least partly continuous, but varies in more than one dimension** (e.g. shape: ovate (1), elliptic (2), circular (3), obovate (4)) and cannot be adequately described by just defining two ends of a linear range. In a similar way to qualitative (discontinuous) characteristics – hence the term “pseudo-qualitative” – each individual state of expression needs to be identified to adequately describe the range of the characteristic.

# Example





## **EXERCISE**

NOTES and DISTINCTNESS  
according to  
TYPE OF EXPRESSION  
**(QL, PQ, QN)**

## Types of Expression

**QL: QUALITATIVE**

QN: QUANTITATIVE

PQ: PSEUDO-QUALITATIVE

### Qualitative characteristic

Clematis: Leaf: type



1  
simple



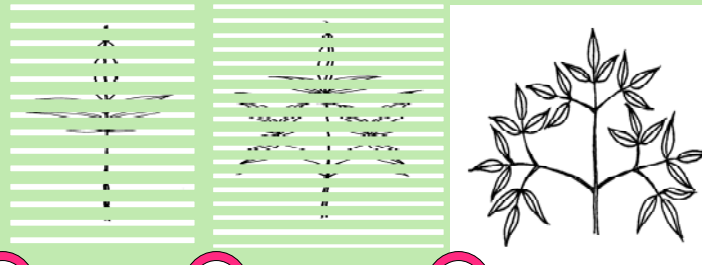
2  
ternate



3  
biternate



4  
triternate





## Qualitative Characteristics (special cases)

Char No.	Method of Examination	English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties/ Exemples/ Beispielssorten/ Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota	
1. (*)	MS C	<b>Plant: ploidy</b>						
QL		diploid					2	
		tetraploid					4	
3. (*)	VG	<b>Stem: anthocyanin coloration</b>						
QL		absent				Gumpoong	1	
		present				Chunpoong, Gopoong	9	

### Qualitative Characteristics: distinctness

In qualitative characteristics, the difference between two varieties may be considered clear if one or more characteristics have expressions that fall into **two different states in the Test Guidelines**. Varieties should not be considered distinct for a qualitative characteristic if they have the same state of expression.

(e.g. sex of plant: dioecious female (1), dioecious male (2), monoecious unisexual (3), monoecious hermaphrodite (4)).

## Types of Expression

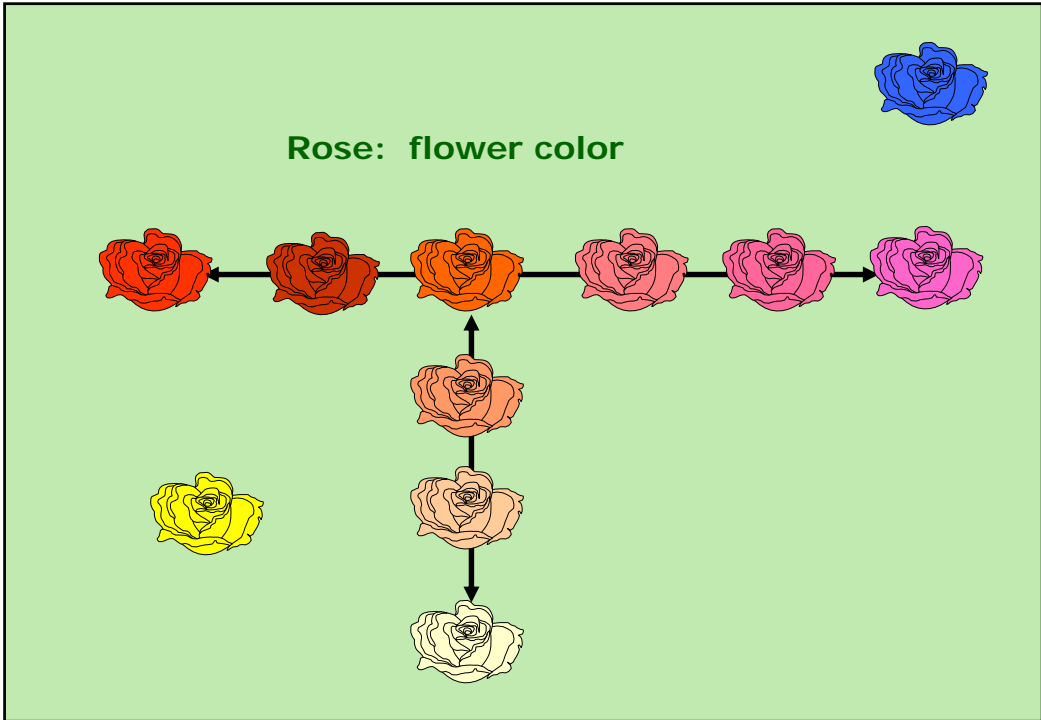
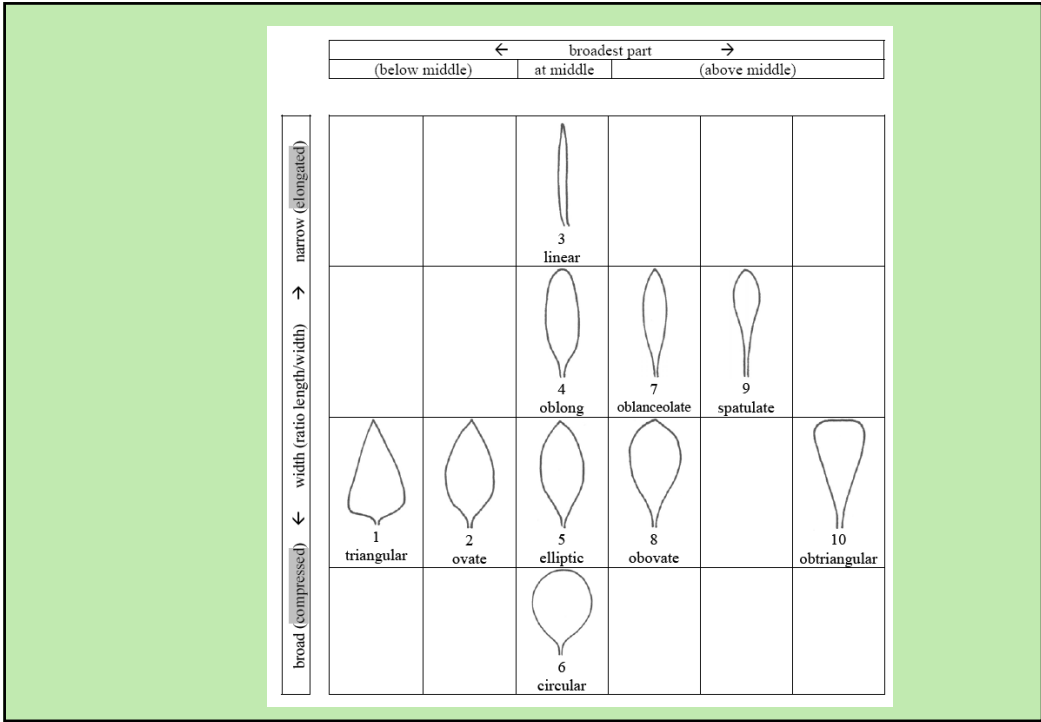
QL: QUALITATIVE

QN: QUANTITATIVE

**PQ: PSEUDO-QUALITATIVE**

### **PSEUDO-QUALITATIVE** Characteristics

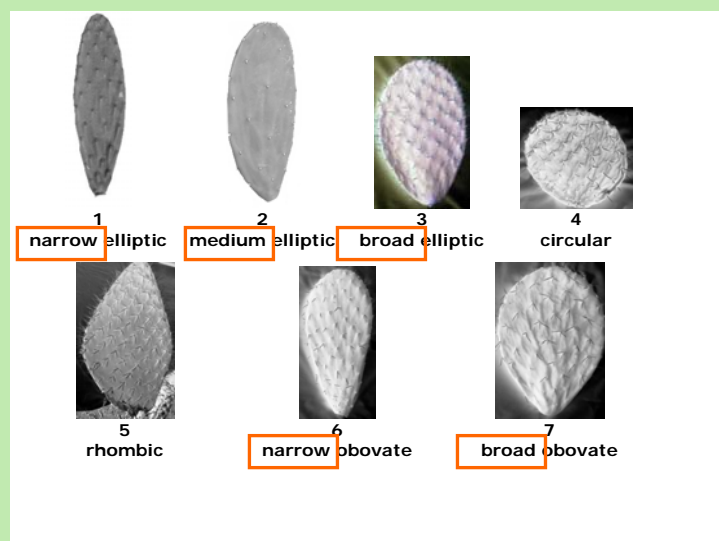
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## PSEUDO-QUALITATIVE Characteristics (typical examples)

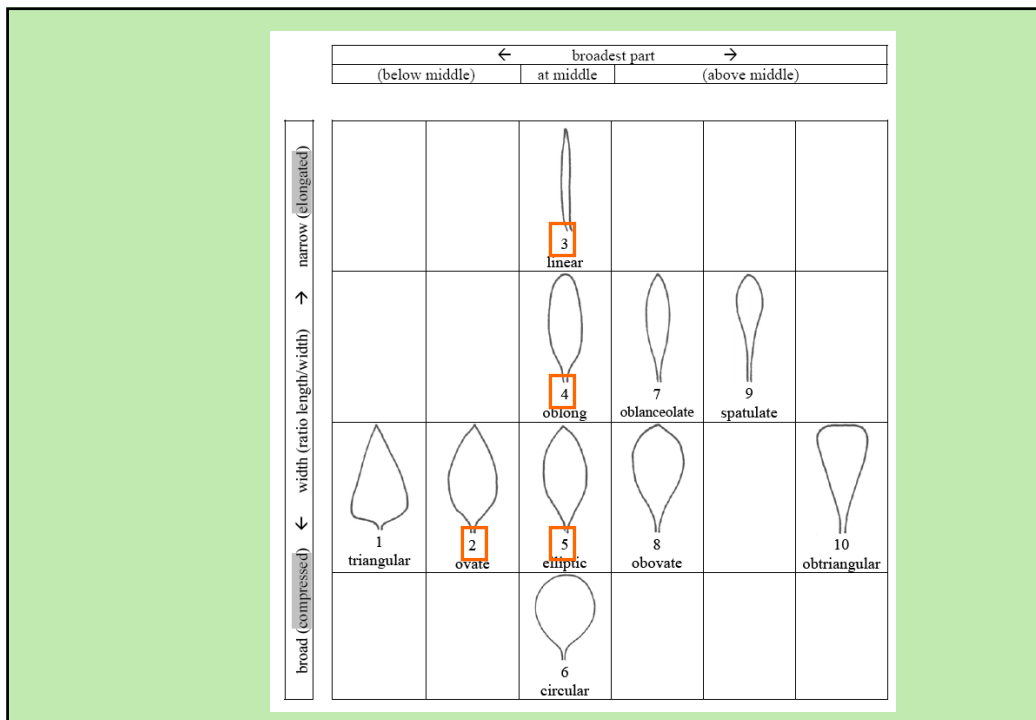
24. Flower: color of the center (+)	Fleur: couleur du centre	Farbe der Mitte	Flor: color del centro	
PQ green	vert	grün	verde	1
yellow	jaune	gelb	amarillo	2
orange	orange	orange	naranja	3
pink	rose	rosa	rosa	4
red	rouge	rot	rojo	5
purple	pourpre	purpur	púrpura	6

## Opuntia: Shape of Cladode



**Pseudo-Qualitative Characteristics: distinctness**

A different state in the Test Guidelines may not be sufficient to establish distinctness (see also section 5.5.2.3). However, in certain circumstances, varieties described by the same state of expression may be clearly distinguishable.



## Types of Expression

QL: QUALITATIVE

**QN: QUANTITATIVE**

PQ: PSEUDO-QUALITATIVE

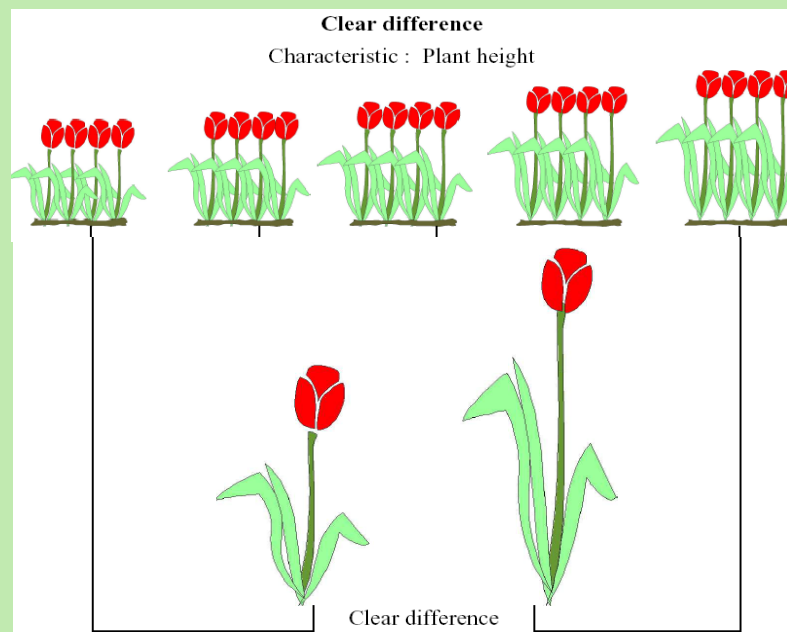
## QUANTITATIVE Characteristics

“Quantitative characteristics” are those where the expression covers the full range of variation from one extreme to the other. The **expression can be recorded on a one-dimensional, continuous or discrete, linear scale**. The range of expression is divided into a number of states for the purpose of description (e.g. length of stem: very short (1), short (3), medium (5), long (7), very long (9)). The division seeks to provide, as far as is practical, an even distribution across the scale. The Test Guidelines do not specify the difference needed for distinctness. The states of expression should, however, be meaningful for DUS assessment.

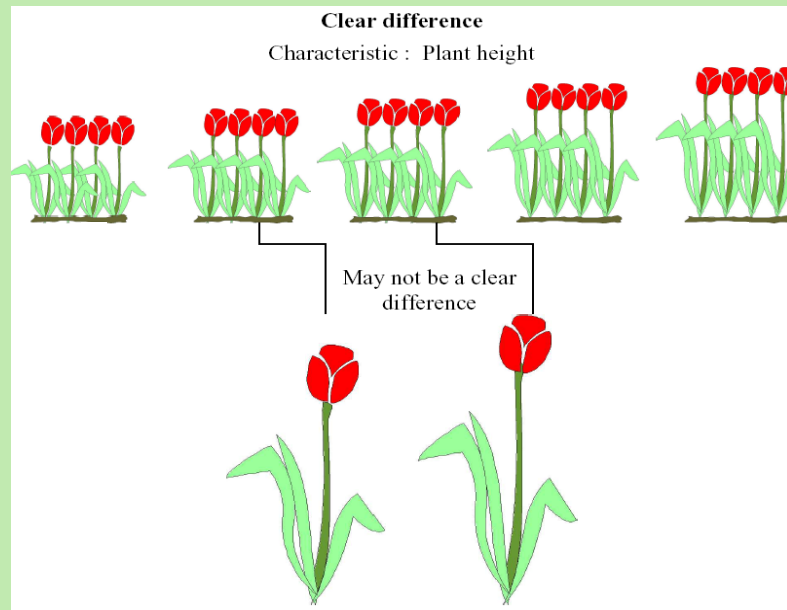
## Quantitative Characteristics: distinctness

Quantitative characteristics are considered for distinctness according to the method of observation and the features of propagation of the variety concerned...

### Quantitative Characteristic



## Quantitative Characteristic



## Quantitative Characteristics (1-9)

weak/strong  
short/long  
small/large

Note	State
1	very weak (or: absent or very weak)
2	very weak to weak
<b>3</b>	<b>weak</b>
4	weak to medium
<b>5</b>	<b>medium</b>
6	medium to strong
<b>7</b>	<b>strong</b>
8	strong to very strong
9	very strong

Note	State
1	very small (or: absent or very small)
2	very small to small
<b>3</b>	<b>small</b>
4	small to medium
<b>5</b>	<b>medium</b>
6	medium to large
<b>7</b>	<b>large</b>
8	large to very large
9	very large



## Quantitative Characteristics (1-9)

Standard Range Version 1	Standard Range Version 2	Standard Range Version 3	Standard Range Version 4
1 very weak (or: absent or very weak)	1 very weak (or: absent or very weak)	-	-
3 weak	3 weak	3 weak	3 weak
5 medium	5 medium	5 medium	5 medium
7 strong	7 strong	7 strong	7 strong
9 very strong	-	9 very strong	-

## Quantitative Characteristics (1-9)

State	Example 1 Size relative to:	Example 2 Angle:	Example 3 Position:	Example 4 Length in relation to:
<b>1</b>	<b>much smaller</b>	<b>very acute</b>	<b>at base</b>	<b>equal</b>
3	moderately smaller	moderately acute	one quarter from base	slightly shorter
<b>5</b>	<b>same size</b>	<b>right angle</b>	<b>in middle</b>	<b>moderately shorter</b>
7	moderately larger	moderately obtuse	one quarter from apex end	much shorter
<b>9</b>	<b>much larger</b>	<b>very obtuse</b>	<b>at apex</b>	<b>very much shorter</b>

## Quantitative Characteristics (at least 3 notes)

### Example 2

1	e.g. absent or weak <i>(absent or weakly expressed)</i>
2	moderate (or medium) <i>(moderately expressed)</i>
3	strong <i>(strongly expressed)</i>

State	Example 1
	<b>Stem: attitude</b>
1	erect
3	semi-erect
5	prostrate

## NOTES

*versus*

## SIDE-BY-SIDE COMPARISON

**(Quantitative characteristics)**

## TGP/9/1 “Examining Distinctness”

### 5.2 Approaches for assessing distinctness

#### 5.2.1 Introduction

5.2.1.1 Approaches for assessment of distinctness based on the growing trial can be summarized as follows:

- (a) **Side-by-side visual comparison** in the growing trial (see Section 5.2.2);
- (b) **Assessment by Notes / single variety records (“Notes”)**: the assessment of distinctness is based on the recorded state of expression of the characteristics of the variety (see Section 5.2.3);
- (c) Statistical analysis of growing trial data:

### Quantitative Characteristics: **distinctness**


The General Introduction explains that, in the case of visually observed quantitative characteristics:


“5.5.2.2.2 **A direct comparison between two similar varieties is always recommended**, since direct pairwise comparisons are the most reliable. In each comparison, **a difference between two varieties is acceptable as soon as it can be assessed visually and could be measured, although such measurement might be impractical or require unreasonable effort.**”

## TGP/9/1 "Examining Distinctness"

5.2.3.1.2 Where the requirements for distinctness assessment by Notes / single variety records are met it would usually also be possible to make a side-by-side visual comparison. However, **in the case of assessment by Notes / single variety records, such proximity is not required, which is a particular advantage where the growing trial contains a large number of varieties and where there are limited possibilities for ensuring that all similar varieties are grouped together in the growing trial. ...**

On the other hand, because the varieties are not the subject of a side-by-side visual comparison, the **difference required between varieties as a basis for distinctness is, with the exception of qualitative characteristics (see below), somewhat greater.**

Variety	A	B									

 n



...and comparison with descriptions in databases

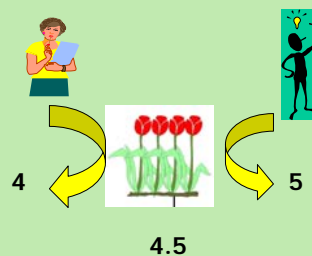
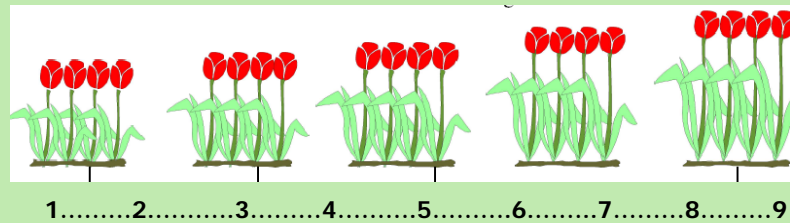
## Quantitative Characteristics: distinctness

Quantitative characteristics are considered for distinctness according to the method of observation and the features of propagation of the variety concerned.

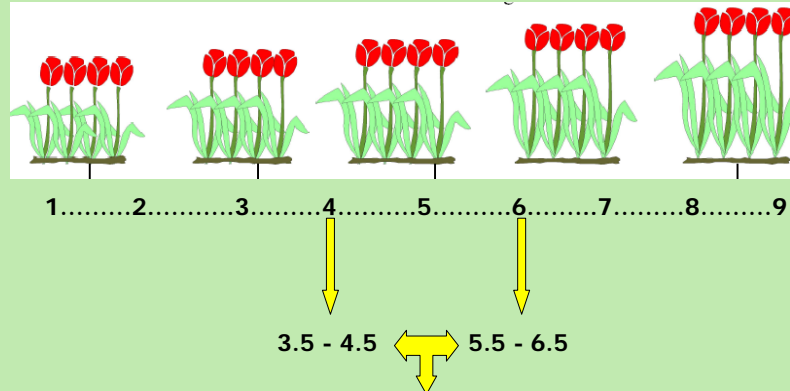
Test Guidelines (TGP/7 proposed revised text)

Difference of **two Notes** to represent a clear difference if the **comparison** between two varieties is performed **at the level of Notes**:

**WHY?**



## "Two Note" rule...



...means at least **ONE** note difference!

### Quantitative Characteristics: distinctness

Quantitative characteristics are considered for distinctness according to the method of observation and the features of propagation of the variety concerned.

Test Guidelines (TGP/7 proposed revised text)

Difference of **two Notes to represent a clear difference** if the **comparison** between two varieties is performed **at the level of Notes**:

## Quantitative Characteristics: distinctness

TG/233/1 Diascia/Diascie, 2007-03-28 - 9 -						
English	français	Deutsch	español	Example Varieties/ Exemples/ Beispielssorten/ Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota	
6. (a)	Leaf blade: length	Limbe: longueur	Blattspreite: Länge	Limbo: longitud		
QN	short	courte	kurz	corto	Coditer, Strawberry Sundae	3
	medium	moyenne	mittel	medio	Codusre	5
	long	longue	lang	largo	Balwhislapi, Balwhiswhit	7



**1 to 9 scale: Notes 1 and 3, Notes 2 and 4, Notes 3 and 5 etc.**  
represent a clear difference

## Quantitative Characteristics: distinctness

TG/233/1 Diascia/Diascie, 2007-03-28 - 9 -						
English	français	Deutsch	español	Example Varieties/ Exemples/ Beispielssorten/ Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota	
5.	Stem: anthocyanin coloration below inflorescence	Tige: pigmentation anthocyanique sous inflorescence	Trieb: Anthocyanfärbung unter dem Blütenstand	Tallo: pigmentación antocianica por debajo de la inflorescencia		
QN	absent or weak	absente ou faible	fehlend oder gering	ausente o débil	Heccharm	1
	medium	moyenne	mittel	media	Hecrace	2
	strong	forte	stark	fuerte		3

**1 to 3 scale: only Notes 1 and 3** represent a clear difference

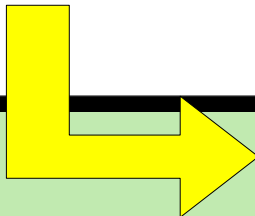
## Process levels other than Notes...

**Transformation of Observations and Measurements into Notes for Distinctness and for Variety Descriptions**

Beate Rücker  
Federal Variety Office, Hannover, Germany

Seminar on DUS Testing, Geneva, March 18-20, 2010



**UPOV Documents**

**First restricted area**

CAJ	Administrative and Legal Committee
CAJ-AG	Administrative and Legal Committee Advisory Group
TC	Technical Committee
TC-EDC	Enlarged Editorial Committee
TWA	Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops
TWC	Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs
TWF	Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops
TWO	Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees
TVOV	Technical Working Party for Vegetables
BMT	Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA-Profiling in Particular
BMT-IG	Ad hoc Subgroup of Technical and Legal Experts of Biochemical and Molecular Techniques
BMT-Crop-Subgroups	Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA-Profiling in Particular – Crop Subgroups
WGL-IPBR	Ad hoc Working Group to Study the Impact of Plant Breeders' Rights
WGL-PVD	Ad hoc Working Group on the Publication of Variety Descriptions
WGL-VD	Ad hoc Working Group on Variety Denominations
Seminar on DUS Testline	UPOV, Geneva, March 18 to 20, 2010

### 3. TEST GUIDELINES

#### (b) Guidance on drafting characteristics

*(ii) Method of observation (V/M; G/S)*



7. Table of Characteristics/Tableau des caractères/Merkmalstabelle/Tabla de caracteres

	English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties/ Exemples/ Beispielsorten/ Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
1.	<b>VG</b>	Plant: density of foliage	Plante : densité du feuillage	Pflanze: Dichte des Laubes	Planta: densidad del follaje	
QN	(a)	sparse	faible	locker	escasa	Ise-imo 3
		medium	moyenne	mittel	media	Morimoto-imo 5
		dense	dense	dicht	densa	Gankumijika-taisho 7
2.	<b>VG</b>	Plant: number of branches	Plante : nombre de ramifications	Pflanze: Anzahl Triebe	Planta: número de ramas	
QN	(a)	few	petit	gering	bajo	Ise-imo 3
		medium	moyen	mittel	medio	Fusaougi 5
		many	grand	groß	alto	Segoshi-2 7

### Method of Observation

**M: Measurement:**

an objective **observation against a calibrated, linear scale** (e.g. using a ruler, weighing scales, colorimeter, dates, counts, etc.);

**V: Visual observation:**

**includes** observations where the expert uses **reference points** (e.g. diagrams, example varieties, side-by-side comparison) or non-linear charts (e.g. color charts).

“Visual” observation refers to the sensory observations of the expert and, therefore, also **includes smell, taste and touch**.

## TGP/9/1 "Examining Distinctness"

Method of propagation of the variety	Type of expression of characteristic		
	QL (QUAL itative)	PQ (PSEUDO qualitative)	QN (QUANT itative)
Vegetatively propagated, self-pollinated	Notes (VG)	Notes (VG) Side-by-side (VG)	Notes (VG/MG/MS) Side-by-side (VG) Statistics (MG/MS)
Cross-pollinated	Notes (VG) Statistics (VS*)	Notes (VG) Side-by-side (VG) Statistics (VS*)	Statistics ([MG]/MS/VS) Side-by-side (VG) Notes (VG/MG/MS)
Hybrids	Notes (VG) Statistics (VS*)	Notes (VG) Side-by-side (VG) Statistics (VS*)	**

## TGP/9/1 "Examining Distinctness"

**V = Visual observation**

Method of propagation of the variety	Type of expression of characteristic		
	QL (QUAL itative)	PQ (PSEUDO qualitative)	QN (QUANT itative)
Vegetatively propagated, Self-pollinated	Notes (VG)	Notes (VG) Side-by-side (VG)	Notes (VG/MG/MS) Side-by-side (VG) Statistics (MG/MS)
Cross-pollinated	Notes (VG) Statistics (VS*)	Notes (VG) Side-by-side (VG) Statistics (VS*)	Statistics ([MG]/MS/VS) Side-by-side (VG) Notes (VG/MG/MS)
Hybrids	Notes (VG) Statistics (VS*)	Notes (VG) Side-by-side (VG) Statistics (VS*)	**

## TGP/9/1 "Examining Distinctness"

**V= Visual observation or  
M= Measurement**

Method of propagation of the variety	Type of expression of characteristic		
	QL (QUAL itative)	PQ (PSEUDO qualitative)	QN (QUANT itative)
Vegetatively propagated, self-pollinated	Notes (VG)	Notes (VG) Side-by-side (VG)	Notes (VG/MG/MS) Side-by-side (VG) Statistics (MG/MS)
Cross-pollinated	Notes (VG) Statistics (VS*)	Notes (VG) Side-by-side (VG) Statistics (VS*)	Statistics ([MG]/MS/VS) Side-by-side (VG) Notes (VG/MG/MS)
Hybrids	Notes (VG) Statistics (VS*)	Notes (VG) Side-by-side (VG) Statistics (VS*)	**

### Type of Record (for the purposes of distinctness)

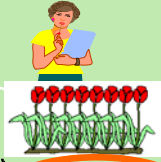
**G:** **single record** for a variety, or a **GROUP of plants** or parts of plants;

In most cases, "G" provides a single record per variety and it is not possible or necessary to apply statistical methods in a plant-by-plant analysis for the assessment of distinctness.

**S:** **records** for a number of **SINGLE**, individual **plants** or parts of plants ...

## Single record for a group of plants or parts of plants (G)

Section 4.3.2.3  
Example (VG): Flower: type  
(tulip: vegetatively propagated)



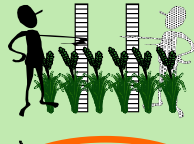
single variety record

Section 4.3.2.3  
Example (VG): Lowest leaf: hairiness of leaf sheaths  
(barley: self-pollinated)



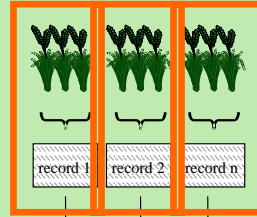
single variety record

Section 4.3.2.3  
Example (MG): Plant: height  
(wheat: self-pollinated)



single variety record

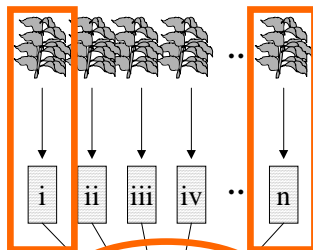
Section 4.3.2.4  
Example: (statistical analysis)



variety mean / statistical analysis of individual group data

## Records for a number of single, individual plants or parts of plants (S)

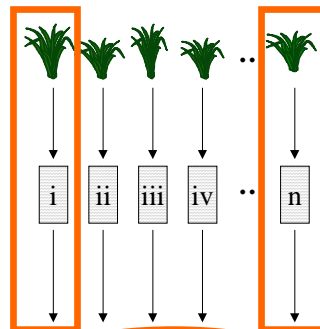
Section 4.3.3.1  
Example (MS): Leaflet: length  
(pea: self-pollinated)



calculation of mean

variety mean

Section 4.3.3.2  
Example (MS): Plant: natural height  
Example (VS): Plant: growth habit  
(ryegrass: cross-pollinated)



Statistical analysis of individual plant data

## **EXERCISE**

### **3. TEST GUIDELINES**

#### **(b) Guidance on drafting characteristics**

*(iii) Asterisked, grouping and  
TQ characteristics*

## Standard Test Guidelines Characteristic

Function	Criteria
<p>1.Characteristics that are <b>accepted by UPOV for examination of DUS</b> and from which members of the Union can select those suitable for their particular circumstances.</p>	<p>1.Must satisfy the criteria for use of any characteristic for DUS as set out in <b>Chapter 4, section 4.2.</b></p> <p>2.Must have been <b>used</b> to develop a variety description <b>by at least one member of the Union.</b></p> <p>3.Where there is a long list of such characteristics and, where considered appropriate, there may be an indication of the extent of use of each characteristic.</p>

## Asterisked Characteristic

7. Table of Characteristics/Tableau des caractères/Merkmalstabelle/Tabla de caracteres

Char. No.	English	français	Deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielssorten Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
<b>(*)</b>	<b>Plant: growth habit</b>	<b>Plante : port</b>	<b>Pflanze: Wuchsform</b>	<b>Planta: porte</b>		
QN	upright	dressé	aufrecht	erecto	Inuppink	1
	semi-upright	semi dressé	halbaufrecht	semierecto	D0158-1	2
	spreading	étalé	breitwüchsig	abierto	Sunnem 03	3
	semi-trailing	semi-étalé	halbhängend	semirastrero	Inupsaf	4
	trailing	coureux	hängend	rastrero	Organza	5

## Asterisked Characteristic

Function	Criteria
1.Characteristics that are important <b>for the international harmonization of variety descriptions.</b>	<p>1.Must be a characteristic included in the Test Guidelines.</p> <p>2. <b>Should always be examined</b> for DUS and included in the variety description <b>by all members of the Union</b></p> <p><b>EXCEPT</b> when the state of expression of a preceding characteristic or regional environmental conditions render this inappropriate.</p> <p>3.Must be useful for function 1.</p> <p>4.Particular care should be taken before selection of disease resistance characteristics.</p>

## Grouping Characteristic

### 5. Grouping of Varieties and Organization of the Growing Trial

5.1 The selection of varieties of common knowledge to be grown in the trial with the candidate varieties and the way in which these varieties are divided into groups to facilitate the assessment of distinctness are aided by the use of grouping characteristics.

5.2 Grouping characteristics are those in which the documented states of expression, even where produced at different locations, can be used, either individually or in combination with other such characteristics: (a) to select varieties of common knowledge that can be excluded from the growing trial used for examination of distinctness; and (b) to organize the growing trial so that similar varieties are grouped together.

5.3 The following have been agreed as useful grouping characteristics:

- (a) Plant: growth habit (characteristic 1)
- (b) Leaf blade: variegation (characteristic 11)
- (c) Upper lobes of corolla: main color (characteristic 24), with the following groups:
  - Gr. 1: white
  - Gr. 2: yellow
  - Gr. 3: orange
  - Gr. 4: pink
  - Gr. 5: red
  - Gr. 6: red purple
  - Gr. 7: violet
  - Gr. 8: blue

### Apple: Fruit color



### Apple: Fruit color





10. Technical Questionnaire

TECHNICAL QUESTIONNAIRE	Page {x} of {y}	Reference Number:
		Application date: (not to be filled in by the applicant)
<b>TECHNICAL QUESTIONNAIRE</b> to be completed in connection with an application for plant breeders' rights		
1. Subject of the Technical Questionnaire		
1.1 Botanical name	<input type="text" value="Malus domestica Borkh."/>	
1.2 Common name	<input type="text" value="Apple"/>	
2. Applicant		
Name	<input type="text"/>	
Address	<input type="text"/>	
Telephone No.	<input type="text"/>	

TECHNICAL QUESTIONNAIRE	Page {x} of {y}	Reference Number:
5. Characteristics of the variety to be indicated (the number in brackets refers to the corresponding characteristic in Test Guidelines; please mark the note which best corresponds).		
Characteristics	Example Varieties	Note
<b>5.5 Fruit: hue of over color – with bloom removed (37)</b>		
orange red	Cox's Orange Pippin, Egremont Russet	1[ ]
pink red	Cripps Pink, Delorgue	2[ ]
red	Akane, Galaxy, Red Elstar, Regal Prince	3[ ]
purple red	Red Jonaprince, Spartan	4[ ]
brown red	Fiesta, Joburn, Lord Burghley	5[ ]
<b>5.6 Fruit: pattern of over color (39)</b>		
only solid flush	Red Jonaprince, Richared Delicious	1[ ]
solid flush with weakly defined stripes	Galaxy	2[ ]
solid flush with strongly defined stripes	Jonagored	3[ ]
weakly defined flush with strongly defined stripes	Gravensteiner	4[ ]
only stripes (no flush)	Helios	5[ ]
flushed and mottled	Elstar	6[ ]
flushed, striped and mottled	Jonagold	7[ ]

## Grouping Characteristic

Function	Criteria
<p>characteristics in which the <b>documented states of expression, even where recorded at different locations</b>, can be used either individually or in combination with other such characteristics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>to select varieties of common knowledge that can be excluded from the growing trial</b> used for examination of distinctness, and/or</li> <li><b>to organize the growing trial so that similar varieties are grouped together</b></li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Qualitative characteristics or (b) Quantitative or pseudo-qualitative characteristics which provide useful discrimination between the varieties of common knowledge from documented states of expression recorded at different locations.</li> <li>Must be useful for functions 1 and 2.</li> <li>Should be an <b>asterisked characteristic</b> and/or included in the <b>Technical Questionnaire</b> or application form.</li> </ol>

## Relationship between functions

- GROUPING CHARACTERISTICS** selected from the Table of Characteristics should, in general, **receive an asterisk** in the Table of Characteristics and be **included in the Technical Questionnaire**.
- TQ CHARACTERISTICS** selected from the Table of Characteristics should, in general, **receive an asterisk** in the Table of Characteristics and be **used as grouping characteristics**. TQ characteristics are **not restricted to** those characteristics used as **grouping characteristics**;
- ASTERISKED CHARACTERISTICS** are **not restricted to** those characteristics selected as **grouping or TQ characteristics**.

### 3. TEST GUIDELINES

#### (b) Guidance on drafting characteristics

##### *(iv) Example varieties*

TG/13/9  
Lettuce/Laitue/Salat/Lechuga, 2004-03-31  
- 7 -

7. Table of Characteristics/Tableau des caractères/Merkmalstabelle/Tabla de caracteres

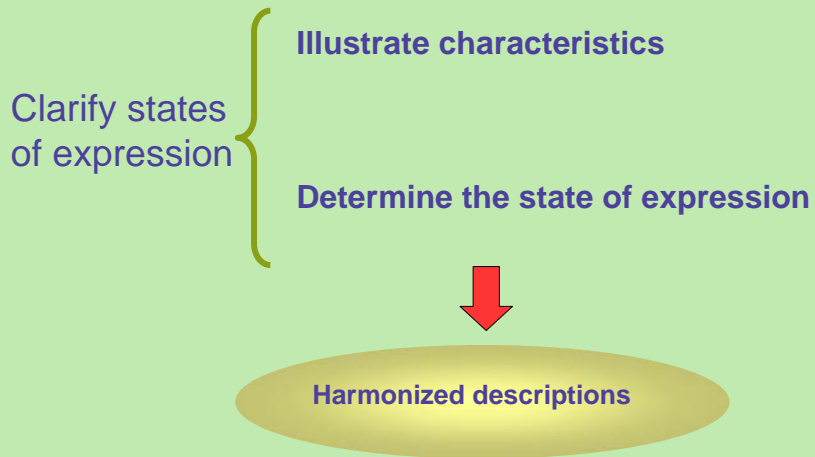
	English	français	Deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielsorten Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
<b>1. (*)</b>	<b>Seed: color</b>	<b>Semence: couleur</b>	<b>Samen: Farbe</b>	<b>Semilla: color</b>		
	white	blanche	weiß	blanco	Verpia	1
	yellow	jaune	gelb	amarillo	Durango	2
	black	noire	schwarz	negro	Kagrner Sommer	3
<b>2. (*) (+)</b>	<b>Seedling: anthocyanin coloration</b>	<b>Plantule: pigmentation anthocyanique</b>	<b>Keimpflanze: Anthocyanfärbung</b>	<b>Plántula: pigmentación antocianica</b>		
	absent	absente	fehlend	ausente	Verpia	1
	present	présente	vorhanden	presente	Pirat	9
<b>3.</b>	<b>Seedling: size of cotyledon (fully developed)</b>	<b>Plantule: taille du cotylédon (à complet développement)</b>	<b>Keimpflanze: Größe des Keimblatts (voll entwickelt)</b>	<b>Plántula: tamaño del cotiledón (plenamente desarrollado)</b>		
	small	petit	klein	pequeño	Romance	3
	medium	moyen	mittel	medio	Expresse	5
	large	grand	groß	grande	Verpia	7

	English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties/ Exemples/ Beispielsorten/ Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
<b>14. VG</b>	<b>Leaf blade: intensity of purplish color of lower side</b>	<b>Limbe: intensité de la couleur pourpre de la face inférieure</b>	<b>Blattspreite: Intensität der Purpurfarbe der Unterseite</b>	<b>Limbo: intensidad del color púrpuro del envés</b>		
<b>QN (a)</b>	very light	très claire	sehr hell	muy claro		1
	light	claire	hell	claro	Perlime	3
	medium	moyenne	mittel	medio		5
	dark	foncée	dunkel	oscuro	Perro	7
	very dark	très foncée	sehr dunkel	muy oscuro	Bora, Purple	9
<b>15. VG</b>	<b>Leaf blade: profile</b>	<b>Limbe: profil</b>	<b>Blattspreite: Profil</b>	<b>Limbo: perfil</b>		
<b>QN (a)</b>	concave	concave	konkav	cóncavo	Perro	3
	plane	plan	flach	plano	Pergro, Saeyeuypsil	5
	convex	convexe	konvex	convexo		7

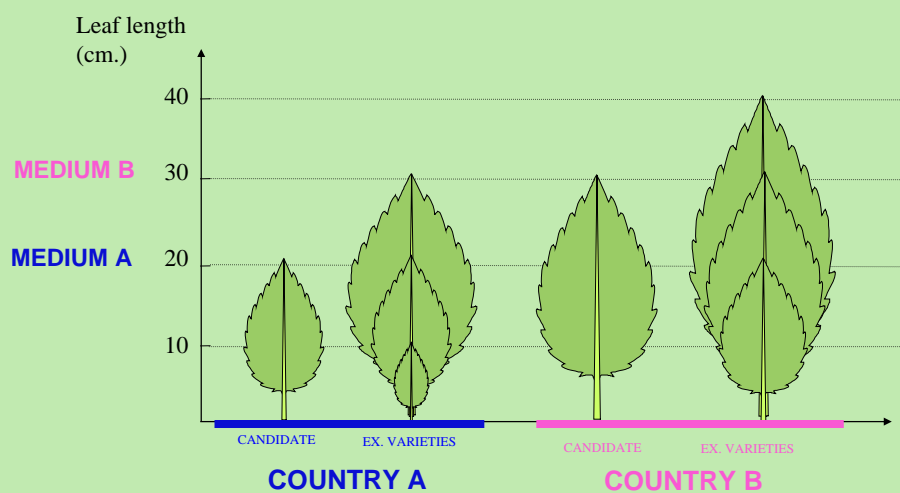
7. Table of Characteristics/Tableau des caractères/Merkmalstabelle/Tabla de caracteres

	English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties/ Exemples/ Beispielsorten/ Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
<b>1. (+)</b>	<b>Plant: growth type</b>	<b>Plante: type de croissance</b>	<b>Pflanze: Wuchstyp</b>	<b>Planta: tipo de crecimiento</b>		
<b>QL (a)</b>	basal clusters	en amas à la base	basale Büschel	en racimos basales		1
	bushy	buissonnant	buschig	arbustivo		2
<b>2. (+)</b>	<b>Only varieties with bushy growth type: Plant: predominant attitude of stems</b>	<b>Variétés à type de croissance buissonnant: Plante: attitude la plus fréquente des tiges</b>	<b>Nur Sorten mit buschigem Wuchstyp: Pflanze: vorwiegende Haltung der Triebe</b>	<b>Sólo variedades con tipo de crecimiento arbustiva: Planta: porte predominante de los tallos</b>		
<b>QN (a)</b>	upright	dressées	aufrecht	erecto		1
	semi upright	demi-dressées	halbaufrecht	semierecto		3
	horizontal	horizontales	waagrecht	horizontal		5
<b>3.</b>	<b>Only varieties with bushy growth type: Plant: number of stems</b>	<b>Variétés à type de croissance buissonnant: Plante: nombre de tiges</b>	<b>Nur Sorten mit buschigem Wuchstyp: Pflanze: Anzahl Triebe</b>	<b>Sólo variedades con tipo de crecimiento arbustiva: Planta: número de tallos</b>		
<b>QN (a)</b>	few	peu nombreuses	klein	bajo		3
	medium	moyennement nombreuses	mittel	medio		5
	many	nombreuses	groß	alto		7
<b>4. (+)</b>	<b>Plant: height including flowers</b>	<b>Plante: hauteur, fleurs comprises</b>	<b>Pflanze: Höhe einschließlich Blüten</b>	<b>Planta: altura, incluidas las flores</b>		
<b>QN (a)</b>	short	basse	niedrig	corta	Mardi Gras	3
	medium	moyenne	mittel	media	Breakoday	5
	tall	elevée	hoch	larga	Happy Face Pink	7

## Example Varieties: the Objective



## Example Varieties versus Measurements



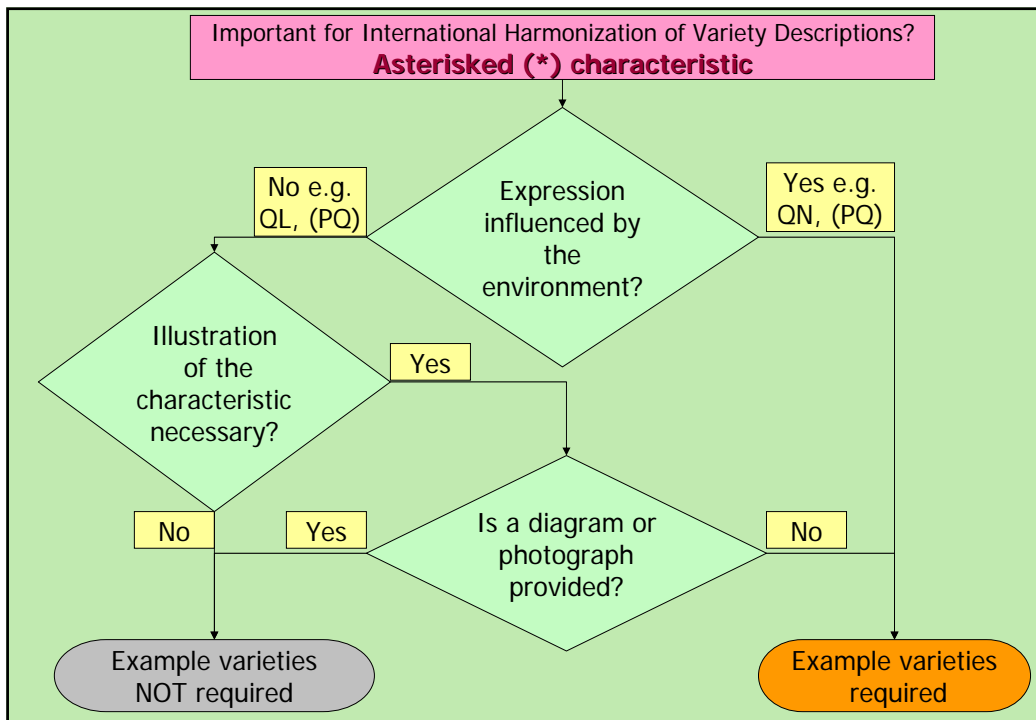
## Example Varieties – the need

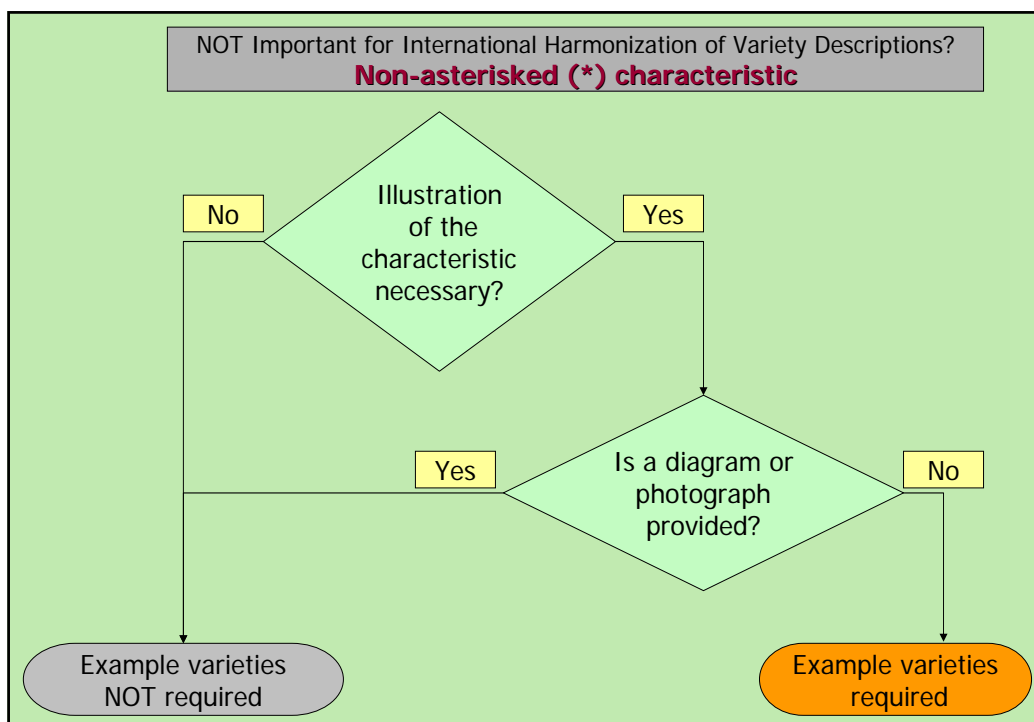
**NEED**

in characteristics used to  
**harmonize descriptions**

and

which are **influenced by the environment**





### 3. TEST GUIDELINES (document TGP/7)

#### (c) The process for developing UPOV Test Guidelines

## Genera and Species

- **>3,000 genera and species** with varieties examined for PBR
- **>2,700 genera and species** for which UPOV members have practical DUS experience
- **281 Test Guidelines** adopted

Note: **281 Test Guidelines estimated to cover 90% of PBR-related varieties in UPOV Plant Variety Database**

## PRIORITY for UPOV Test Guidelines

**PRIORITY** for species or crops with high:

- number of **authorities** receiving PBR applications;
- number of **PBR applications**;
- number of **foreign applications** received by UPOV members;
- **economic importance**;
- level of **breeding activity**



### EXAMPLE (New Test Guidelines)

Test Guidelines: *Plantus magnifica* L.  
(Common name: **Alpha**)

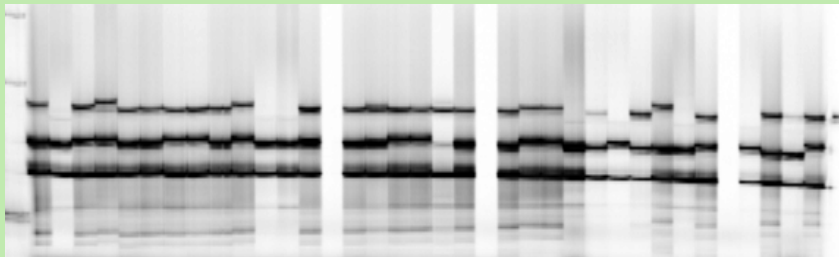
Technical Working Party: **TWX**

TWX (2005):	Alpha (proj. <b>1</b> )
TWX (2006):	Alpha (proj. <b>2</b> )
TWX (2007):	Alpha (proj. <b>3</b> )
Enlarged Editorial Committee (2008):	Alpha (proj. <b>4</b> )
Technical Committee (2008):	Alpha (proj. <b>5</b> )
Final adopted document (2008):	<b>TG/500/1</b>

## **4. Situation in UPOV Concerning the possible use of Molecular Techniques in the DUS Examination**



## Molecular Techniques?



### Legal and other considerations

- **Conformity with the UPOV Convention**
- **Potential impact on the strength of protection**

### Technical considerations

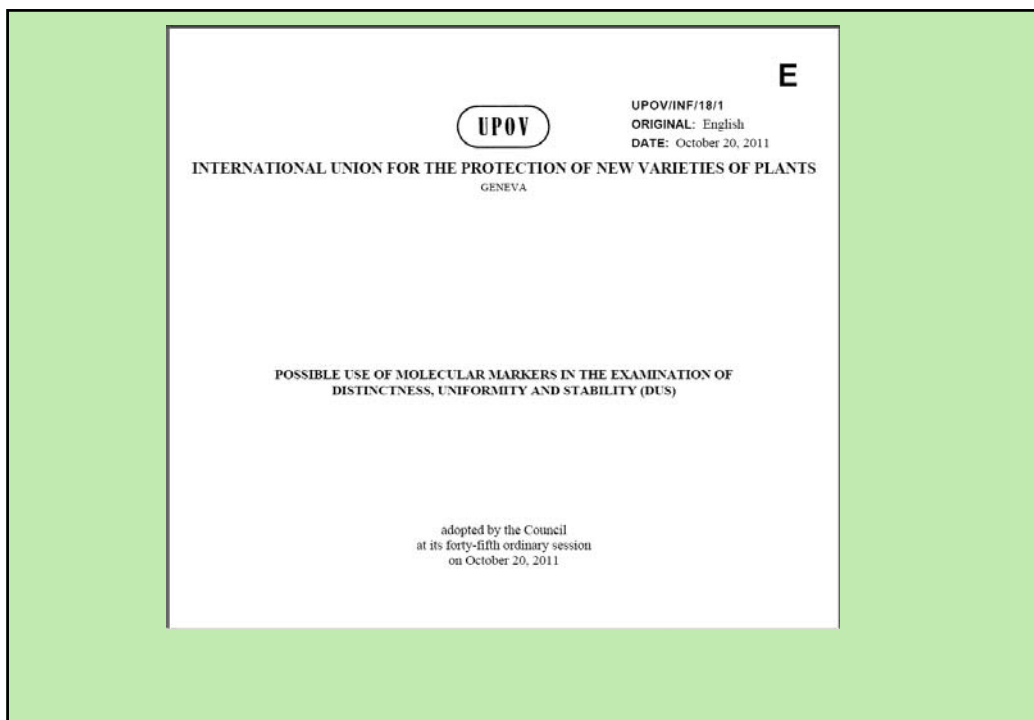
- **Reliability and robustness of techniques**
- **Accessibility of the technology**
- **Harmonization of methodologies**
- **Cost of examination**
- **Implications for breeders (e.g. cost and time involved for new uniformity requirements)**

# Harmonized approach

## Harmonization

- ⇒ facilitates cooperation in DUS testing  
*e.g. purchase of DUS reports*
- ⇒ internationally recognized variety descriptions (effective protection)

The screenshot shows the UPOV website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with language options (Deutsch, Español, Français, Other) and a search box. Below the navigation bar is a main menu with categories: ABOUT UPOV, MEMBERSHIP, UPOV SYSTEM, PVP DATA & STATISTICS, MEETINGS, and NEWS. The main content area features a large banner with a sunflower image and the text "Test Guidelines available in Word". To the right of the banner is a "Quick Links" sidebar with a list of links: Introduction to UPOV, Ashiro Rindo story, Impact Study PDF, UPOV Collection (highlighted with a red box and a red arrow), Distance Learning Course, and Seminars & Symposia. Below the sidebar are links to the GENIE Database, UPOV Lex, and Plant Variety Database (PLUTO). At the bottom, there is a "News & Upcoming Events" section with a link to "Test Guidelines now available in Word format".



## POSSIBLE APPLICATION MODELS

### MODELS WITH A POSITIVE ASSESSMENT

- Characteristic-specific molecular markers
- Combining phenotypic and molecular distances in the management of variety collections
- [Calibrated molecular distances in the management of variety collections]

### MODELS WITHOUT A POSITIVE ASSESSMENT

- Use of molecular marker characteristics

## POSSIBLE APPLICATION MODELS

### MODELS WITH A POSITIVE ASSESSMENT



#### Characteristic-specific molecular markers

- Combining phenotypic and molecular distances in the management of variety collections
- [Calibrated molecular distances in the management of variety collections]

### MODELS WITHOUT A POSITIVE ASSESSMENT

- Use of molecular marker characteristics



#### Model: characteristic-specific molecular markers

*Example: gene specific marker for herbicide tolerance introduced by genetic modification*

*View of the BMT Review Group, Technical Committee, Administrative and Legal Committee:*

**on the basis of the assumptions in the proposal, acceptable within the terms of the UPOV Convention and would not undermine the effectiveness of protection offered under the UPOV system**



## Model: characteristic-specific molecular markers

Assumptions for a gene specific marker:

- (a) **DUS examination**: same no. of plants, growing cycles, DUS criteria;
- (b) **Linkage**: ensure that the marker is a reliable predictor;
- (c) **Different markers** for same gene would be treated as different methods for examining the **same characteristic**;
- (d) **Different genes** would be treated as different methods for examining the **same characteristic**;
- (e) **Different markers** linked to **different regulatory elements** for the **same gene** would all be treated as different methods for examining the **same characteristic**.

**matter for the relevant authority to consider if the assumptions are met**

## POSSIBLE APPLICATION MODELS

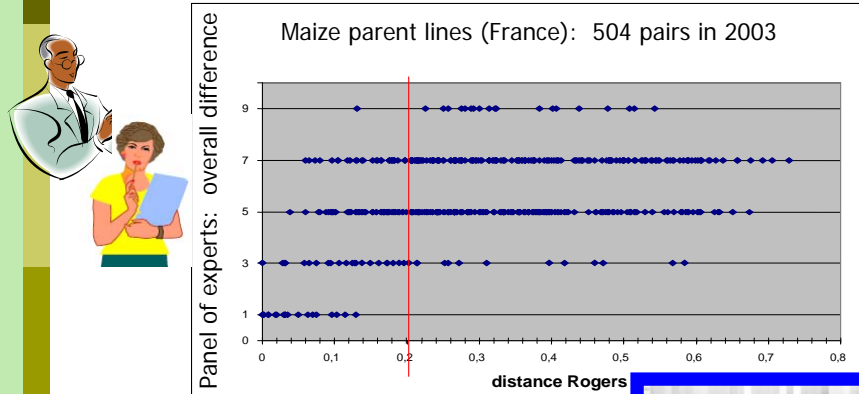
### MODELS WITH A POSITIVE ASSESSMENT

- Characteristic-specific molecular markers
- Combining phenotypic and molecular distances in the management of variety collections
- [Calibrated molecular distances in the management of variety collections]

### MODELS WITHOUT A POSITIVE ASSESSMENT

- Use of molecular marker characteristics

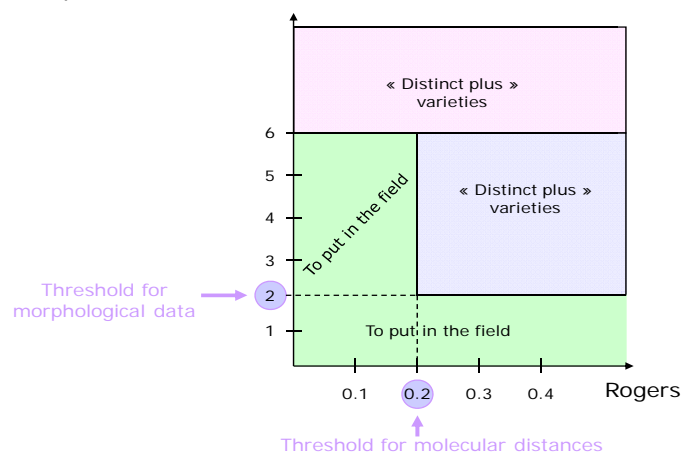
## Model: Combining phenotypic and molecular distances in the management of variety collections



Each data point corresponds to the LOWEST note determined by the panel of experts and the Roger's distance, for a given pair

## Model: Combining phenotypic and molecular distances in the management of variety collections

Maize parent lines



Model: Combining phenotypic and molecular distances  
in the management of variety collections



*Example: maize parental lines*

*View of the BMT Review Group, Technical  
Committee, Administrative and Legal Committee:*

where used for the management of variety  
collections, was acceptable within the terms of  
the UPOV Convention and would not undermine  
the effectiveness of protection offered under the  
UPOV system

## POSSIBLE APPLICATION MODELS

### MODELS WITH A POSITIVE ASSESSMENT

- Characteristic-specific molecular markers
- Combining phenotypic and molecular distances in the management of variety collections



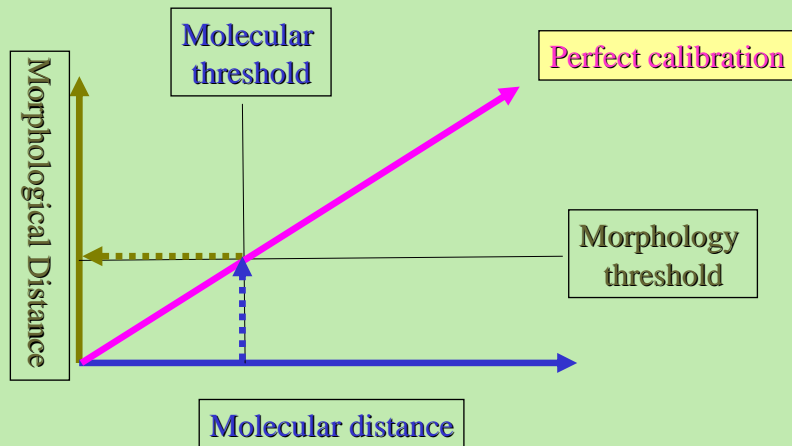
[Calibrated molecular distances in the management of  
variety collections]

### MODELS WITHOUT A POSITIVE ASSESSMENT

- Use of molecular marker characteristics



Model: Calibrated molecular distances in the management of variety collections



Model: Calibrated molecular distances in the management of variety collections

*View of the BMT Review Group, Technical Committee, Administrative and Legal Committee:*

where used for the management of reference collections was, on the basis of the assumptions in the proposals, acceptable within the terms of the UPOV Convention and would not undermine the effectiveness of protection offered under the UPOV system

whilst recognizing the need to improve the relationship between morphological and molecular distances



## Model: Calibrated molecular distances in the management of variety collections

Assumptions for calibration of threshold levels :

- (a) **Uniformity** and **Stability**:
  - (i) [molecular] **differences** calculated between varieties **take into account the variation within varieties**;
  - (ii) suitable uniformity standards could be developed for molecular markers **without requiring varieties, in general, to be more uniform**
- (b) would only be used for the establishment of a **"Distinctness plus" threshold** in the management of reference collections;
- (c) would meet all the normal requirements for any characteristic to be used in the DUS examination and, in particular, would be checked to ensure they are **sufficiently consistent and repeatable**.

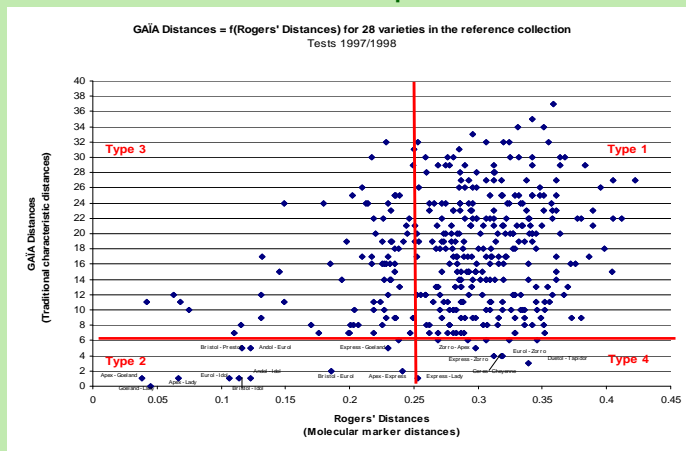
**matter for the relevant authority to consider if the assumptions are met**



## Model: Calibrated molecular distances in the management of variety collections

*Example: ?*

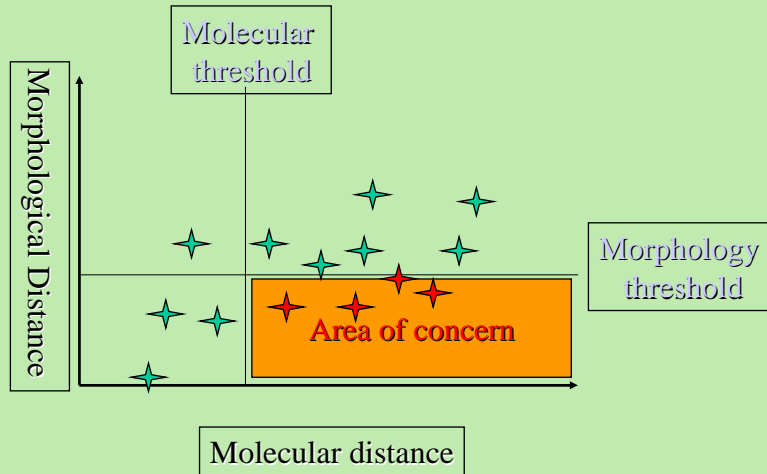
### Oilseed Rape





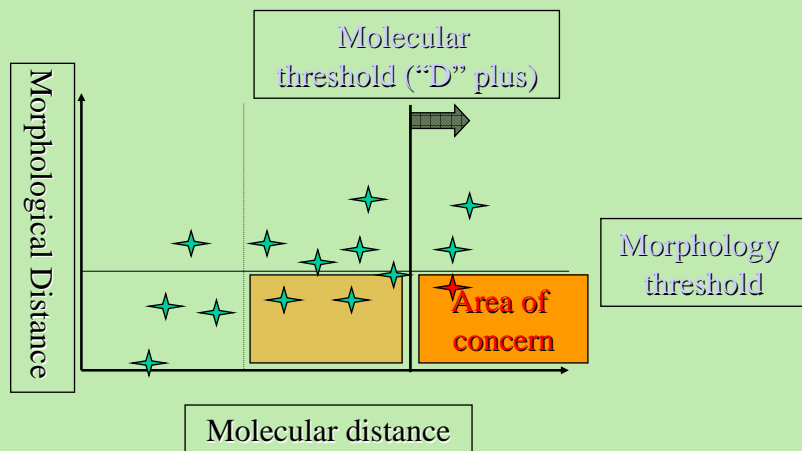
Model: Calibrated molecular distances in the management of variety collections

Example: ?



Model: Calibrated molecular distances in the management of variety collections

Example: ?



## POSSIBLE APPLICATION MODELS

### MODELS WITH A POSITIVE ASSESSMENT

- Characteristic-specific molecular markers
- Combining phenotypic and molecular distances in the management of variety collections
- [Calibrated molecular distances in the management of variety collections]

### MODELS WITHOUT A POSITIVE ASSESSMENT

- Use of molecular marker characteristics

Model: Use of molecular marker characteristics

*View of the BMT Review Group, Technical Committee, Administrative and Legal Committee:*

- no consensus on the acceptability of the Option 3 proposals within the terms of the UPOV Convention and no consensus on whether they would undermine the effectiveness of protection offered under the UPOV system.
- concerns were raised that, in these proposals, using this approach, it might be possible to use a limitless number of markers to find differences between varieties. The concern was also raised that differences would be found at the genetic level which were not reflected in morphological characteristics

## Harmonized approach

### Harmonization

- ⇒ facilitates cooperation in DUS testing  
*e.g. purchase of DUS reports*
- ⇒ internationally recognized variety descriptions (effective protection)

## POSSIBLE APPLICATION MODELS

### MODELS WITH A POSITIVE ASSESSMENT



Characteristic-specific molecular markers



Combining phenotypic and molecular distances in the management of variety collections



[Calibrated molecular distances in the management of variety collections]

### MODELS WITHOUT A POSITIVE ASSESSMENT

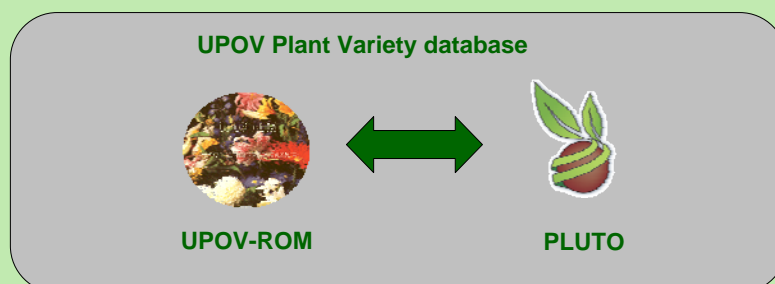
- Use of molecular marker characteristics

## 5. UPOV DATABASES

### Article 20 of the 1991 Act (Variety denominations)

(2) [*Characteristics of the **denomination***]

In particular, it **must be different from every denomination** which designates, in the territory of any Contracting Party, **an existing variety** of the same plant species or of a closely related species.



Deutsch Español Français Other >

**UPOV** INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

Contact us Site map

ABOUT UPOV MEMBERSHIP UPOV SYSTEM PVP DATA & STATISTICS MEETINGS NEWS

## Test Guidelines available in Word

**Quick Links**

- Introduction to UPOV
- Ashiro Rindo story
- Impact Study, PDF
- UPOV Collection
- Test Guidelines
- Distance Learning Course
- Seminars & Symposia

GENIE Database

UPOV Lex

**Plant Variety Database (PLUTO)**

**News & Upcoming Events**

Test Guidelines now available in Word format

More News >

**Welcome**

The International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) is an international organization with headquarters in Geneva (Switzerland).

UPOV was established by the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants. The Convention was adopted in Paris in 1961 and it was revised in 1972, 1978 and 1991. To provide and promote an effective system of plant variety protection, with the aim of encouraging the development of new varieties of plants, for the benefit of society.

▲ Top of page

Deutsch Español Français Other >

**UPOV** INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

ABOUT UPOV MEMBERSHIP UPOV SYSTEM **PVP DATA & STATISTICS** MEETINGS NEWS

HOME > PVP DATA & STATISTICS

## PLUTO: Plant Variety Database

The data currently in PLUTO is the data in version 2011-04 of the UPOV-ROM Plant Variety Database, for which UPOV codes are only provided by some countries. Please note that PLUTO will shortly be updated with version 2011-05, which will include UPOV codes for most data contributors. A subscription service will be introduced for PLUTO, which will allow us to inform users of future updates of the data.

**Search By**

UPOV Code [lookup]

Denomination

Record type

App./Reg. date

Botanical name

search

**Filter By**

Source Type Grant Date End Date

World Map 147262

Boundary representation is not necessarily authoritative

Current Search Current Filter

1 to 25 / 549590 edit columns 25 per page 1 / 21584

UPOV Code	Country	Type	Botanical Name	Common Name	App. No.	App. Date	Grant date	Denomination
	AR	NLI		ASOCIACION VARIETAL COLZA	000001	1998-02-10	1999-03-18	MISTRAL
	AR	NLI	Helianthus annuus L.	OIRASOL	000044	1980-01-01	1980-05-05	KLEIN
	AR	NLI	Zea mays L.	MAIZ	000075	1980-01-01	1980-05-05	LONO WHITE FLINT BELMA
	AR	NLI	Zea mays L.	MAIZ	000130	1980-01-01	1980-05-05	COLORADO

Free to all users

142

## GENIE Database (Genus / species)



## GENIE Database



Variety denomination related information  
Protection offered by UPOV members

### **DUS information**

- UPOV Test Guidelines
- practical experience of UPOV  
(document TC/44/4)
- cooperation in DUS examination  
(document C/41/5)



The screenshot displays the UPOV website's GENIE Database search interface. At the top, the UPOV logo and the text "INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS" are visible. A navigation menu includes "ABOUT UPOV", "MEMBERSHIP", "UPOV SYSTEM", "PVP DATA & STATISTICS", "MEETINGS", and "NEWS". A language selector at the top right offers "Deutsch", "Español", "Français", and "Other". A search bar is present in the top right corner.

The main content area is titled "GENIE Database" and features a sidebar with a "GENIE DATABASE" menu containing links to "GENIE Database", "List of Crop / Species", "List of Authorities", "Standard Reports", "UPOV Code Reports and Changes", "UPOV Code System", and "Plant Variety Database".


The search interface includes two tabs: "Simple Search" (selected) and "Multiple Search Report". The "Search Crop / Species:" dropdown menu is open, showing options: "ALL", "Botanical Name", "Common Name in English", "Common Name in French", "Common Name in Spanish", and "Common Name in German". The "Common Name in German" option is highlighted with a red box. Below this, there are input fields for "UPOV Code:" and "Search Authority:" (with a dropdown menu set to "\*\* Please select \*\*"). There are also "search" buttons for each of these fields. A cartoon illustration of a man holding a plant is on the right side of the search area.

## 6. THE UPOV WEBSITE

**UPOV Website**  
<http://www.upov.int>  
(e-mail: [upov.mail@upov.int](mailto:upov.mail@upov.int))

The screenshot shows the UPOV website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with language options (Deutsch, Español, Français, Other) and a search box. Below the navigation bar is a main menu with categories: ABOUT UPOV, MEMBERSHIP, UPOV SYSTEM, PVP DATA & STATISTICS, MEETINGS, and NEWS. The main content area features a large banner with a sunflower image and the text "Test Guidelines available in Word". To the right of the banner is a "Quick Links" sidebar with a list of links: Introduction to UPOV, Ashiro Rindo story, Impact Study PDF, UPOV Collection (highlighted with a red box and a red arrow), Distance Learning Course, and Seminars & Symposia. Below the Quick Links sidebar are links to the GENIE Database, UPOV Lex, and Plant Variety Database (PLUTO). At the bottom right, there is a "News & Upcoming Events" section with a link to "Test Guidelines now available in Word format" and a "More News" button. A "Welcome" section on the left provides information about the UPOV organization and its history.

[Deutsch](#)
[Español](#)
[Français](#)
[Other »](#)


**INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS**

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**UPOV SYSTEM**

[HOME »](#)

## UPOV Collection

### Introduction

The purpose of the UPOV Collection is to provide a set of guidance and information materials concerning plant variety protection under the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV Convention). The only binding obligations on members of the Union are those contained in the text of the UPOV Convention itself, and the materials must not be interpreted in a way that is inconsistent with the relevant Act for the member of the Union concerned.

A current list of the contents and status of materials in the UPOV Collection is provided in the [Table of Contents](#) published on the UPOV website. Designated persons in UPOV member countries will receive an electronic notification each time the UPOV Collection is updated. Other users can [register](#) to receive an electronic notification each time the UPOV Collection is updated.

UPOV does not issue printed documents for the UPOV Collection. All users are invited to download updated materials from the UPOV website upon electronic notification.

### Table of Contents

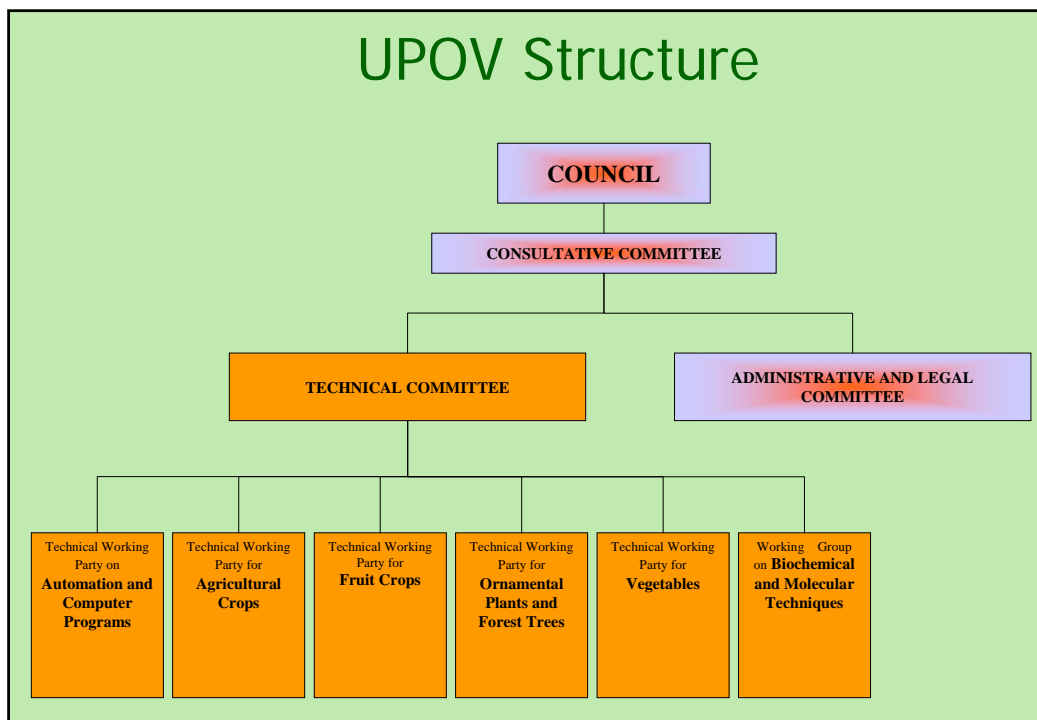
- (a) [UPOV Convention](#)
- (b) [UPOV/INF document series](#)
- (c) [Explanatory notes on the UPOV Convention](#)
- (d) [General Introduction to the Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability and the Development of Harmonized Descriptions of New Varieties of Plants](#)
- (e) [TGP documents](#)
- (f) [Test Guidelines](#)

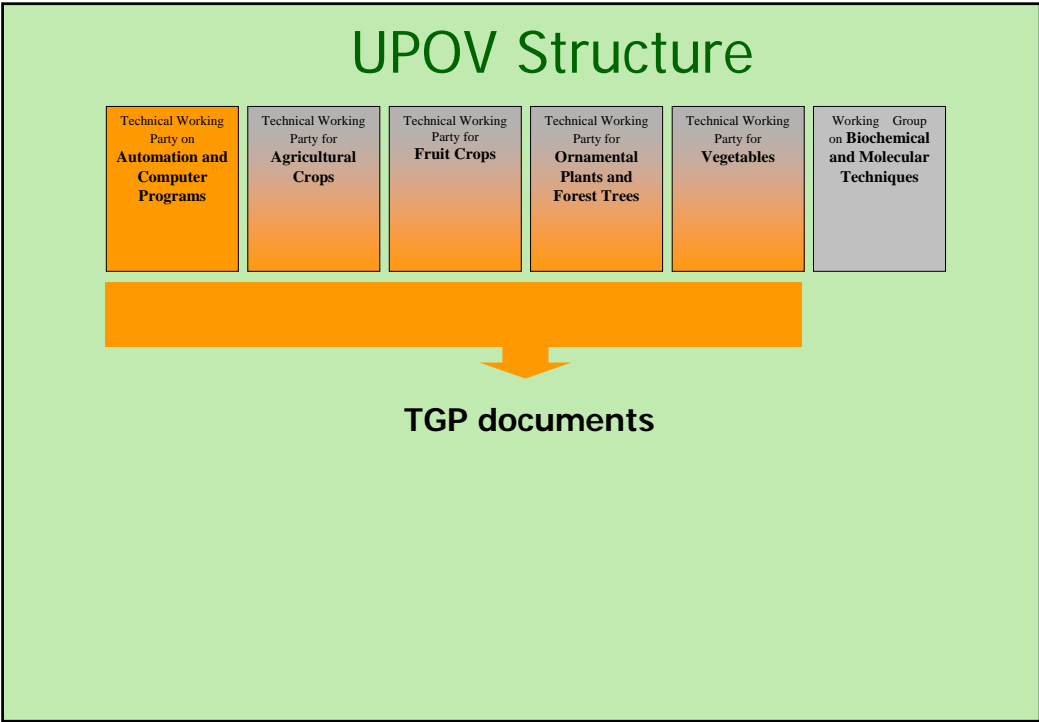
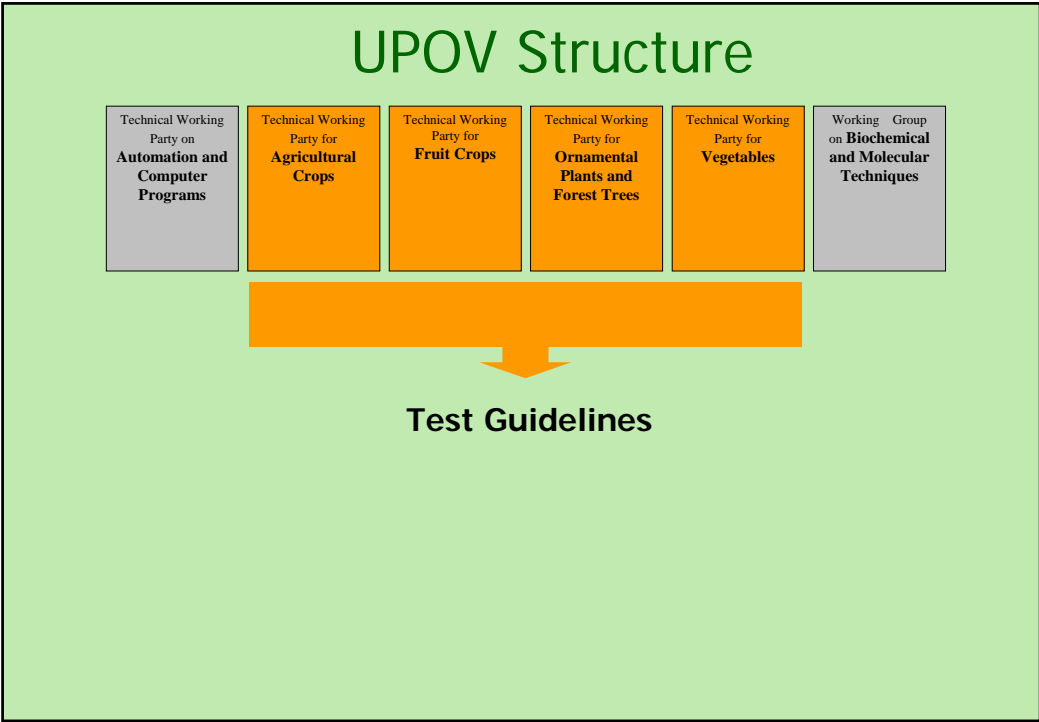
149

## UPOV Collection: physical collection

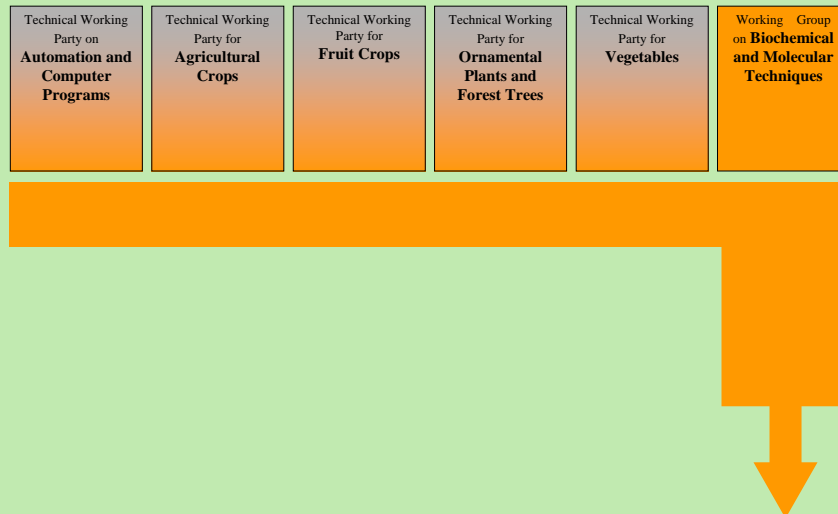


## 7. ROLE OF THE TECHNICAL WORKING PARTIES AND THE BMT





## UPOV Structure



## Role of the BMT

The BMT is a group open to DUS experts, biochemical and molecular specialists and plant breeders, whose role is to:

- (i) **Review general developments in biochemical and molecular techniques;**
- (ii) **Maintain an awareness of relevant applications of biochemical and molecular techniques in plant breeding;**
- (iii) **Consider the possible application of biochemical and molecular techniques in DUS testing and report its considerations to the TC;**
- (iv) **If appropriate, establish guidelines for biochemical and molecular methodologies and their harmonization [...];**
- (v) **Consider initiatives from TWPs, for the establishment of crop specific subgroups [...];**
- (vi) **Develop guidelines regarding the management and harmonization of databases of biochemical and molecular information, in conjunction with the TWC;**
- (vii) **Receive reports from Crop Subgroups and the BMT Review Group;**
- (viii) **Provide a forum for discussion on the use of biochemical and molecular techniques in the consideration of essential derivation and variety identification.**

## 8. AGENDA for the TWP Session

<b>Example TWP Session</b>					
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday		Thursday
[TECHNICAL WORKSHOP] (optional)	Reports on developments in PVP	TGP document development	TGP document development		Experiences with new types and species Variety denominations
COFFEE	COFFEE	COFFEE	COFFEE		COFFEE
[TECHNICAL WORKSHOP] (optional)	Reports (Continuation) Molecular techniques	TGP document development	Room 1 Test Guidelines subgroup	Room 2 Test Guidelines subgroup	Uniformity method development
					Recommendations on Test Guidelines
	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH		LUNCH
PREPARATORY WORKSHOP	Room 1 Test Guidelines subgroup	Room 2 Test Guidelines subgroup	Room 1 Test Guidelines subgroup	Room 2 Test Guidelines subgroup	Future program Adoption of report
COFFEE	COFFEE	COFFEE		TECHNICAL VISIT	COFFEE
PREPARATORY WORKSHOP	Room 1 Test Guidelines subgroup	Room 2 Test Guidelines subgroup	Room 1 Test Guidelines subgroup	Room 2 Test Guidelines subgroup	END OF SESSION
	Continuation	RECEPTION			Continuation

# EXCHANGING INFORMATION

## Example TWP Session

Ⓜ

Sunday	Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday	Thursday		Friday			
[TECHNICAL WORKSHOP] (optional)	Reports on developments in PVP		TGP document development		TGP document development	Experiences with new types and species Variety denominations		Databases, Electronic application systems Exchangeable software			
COFFEE	COFFEE		COFFEE		COFFEE		COFFEE				
[TECHNICAL WORKSHOP] (optional)	Reports (Continuation) Molecular techniques		TGP document development		Room 1 Test Guidelines subgroup	Room 2 Test Guidelines subgroup	Uniformity method development	Recommendations on Test Guidelines			
	LUNCH		LUNCH		LUNCH		LUNCH				
PREPARATORY WORKSHOP	Room 1 Test Guidelines subgroup	Room 2 Test Guidelines subgroup	Room 1 Test Guidelines subgroup	Room 2 Test Guidelines subgroup	TECHNICAL VISIT		Room 1 Test Guidelines subgroup	Room 2 Test Guidelines subgroup	Future program Adoption of report		
COFFEE	COFFEE		COFFEE				COFFEE		Room 1 Test Guidelines subgroup	Room 2 Test Guidelines subgroup	END OF SESSION
PREPARATORY WORKSHOP	Room 1 Test Guidelines subgroup	Room 2 Test Guidelines subgroup	Room 1 Test Guidelines subgroup	Room 2 Test Guidelines subgroup			Room 1 Test Guidelines subgroup				
	Continuation		RECEPTION			Continuation					



# AN OPPORTUNITY for TRAINING

## Example TWP Session

Sunday	Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
[TECHNICAL WORKSHOP] (optional)	Reports on developments in PVP		TGP document development		TGP document development		Experiences with new types and species Variety denominations		Databases, Electronic application systems Exchangeable software	
	COFFEE		COFFEE		COFFEE		COFFEE		COFFEE	
	Reports (Continuation) Molecular techniques		TGP document development		Room 1 Test Guidelines subgroup	Room 2 Test Guidelines subgroup	Uniformity method development		Recommendations on Test Guidelines	
LUNCH		LUNCH		LUNCH		LUNCH		LUNCH		
PREPARATORY WORKSHOP	Room 1 Test Guidelines subgroup	Room 2 Test Guidelines subgroup	Room 1 Test Guidelines subgroup	Room 2 Test Guidelines subgroup	TECHNICAL VISIT		Room 1 Test Guidelines subgroup	Room 2 Test Guidelines subgroup	Future program Adoption of report	
	COFFEE		COFFEE				COFFEE		END OF SESSION	
	Room 1 Test Guidelines subgroup	Room 2 Test Guidelines subgroup	Room 1 Test Guidelines subgroup	Room 2 Test Guidelines subgroup			Room 1 Test Guidelines subgroup	Room 2 Test Guidelines subgroup		
Continuation		RECEPTION				Continuation				

## TWP Venues

	TWA	TWC	TWF	TWO	TWV	BMT
1994	Spain	Israel	New Zealand	Australia	United Kingdom	France
1995	Germany	Poland	United Kingdom	Netherlands	Netherlands	Netherlands
1996	Greece	Germany	Israel	Israel	Czech Rep.	
1997	Uruguay	Hungary	Netherlands	Denmark	Spain	United Kingdom
1998	France	Belgium	Australia	New Zealand	Poland	USA
1999	Canada	Finland	Slovakia	Czech Rep.	Germany	
2000	Sweden	Ukraine	Hungary	Hungary	France	France
2001	Mexico	Czech Rep.	Spain	Japan	Italy	Germany
2002	Brazil	Mexico	Argentina	Ecuador	Japan	
2003	Japan	Denmark	Canada	Canada	Netherlands	Japan
2004	Poland	Japan China (workshop)	Germany	Germany	Rep. of Korea	
2005	New Zealand	Canada	Japan	Rep. of Korea	Slovakia	USA
2006	China	Kenya	Brazil	Brazil	Mexico	Rep. of Korea
2007	Hungary	Romania	Rep. of Korea	China	Kenya	
2008	South Africa	Rep. of Korea	Portugal	Netherlands	Poland	Spain
2009	Rep. of Korea	USA	France	European Union	China	
2010	Croatia	European Union	Mexico	Mexico	Bulgaria	Canada
2011	Brazil	Geneva - UPOV	Japan	Japan	USA	Brazil
2012	France	Rep. Moldova	China	Rep. of Korea	Netherlands	

## 8. FEEDBACK

**THANK YOU**