

# PVP Course

## Plant Variety Protection Course



The course aims at facilitating the introduction and practical implementation of Plant Breeders' Rights (Plant Variety Protection) in countries where legislation on this matter is being developed or has recently been passed.

### Plant Breeders' Rights

The development of new plant varieties through plant breeding is a long term investment of 10 till 15 years. Intellectual property rights on the resulting plant variety through Plant Breeders' Rights provide the breeder of a new plant variety the exclusive rights to exploit it and to prevent others from doing so illegally.



All member states of the World Trade Organisation adhere to the agreement of Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs), which contains the minimum standards for intellectual property rights (IPR), including those for plant varieties.

Many countries are therefore developing and implementing a legal framework for the protection of plant varieties in an intellectual property rights system. Besides developing legislation, the implementation of a Plant Breeders' Rights system has far reaching consequences of a legal, institutional, technical, financial and commercial nature.

### Content of the course

The following subjects will be introduced through lectures and discussions in working groups:

**Legal aspects:** legal framework, UPOV system, other *sui generis* systems, patents, legislation relating to genetic resource use

**Institutional aspects:** procedures and administration, organisational set-up, variety registration systems, collaboration in testing

**Technical aspects:** DUS principles, UPOV technical guidelines, field testing, biochemical/ molecular techniques, statistics, data analysis, reporting, variety denomination

**Exploitation of Plant Breeders' Rights:** exploitation of rights, royalty collection systems, enforcing rights, farm saved seed

Practical trainings on DUS testing form part of the course and visits will be made to seed certification services, breeding companies and the Aalsmeer flower auction.

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## Organizers

Naktuinbouw is responsible for DUS testing of all varieties of agricultural, ornamental and vegetable crops for Plant Breeder's Rights in the Netherlands, on behalf of the Dutch Board for Plant Varieties and the European Community Plant Variety Office and for entry of agricultural and vegetable varieties on the Dutch National List. Naktuinbouw organizes this course in collaboration with Wageningen UR Centre for Development Innovation, part of Wageningen University and Research Center (WUR).

## UPOV Distance Learning Course

Participants that register timely and have been accepted are invited to take part, free of charge, in the UPOV Distance Learning Course (DL-205) 'Introduction to the UPOV System of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention'.

## Admission

Applicants should have a position in the variety registration system or have a position that will give them such responsibilities in the near future. Countries that have recently developed a plant variety protection law, or those that are currently in the process of developing such legislation, will be given priority.

Applicants should have an agricultural or horticultural education at a minimum of BSc level or a legal education supplemented with practical experience in agriculture and horticulture. A good working knowledge of English is essential to be admitted.

## Date & Place

The course will be held from 20 June 2011 till 1 July 2011 in Wageningen, the Netherlands.

## Fees and accommodation

The course fee is € 2730. The fees include administration costs, lecture materials and field trips, but exclude board and lodging. Participants will be accommodated at Hof van Wageningen (formerly WICC) with full board and lodging. Prices are available on request.

## NFP Fellowships

Fellowships are available from the Netherlands Fellowship Programme (NFP) for nationals of certain countries. NFP-candidates must **first** apply to Wageningen UR Centre for Development Innovation for admission to the training. The deadline for application with NFP is **1 November 2010**

Acceptable candidates will receive a PROVISIONAL LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE from Wageningen UR Centre for Development Innovation. Candidates can then apply for a NFP fellowship through the Netherlands Embassy or Consulate in their own country.

More information can be found on [www.cdic.wur.nl/UK/Courses](http://www.cdic.wur.nl/UK/Courses) and [www.nuffic.nl](http://www.nuffic.nl)

## Application

The admission deadline for application directly to Wageningen International, with funding other than a NFP fellowship, is **13 May 2011**. Early application is recommended!

For additional information go to: [www.cdic.wur.nl/UK/newsagenda](http://www.cdic.wur.nl/UK/newsagenda) and click on Plant Variety Protection Course. For application use: [www.cdic.wur.nl/UK/newsagenda/agenda/Plant\\_variety\\_protection\\_Plant\\_Breeders\\_Rights.htm](http://www.cdic.wur.nl/UK/newsagenda/agenda/Plant_variety_protection_Plant_Breeders_Rights.htm)