


**Working Group on
Biochemical and Molecular Techniques and
DNA Profiling in Particular (BMT)
Preparatory Workshop for the Tenth Session**
and
**Technical Workshop on the Use of
Molecular Techniques in Plant Variety
Protection**

Seoul, November 20, 2006

PROGRAM (Morning)

Preparatory Workshop for the Tenth Session of the BMT (starting at 9.00)

1. Introduction to UPOV
2. Introduction to the UPOV Technical Working Parties (TWPs) and the BMT
3. Overview of the General Introduction and TGP documents
4. The UPOV Website
5. Agenda of the BMT session
6. Situation in UPOV concerning the possible use of molecular techniques in plant variety protection




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."

PROGRAM (Afternoon)

Technical Workshop on the Use of Molecular Techniques in Plant Variety Protection (starting at 13.30)

- Experiences and outlooks on the use of molecular techniques in plant variety protection by UPOV members
- Feedback from participants
- Closing of the Workshops (at 17.00)



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."

Agenda item 1.

INTRODUCTION TO UPOV



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."

WHAT IS UPOV?

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

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

Union internationale pour la **p**rotection des **o**btentions **v**égétales





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."

UPOV Mission Statement:

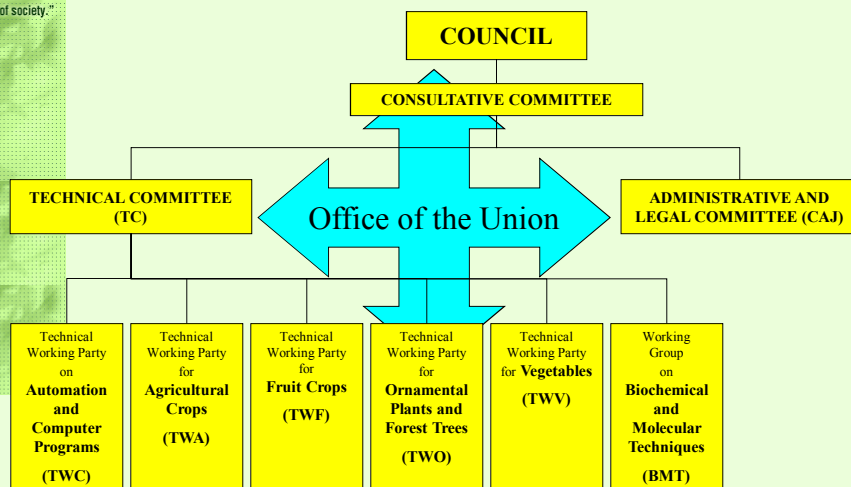
"To provide and promote an effective system of plant variety protection, with the aim of encouraging the development of new varieties of plants, for the benefit of society"

3

THE UNION

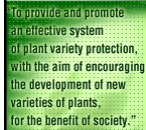
- Members of the Union
 - States or Intergovernmental Organizations
- Permanent Organs of the Union
 - The Council - consisting of the representatives of the members of the Union
 - The Office of the Union - carries out all the duties and tasks entrusted to it by the Council

UPOV Structure

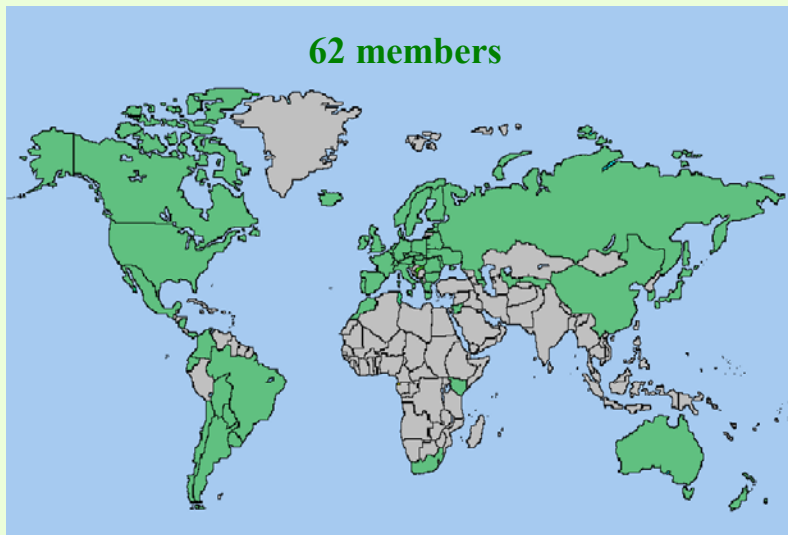




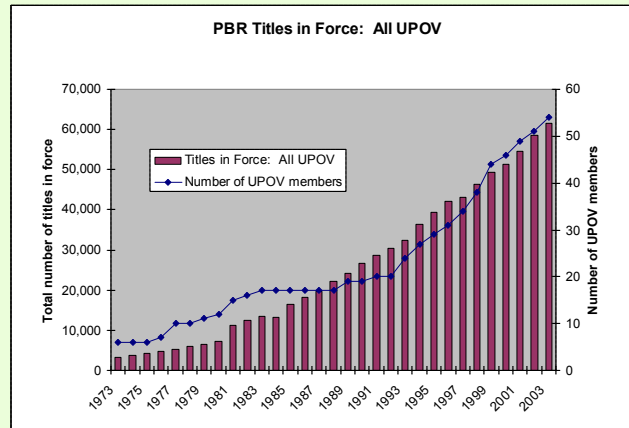
- 62 members of the Union
- 16 States have initiated the procedure for becoming members of the Union
- 1 intergovernmental organization has initiated the procedure for becoming members of the Union:
 - OAPI (16 countries)
- 48 States have contacted the Office of the Union for assistance in the development of legislation on plant variety protection



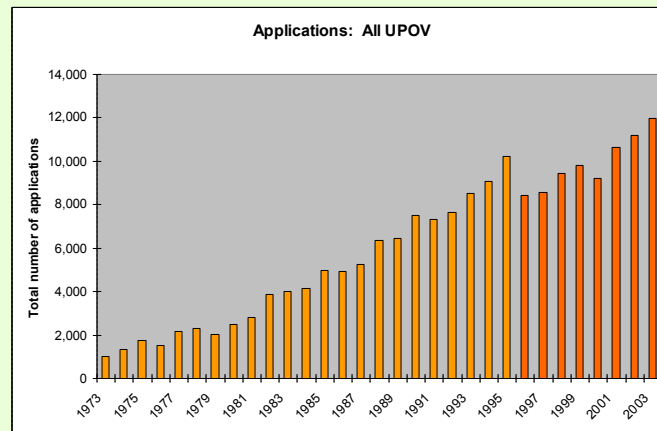
62 members



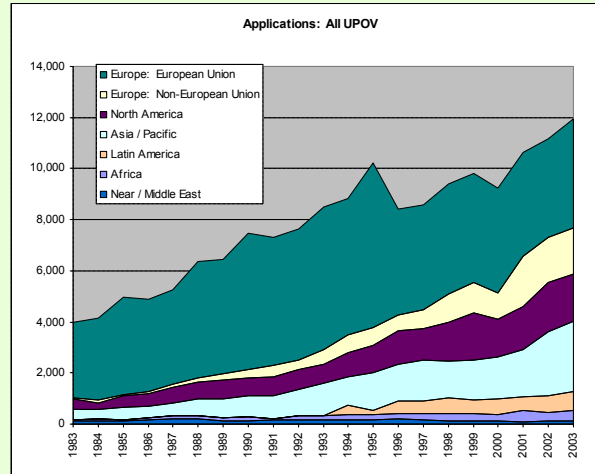
Development of Plant Variety Protection



Development of Plant Variety Protection



Development of Plant Variety Protection



TWP Venues

	TWA	TWC	TWF	TWO	TWV	BMT
1994	Spain	Israel	New Zealand	Australia	UK	France
1995	Germany	Poland	UK	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

UPOV

"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."

UPOV REPORT
ON THE IMPACT OF PLANT
VARIETY PROTECTION

International Union
for the Protection
of New Varieties of Plants

Executive summary available at: www.upov.int "News & Events"

UPOV

"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."

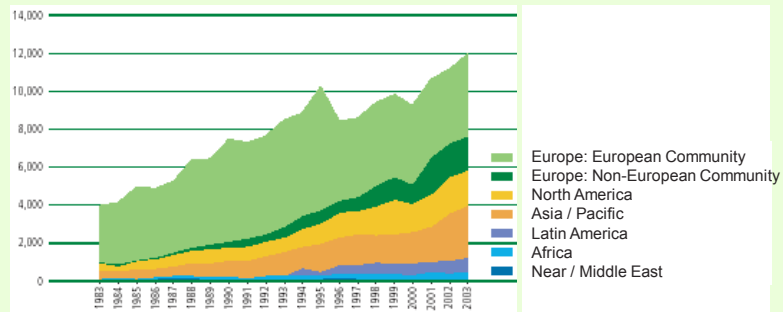
Expansion of UPOV

Figure 1. Members of UPOV (shown in green): **1990**

Figure 2. Members of UPOV (shown in dark green) and initiating States and organizations (shown in light green): September **2005**

Expansion of UPOV

Figure 5. Applications: All UPOV and CPVO: by region



Extending coverage to plant genera and species:

1975: 500 plant genera and species (approx.)
 1985: 900
 1995: 1,300
 2005: 2,300

Newer UPOV Members

Figure 11. **Latin America Countries** according to UPOV between 1994 and 2000

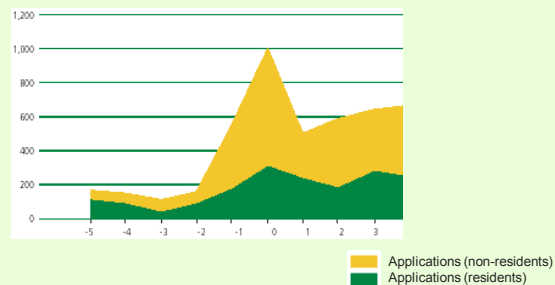
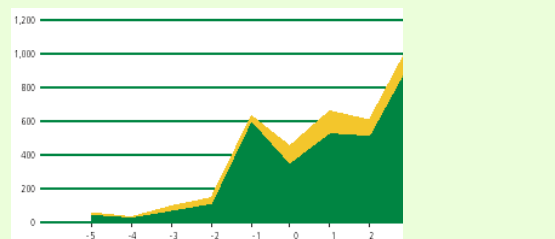


Figure 12. **Countries in transition to a market economy** according to UPOV between 1993 and 2000

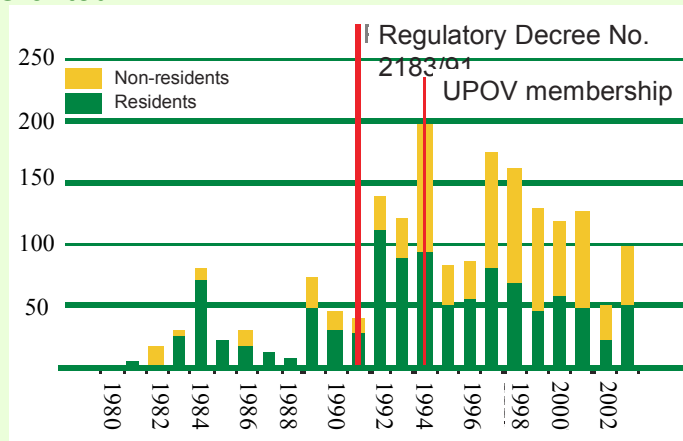


SECTION III. Reports on Studies Conducted in Individual Countries:

Argentina
China
Kenya
Poland
Republic of Korea

Argentina

Figure 13. Argentina: Number of Titles
Granted



China

Figure 27. China: Royalties Collected in Henan Province (Maize)

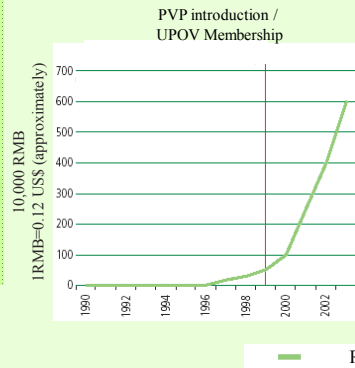
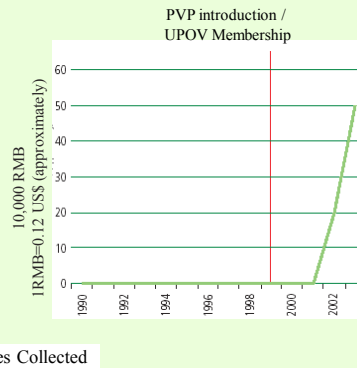


Figure 28. China: Royalties Collected in Henan Province (Wheat)



China

Figure 29. China: Number of Breeders in Henan Province (Maize)

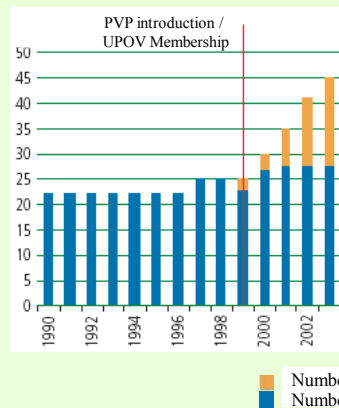
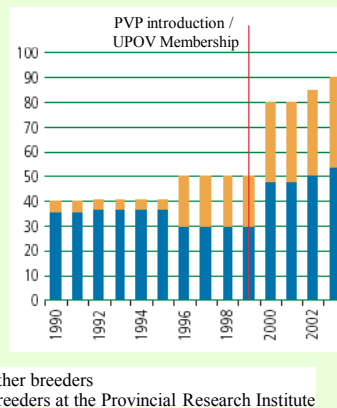


Figure 30. China: Number of Breeders in Henan Province (Wheat)



Republic of Korea

Figure 48. Republic of Korea: Number of Applications

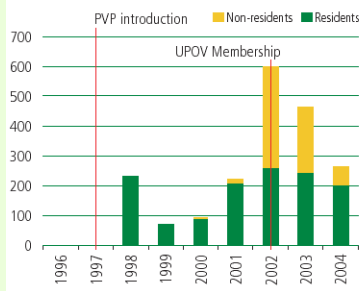
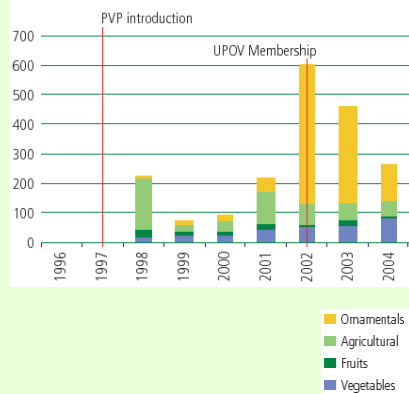


Figure 49. Republic of Korea: Number of Applications by Categories of Crop



Republic of Korea

Box 27

Root yield and red ginseng proportion of new, protected ginseng varieties

Varieties	Root yield (ton/ha)	Red ginseng percentage (%)
Chunpoong	6.39	38.00
Yunpoong	7.35	20.60
Geumpoong	6.15	35.40
Gopoong	5.73	24.70
Sunpoong	5.70	23.90
Average of conventional varieties	5.46	15.00



High-quality variety "Chunpoong"

Republic of Korea

Box 29

Korean rose variety "Red Angel", granted protection in 2003, was bred using the protected variety "Little Marble", developed in the Netherlands



Little Marble (Red variety)
Developed in the Netherlands



Red Angel (Dark red variety)
Developed at the Kyunggi Provincial Rural Development
Administration
Crossing of: Princess×Little Marble

Republic of Korea

Figure 52. Republic of Korea:
Number of Rose Breeders

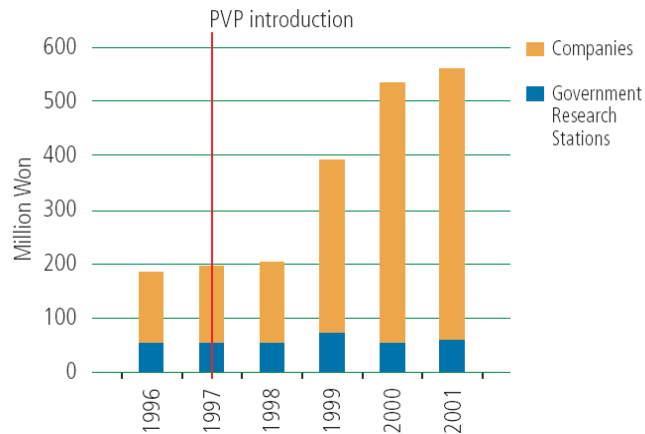


Figure 53. Republic of Korea:
Number of Rice Breeders

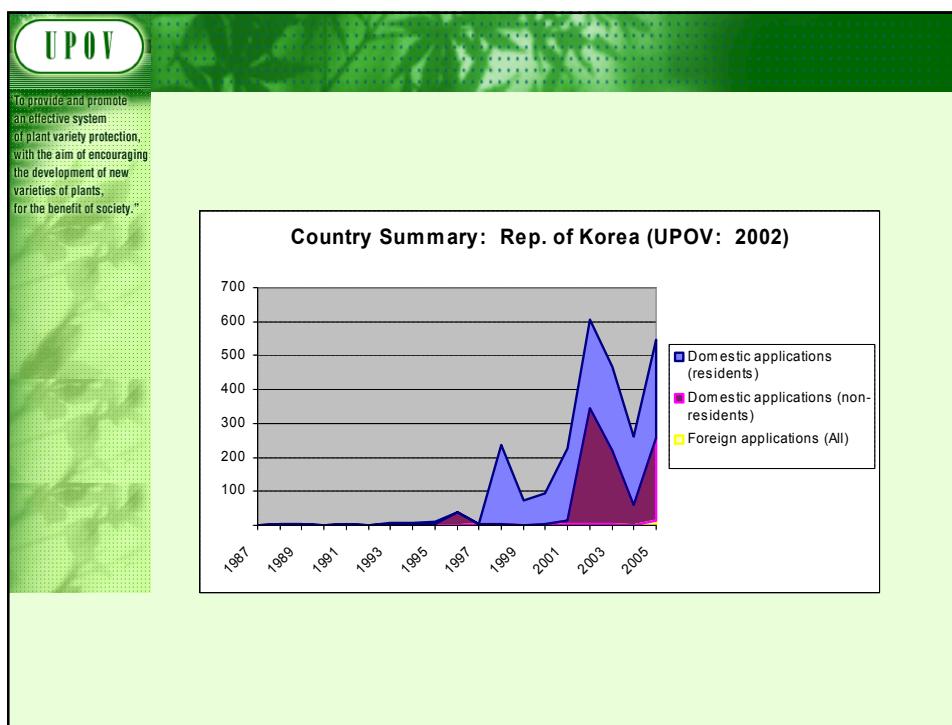


Republic of Korea

Figure 55. Republic of Korea: Breeding Investment-Chinese Cabbage

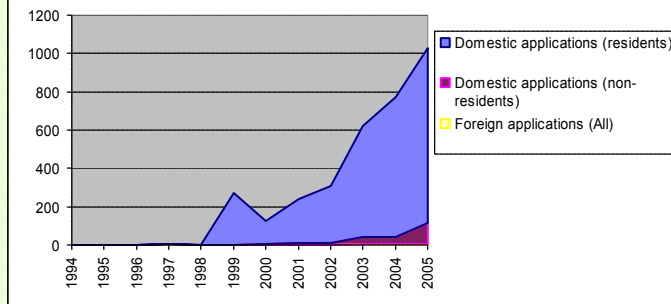


UPOV in the Asia / Pacific Region



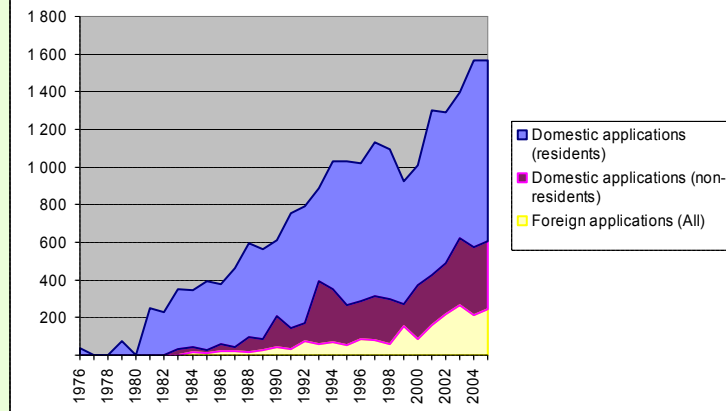
"To provide and promote an effective system of plant variety protection, with the aim of encouraging the development of new varieties of plants, for the benefit of society."

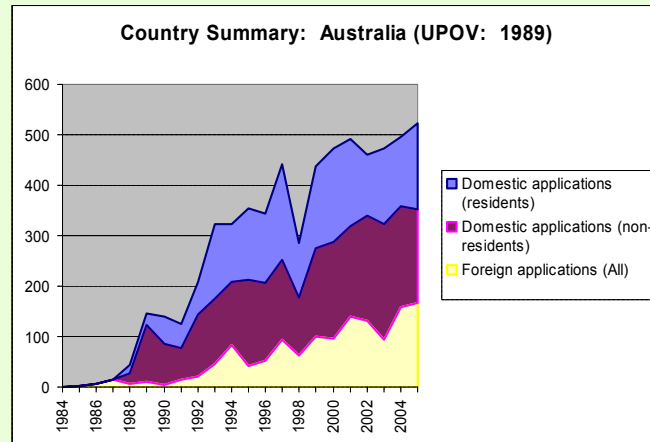
Country Summary: China (UPOV: 1999)



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Country Summary: Japan (UPOV: 1982)





BENEFITS OF UPOV MEMBERSHIP

- Internationally accepted *sui generis* system
- Increased access to new, improved varieties for the benefit of breeders, farmers, growers and consumers (benefit of society)
- Protection for Breeders in other UPOV members' territories
- Assistance in establishment of institutional framework
- Co-operation in examination
- Technical guidance and assistance
- Awareness / Influence of future developments

Agenda item 2

Introduction to the UPOV Technical Working Parties (TWPs) and BMT

THE DUS EXAMINATION

- The meaning of "DUS"
- Nature of the DUS Examination
- Characteristics
- UPOV Guidance for Examination
- Organization of the 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!

DISTINCTNESS

Must be clearly distinguishable from any other variety whose existence is a matter of common knowledge

>>> **CHARACTERISTICS** <<<

which

- *may* have direct *commercial relevance*
e.g. Flower color (ornamental); Fruit color
- *but commercial relevance* NOT required - often no commercial value
e.g. Leaf shape

DISTINCTNESS

Apple: Fruit color



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DISTINCTNESS

Apple: Fruit color



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DISTINCTNESS

Apple: Flower bud color



DISTINCTNESS

Maize: Stem base color



DISTINCTNESS

(Must be clearly distinguishable from any other variety
whose existence is a matter of common knowledge)

General Introduction (Chapter 5.3.3)

A variety may be considered to be **clearly distinguishable**
if the **difference in characteristics** is:

- (a) **consistent**, and
- (b) **clear**.

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19. VG Inflorescence: type
(*)
(+)

QL

- Type 1
- Type 2
- Type 3



1
Type 1



2
Type 2

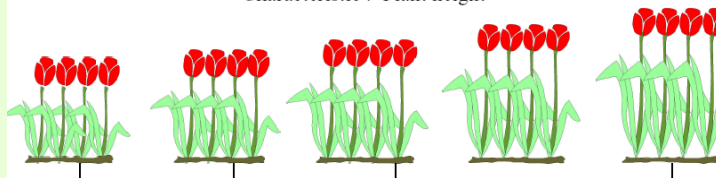


3
Type 3

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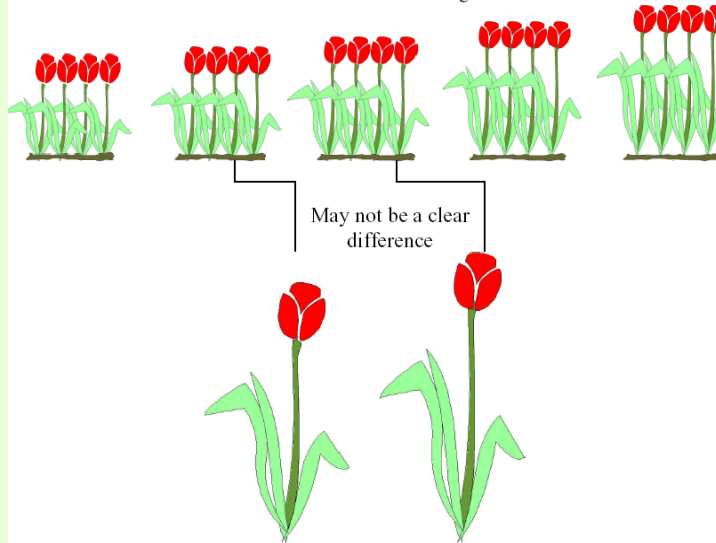
Clear difference

Characteristic : Plant height



Clear difference

Characteristic : Plant height

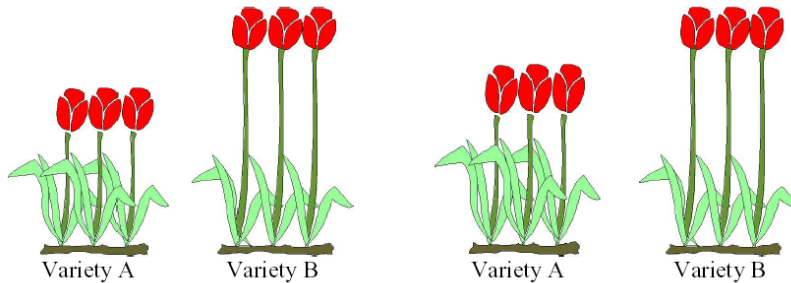


DISTINCTNESS

Consistent difference

Growing cycle 1

Growing cycle 2



Variety B is taller than variety A

Variety B is taller than variety A

Each time varieties A and B are cultivated in a given location under certain conditions, variety B is taller than variety A.

- **DISTINCTNESS**

- **UNIFORMITY**

- Must be *sufficiently* uniform in its relevant characteristics, *subject to the variation that may be expected from the particular features of its propagation*

UNIFORMITY

Ryegrass: Spaced plants (Cross-pollinated)



UNIFORMITY

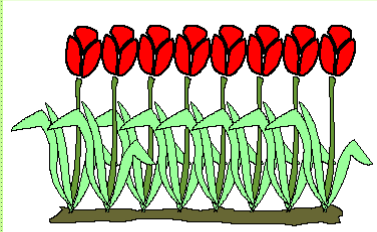
Wheat: (Self-pollinated)



DESIGN BY AXECOM.COM

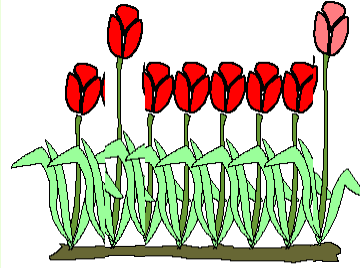
OFF-TYPES

Where all the **plants** of a variety are **very similar**, and in particular for vegetatively propagated and self-pollinated varieties, it is possible to assess uniformity by the number of **obviously different plants** – “**OFF-TYPES**” – that occur.



A uniform variety

OFF-TYPES



OFF-TYPES

How many off-types should we accept?

The individual Test Guidelines fix for each crop:

- **the population standard** (percentage of off-types to be accepted if all individuals of the variety could be examined)
- **the acceptance probability** (probability of correctly accepting that a variety is uniform)

Off-types

According to the size of the sample examined,
statistical tables give the maximum number of off-
types tolerated in that given samples

*e.g.: population standard = 1% and
acceptance probability = 95%*

<i>Sample size</i>	<i>Number of off-types allowed</i>
1-5	0
6-35	1
36-82	2
83-137	3
138-198	4
199-262	5

UNIFORMITY

Ryegrass: Spaced plants (Cross-pollinated)



Relative Tolerance Limits

Cross-pollinated varieties, including mainly cross-pollinated and synthetic varieties, generally exhibit wider variations within the variety than vegetatively propagated or self-pollinated varieties and inbred lines of hybrid varieties, and it is more difficult to determine off-types.

Therefore, **relative tolerance limits**, for the range of variation, are set by comparison with comparable varieties, or types, already known.

The candidate variety should not be significantly less uniform than the comparable varieties.

- **DISTINCTNESS**
- **UNIFORMITY**
- **STABILITY**

– Relevant characteristics must remain unchanged after repeated propagation or, in the case of a particular cycle of propagation, at the end of each such cycle

Nature of the DUS Examination

The "DUS Test" (field trial)



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

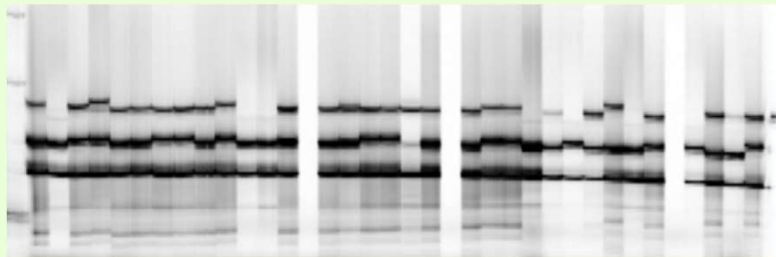
Criteria	Fruit: color	Ear: glaucosity	Yield	Straw strength
(a) results from a given genotype or combination of genotypes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
(b) sufficiently consistent and repeatable in a particular environment	Yes	Yes	(No)	(No)
(c) exhibits sufficient variation between varieties to be able to establish 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	Yes
ACCEPATABILITY	Yes	Yes	No	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?



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Agenda 3:

Overview of the General Introduction and TGP Documents

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GUIDANCE FOR EXAMINATION

Guidance for 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)

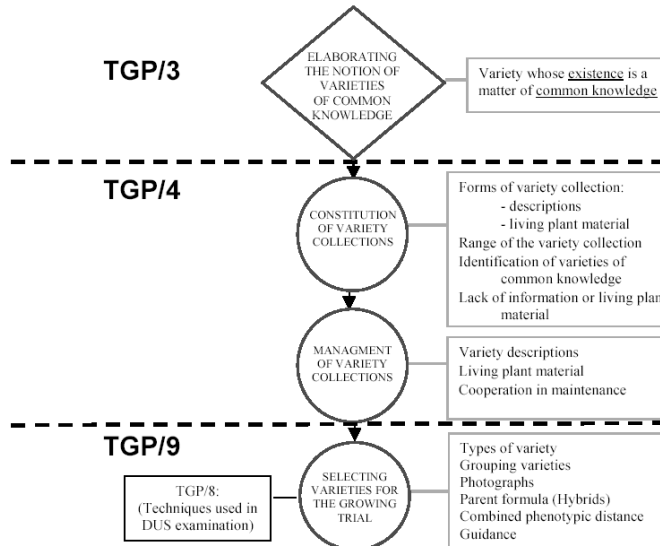
→ TG/1/3 General Introduction

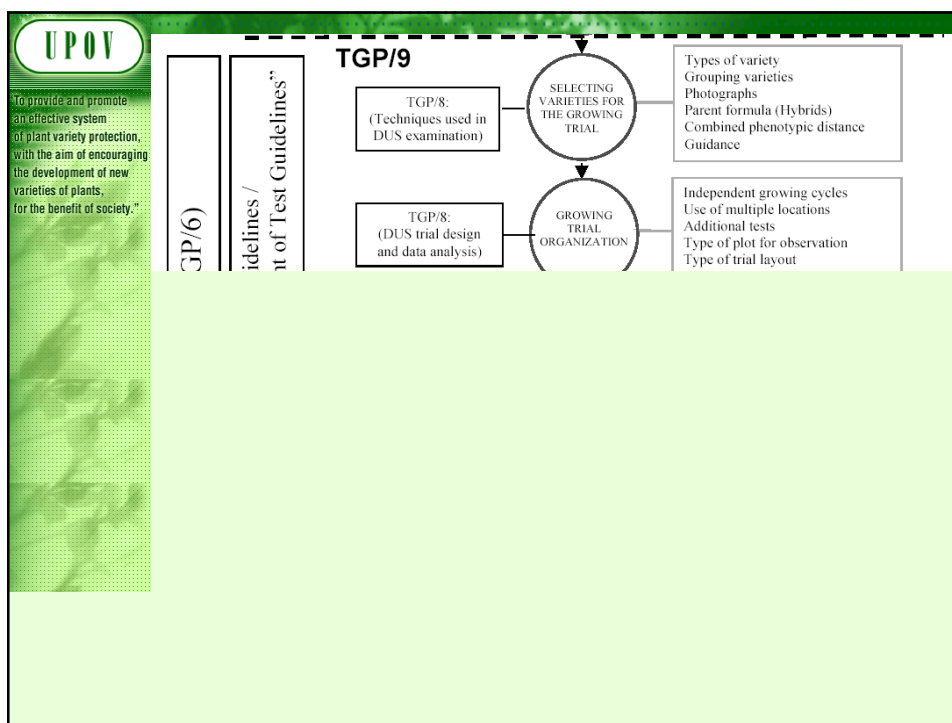
“Associated” TGP Documents

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 Management 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

*Priority

SCHEMATIC OVERVIEW OF TGP DOCUMENTS CONCERNING DISTINCTNESS





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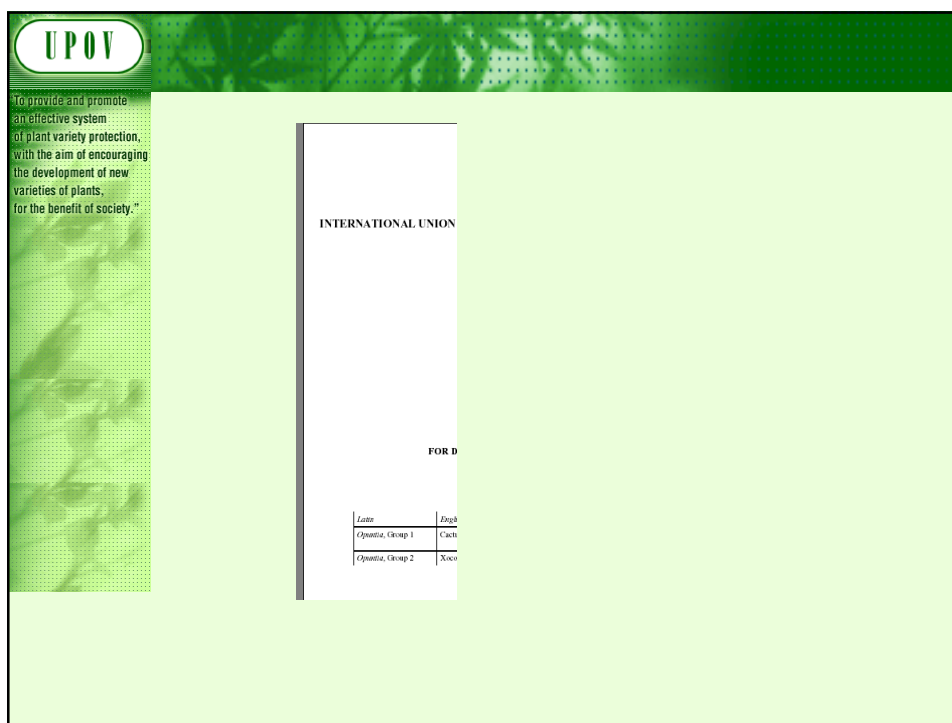
To provide and promote an effective system of plant variety protection, with the aim of encouraging the development of new varieties of plants, for the benefit of society."

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



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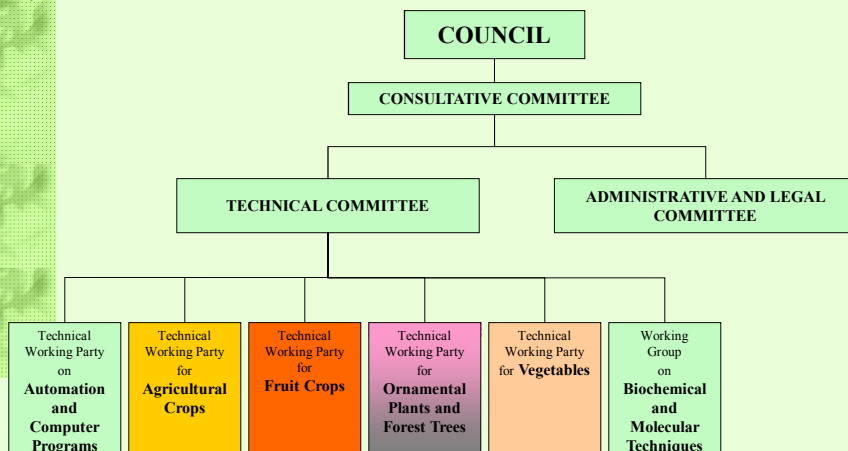
Test Guidelines

- **228 Test Guidelines** adopted
- Further **63 discussed** in 2006
(25 revisions / 38 new Test Guidelines)

UPOV Test Guidelines ("Test Guidelines") are developed for **individual species / variety groupings**

- Basis for internationally **harmonized examination of DUS** testing through guidance on the features of DUS Testing e.g.
 - growing cycles of testing (usually one or two)
 - number of plants (6 to 600)
 - material to be tested
 - **characteristics to be examined** (around 30 - 100)
 - **example varieties**
 - uniformity standards
- and facilitating **harmonized variety descriptions** on the basis of selected characteristics
- **Drafted by Members' Experts (Technical Working Parties)**

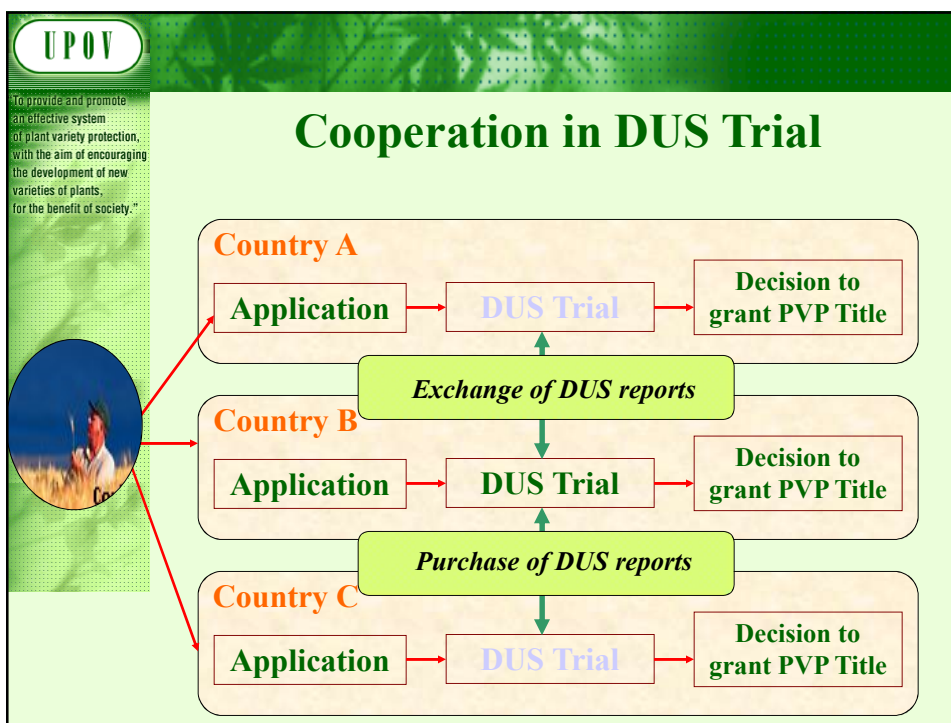
UPOV Structure



ORGANIZATION OF THE DUS EXAMINATION

*(Article 12 of the 1991 Act of the UPOV
Convention)*

"In the course of the examination, **the
authority**
*[i.e. the examination is conducted by the
authority]*
...may grow the variety or carry out other
necessary tests,
*[i.e. the authority may conduct growing
trials, or other tests, itself - "Official
Testing"]*



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...cause the growing of the variety or the carrying out of other necessary tests,

[i.e. the authority may arrange for other parties to conduct the growing trials or other tests e.g. by an

- Independent Institute*
- Individual Breeder / Applicant*
- Organization on behalf of a group of breeders / applicants]*

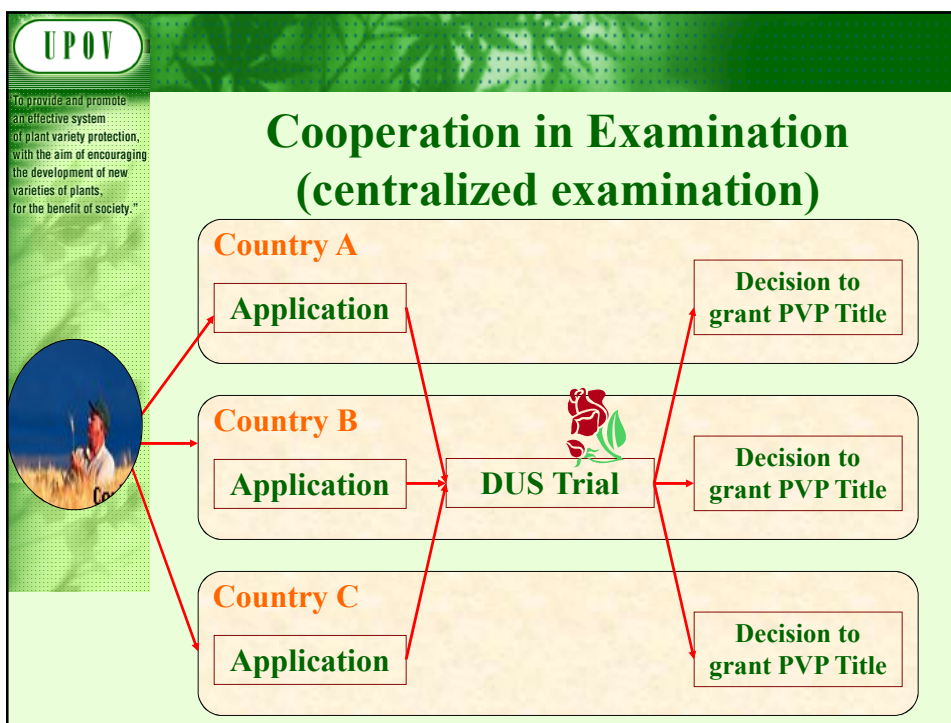
.. or **take into account** the results of
growing tests or other **trials which have
already been carried out.**"

*[i.e. the authority may take into account the
results from previous tests or trials
conducted by, for example, other National
Authorities (purchasing of DUS reports)]*

Cooperation between Authorities

Cooperation between Authorities can involve:

- **purchase of DUS Test Reports** from other Authorities
- **bilateral arrangements** to remove the need for duplication of DUS Tests
- **centralized DUS testing** at regional or global level



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Cooperation between Authorities

Cooperation between Authorities is important for:

- minimizing the time for DUS examination
- minimizing the cost of DUS examination
- optimizing examination of Distinctness in growing trials

Cooperation with Breeders

Cooperation with Breeders

- maximizes the use of all available information
- minimizes the time for DUS examination
- can provide access to breeders' specialist resources

Cooperation with Breeders

DUS Testing in Cooperation with Breeders

- is always under the **control of the Authority**
- can involve the applicant in all aspects of conducting the DUS Test but will always result in a **decision being taken by the Authority**



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."

Agenda item 4:

UPOV Website

<http://www.upov.int>

(e-mail: upov.mail@upov.int)



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."



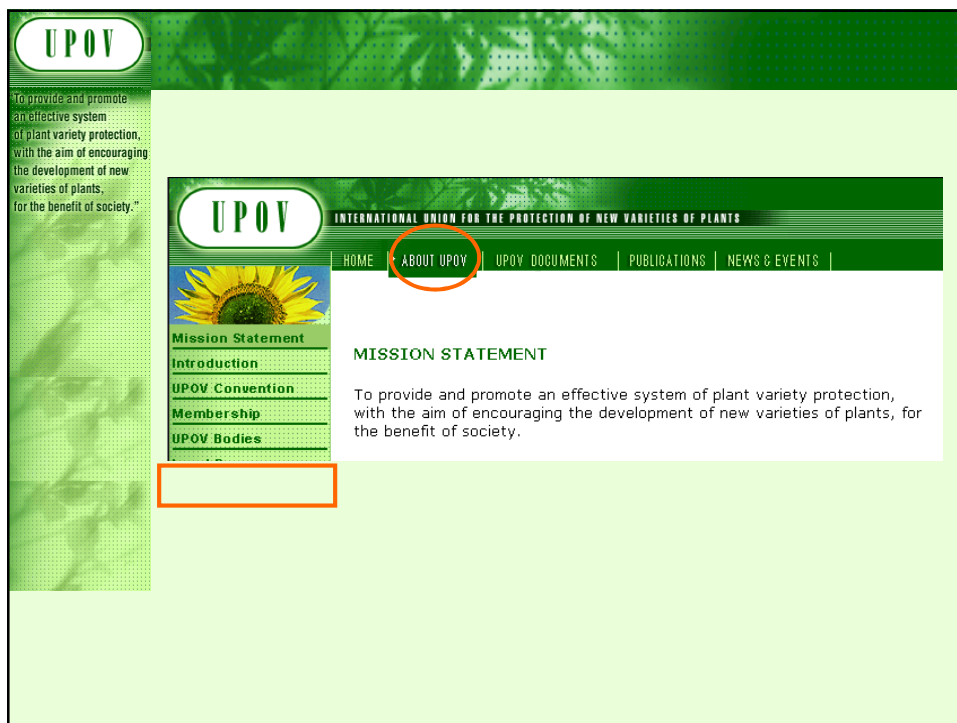
INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS


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Welcome

The International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) is an intergovernmental 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. The objective of the Convention is the protection of new varieties of plants by an intellectual property right.





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KEY ISSUES

NEW PUBLICATION	UPOV Rep (UPOV Pub Executive S
Breeder's exemption	Breeder's e Convention
Notion of Breeder and Common Knowledge	The Notion (Adobe PDF)
Genetic Resources and Benefit-Sharing	Access to (Reply of L Executive : (CBD)) (Adobe PDF)
	Access to (Reply of L Executive : (CBD))



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The screenshot shows the UPOV website with the following elements:

- Header:** UPOV logo and "INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS".
- Navigation:** HOME, ABOUT UPOV, **UPOV DOCUMENTS** (highlighted with a red circle), and a partially visible "PUBLIC" link.
- Left Sidebar:**
 - Calendar
 - Council
 - Restricted area
- Main Content:**
 - [Council](#)
 - [First restricted area](#)
 - [Second restricted area](#)
 - Rules Governing the Granting of** (partially visible)
 - (available in [Adobe PDF](#) format)



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."



- UPOV Convention
- List of Publications
- Gazette & Newsletter
- Laws & Treaties
- List of Taxa Protected
- Plant Variety
- Protection Statistics
- General Introduction to DUS
- TGP Documents
- Test Guidelines
- Practical Technical



INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

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LIST OF UPOV PUBLICATIONS*

The following UPOV publications are available on request:

Abbreviations:

A = Arabic, C = Chinese, D = Dutch, E = English, F = French, FEG = French/English/German, G = German, I = Italian, J = Japanese, P = Portuguese, R = Russian, S = Spanish

221	(A)	International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants, text of 1991 only
	(C)	
	(D)	
	(E)	
	(F)	



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"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."

Agenda item 5:

Agenda of the BMT Session




"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."

BMT Agenda

Seoul, November 21 to 23, 2006


1. Opening of the session
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Reports on **developments in UPOV** concerning biochemical and molecular techniques
4. Reports on the work of the **Crop Subgroups**
5. Short presentations on **new developments in biochemical and molecular techniques** by DUS experts, biochemical and molecular specialists, and plant breeders (**oral reports by PARTICIPANTS**)
6. Report of **work on molecular techniques on a crop-by-crop basis (PAPERS INVITED)**
 - (a) vegetatively propagated crops
 - (b) self-pollinated crops
 - (c) cross-pollinated crops



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BMT Agenda (cont.)

7. **Guidelines for DNA-Profiling:** Molecular Marker Selection and Database Construction "BMT Guidelines" (document BMT Guidelines (proj.6))
8. **Practical exercise in the development of an exchangeable database of molecular data of plant varieties**
9. **Statistical methods** for data produced by biochemical and molecular techniques (papers invited)
10. The use of molecular techniques in examining **essential derivation** (papers invited)
11. The use of molecular techniques in **variety identification (PAPERS INVITED)**
12. Recommendations on the establishment of new crop specific subgroups
13. Date and place of next session
14. Future program
15. Report of the session (if time permits)
16. Closing of the session



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Agenda item 6

Situation in UPOV concerning the possible use of molecular techniques in plant variety protection

PREVIEW

Situation in UPOV concerning the possible use of
molecular techniques in:

PART I: DUS Examination

PART II: BMT Guidelines

PART III: variety identification in relation to:


- enforcement of plant breeders' rights;
- technical verification; and
- consideration of essential derivation

Part I

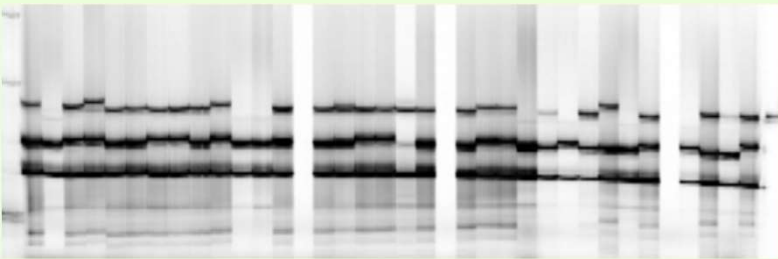
Situation in UPOV concerning the
possible use of molecular
techniques in the
DUS Examination

UPOV

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Molecular Techniques?



DESIGN BY AXECOM.COM

UPOV

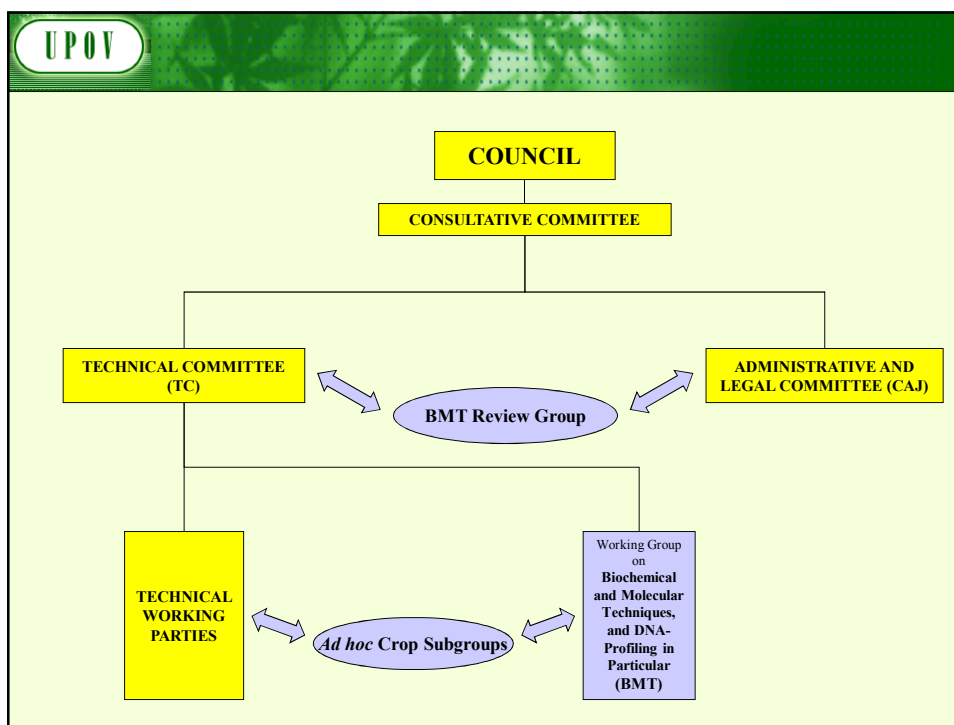
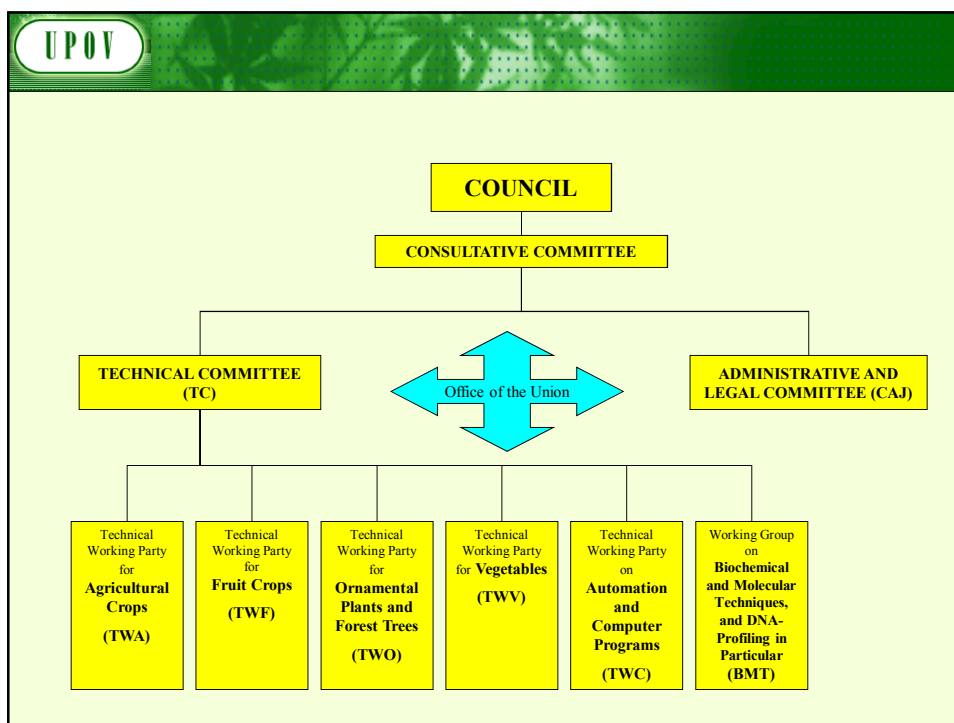
"To provide and promote an effective system of plant variety protection, with the aim of encouraging the development of new varieties of plants, for the benefit of society."

Legal and other considerations

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

Technical considerations

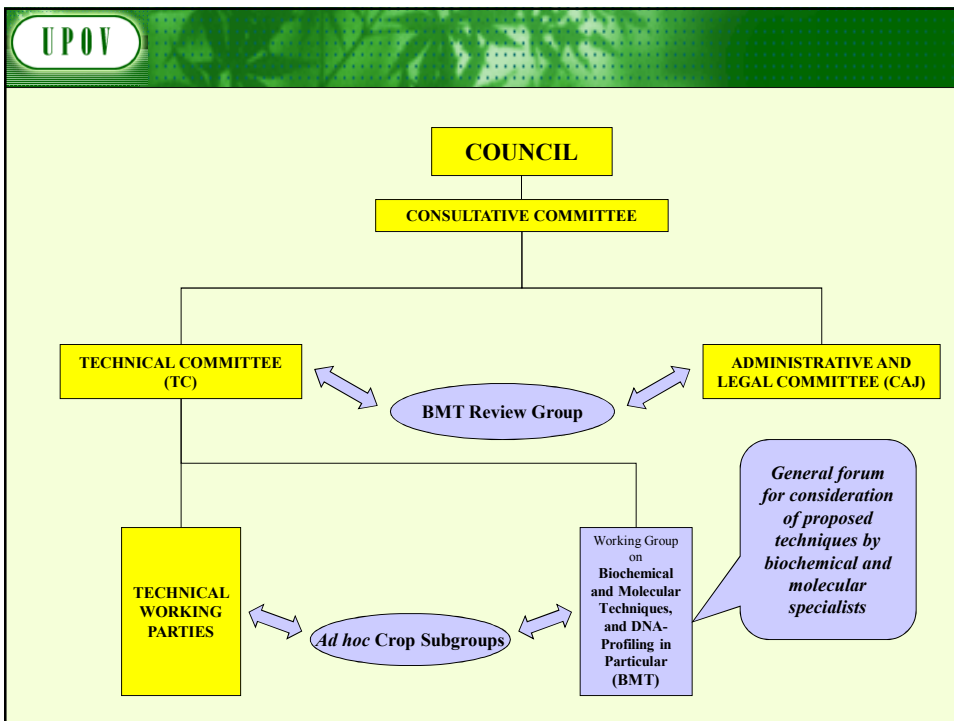
- **Reliability and robustness of techniques**
- **Accessibility of the technology**
- **Harmonization of methodologies**
- **Cost of examination**
- **Implications for breeders (e.g. cost and time involved for new uniformity requirements)**

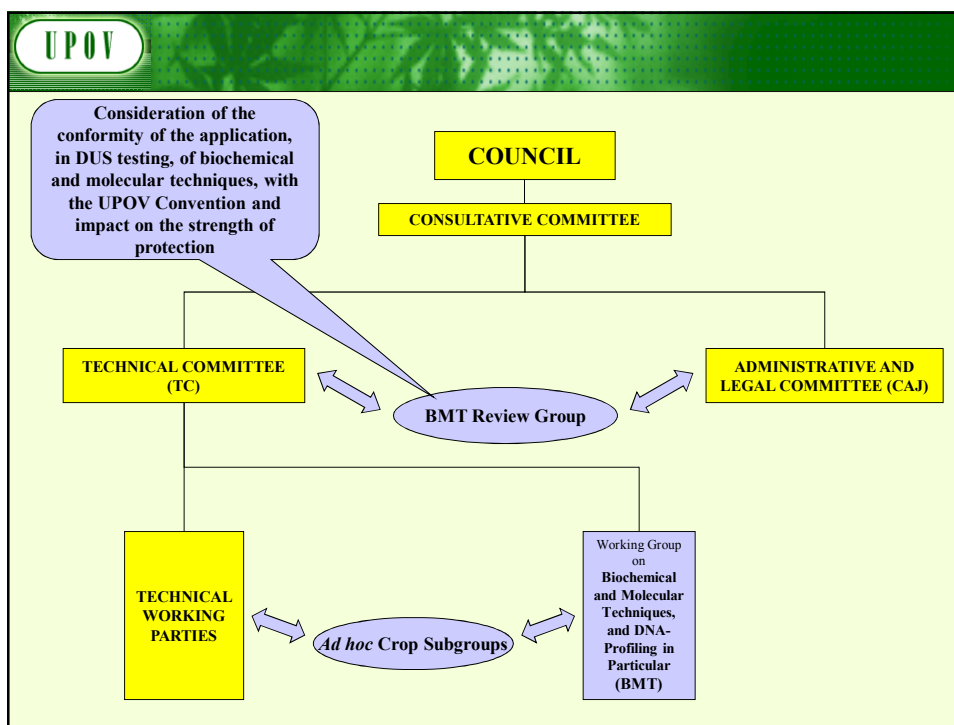
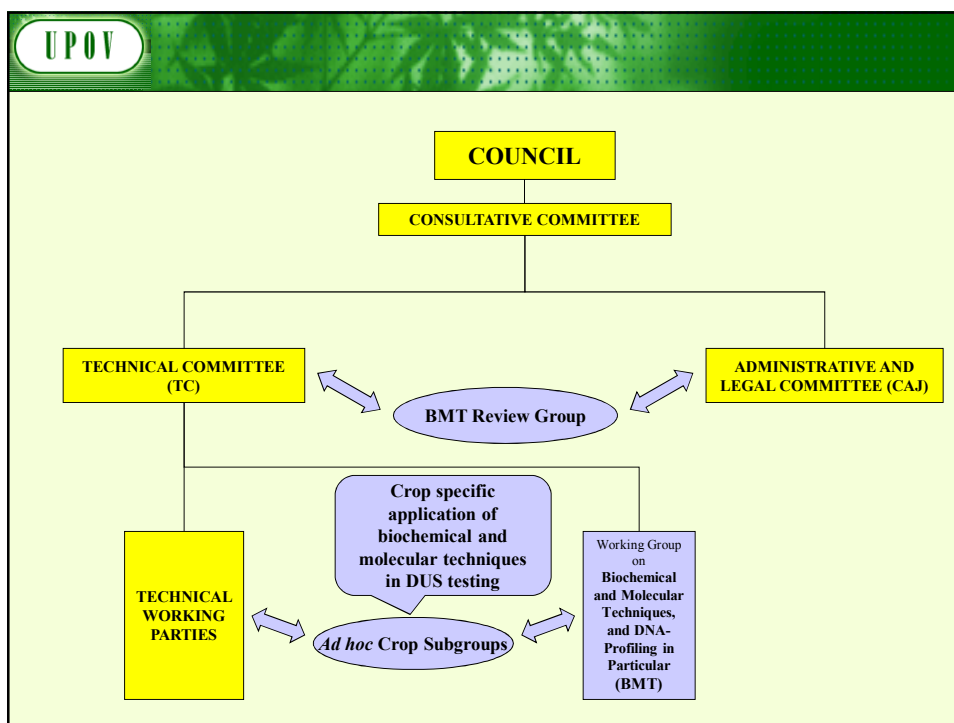



Harmonized approach

Harmonization

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








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The options:

- **Option 1:**
Molecular Markers as predictors of Traditional Characteristics:
(a) gene specific marker
- **Option 2:**
Calibration of Molecular Markers against Traditional Characteristics in the management of Reference collections
- **Option 3:**
New system



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

Option 1(a) for a gene specific marker of a phenotypic characteristic:

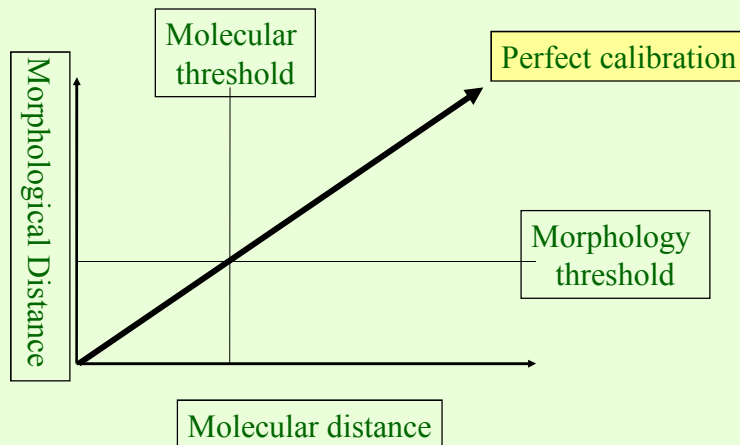
Proposal: gene specific marker for herbicide tolerance introduced by genetic modification

was, 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.

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**. (further consideration would be given to this matter at a later stage)

Option 2: Calibration of threshold levels



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

Option 2: Calibration of threshold levels for molecular characteristics against the minimum distance in traditional characteristics

Proposal: Option 2 for Maize, Oilseed Rape and Rose

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.

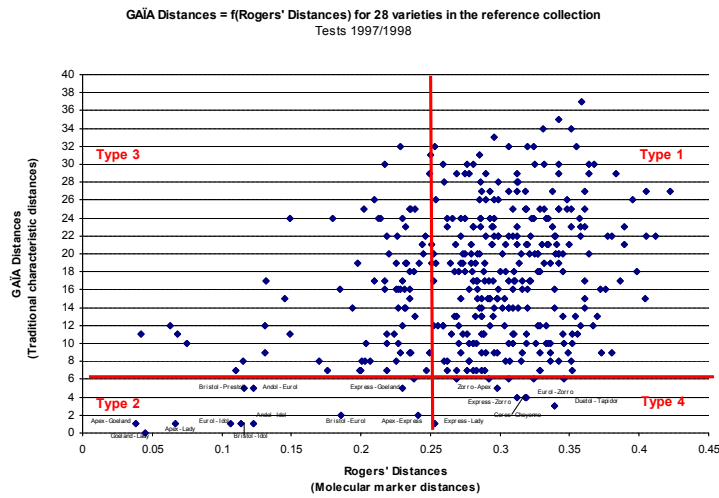
UPOV

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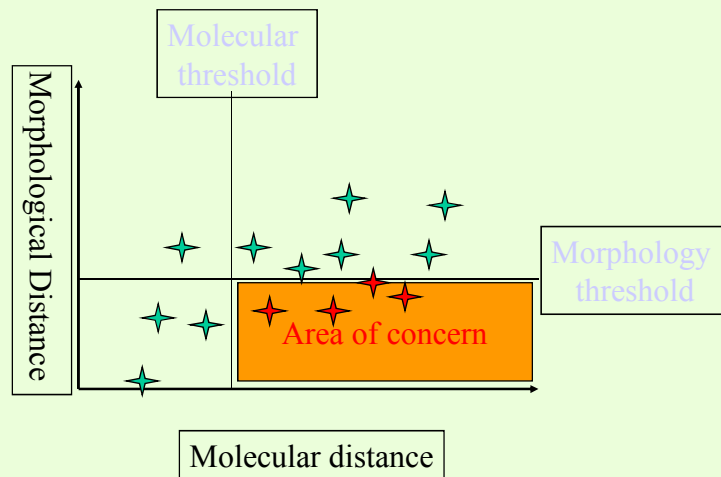
Assumptions for calibration of threshold levels :

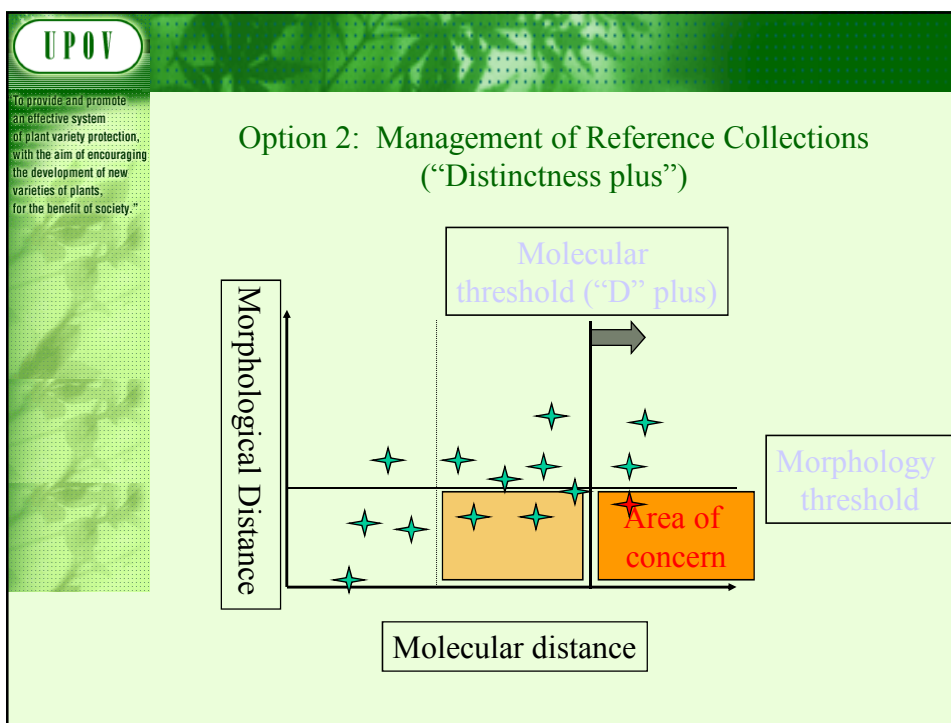
- (a) **Uniformity and Stability:**
 - (i) [molecular] **differences** calculated between varieties **take into account the variation within varieties**;
 - (ii) suitable **uniformity standards** could be developed for molecular markers **without requiring varieties**, in general, **to be more uniform**
- (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**.

Option 2: Oilseed Rape



Option 2: Calibration of threshold levels





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

Option 3: New system

Proposal: Option 3 for Rose and Wheat

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)

Part II

BMT GUIDELINES

*Guidelines for DNA-profiling:
molecular marker selection and database construction
("BMT GUIDELINES")*

- guidance for
 - developing **harmonized methodologies** with the aim of generating high quality molecular data **for a range of applications**
 - the **construction of databases** containing molecular profiles of varieties, possibly produced in different laboratories using different technologies.

Part III

variety identification in relation to:

- enforcement of plant breeders' rights
- technical verification
- consideration of essential derivation

VARIETY IDENTIFICATION

CAJ and TC agreed to invite the BMT Review Group to examine the possible use of molecular tools for variety identification in relation to the enforcement of plant breeders' rights, technical verification and the consideration of essential derivation.

VARIETY IDENTIFICATION

The Consultative Committee noted that:

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

– [...]

"(viii) Provide a forum for discussion on the use of biochemical and molecular techniques in the consideration of essential derivation and variety identification."

BREEDERS' RIGHTS

VARIETIES COVERED

- the protected variety
- varieties which are not clearly distinguishable from the protected variety
- varieties whose production requires the repeated use of the protected variety (*e.g. as a parent for a hybrid variety*)
- **varieties which are essentially derived from the protected variety (1991 Act)**

ESSENTIAL DERIVATION

PURPOSE:

To ensure sustainable plant breeding development by:

- providing effective protection for the classical breeder and
- encouraging cooperation between classical breeders and developers of new technologies such as genetic modification

Essentially Derived Varieties (EDV's)

Article 14(5):

(a) The provisions of paragraphs (1) to (4) shall also apply in relation to

- (i) **varieties which are essentially derived** from the protected variety, where the protected variety is not itself an essentially derived variety,

Essentially Derived Varieties (EDV's)

...a **variety shall be deemed to be essentially derived** from another variety ("the initial variety") **when**

- (i) it is **predominantly derived from the initial variety**, or from a variety that is itself predominantly derived from the initial variety, while retaining the expression of the essential characteristics that result from the genotype or combination of genotypes of the initial variety,
- (ii) **it is clearly distinguishable** from the initial variety and
- (iii) **except for the differences which result from the act of derivation, it conforms to the initial variety in the expression of the essential characteristics** that result from the genotype or combination of genotypes of the initial variety.

Essentially Derived Varieties (EDV's)

May be obtained for example by:

- selection of a natural or induced mutant
- selection of a somaclonal variant
- selection of a variant individual from plants of the initial variety
- back-crossing
- transformation by genetic engineering

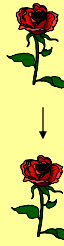
*An essentially derived variety may be protectable,
but authorization of the breeder of the initial variety
would be required for commercial exploitation*

Essentially Derived Varieties

Patented genetic element



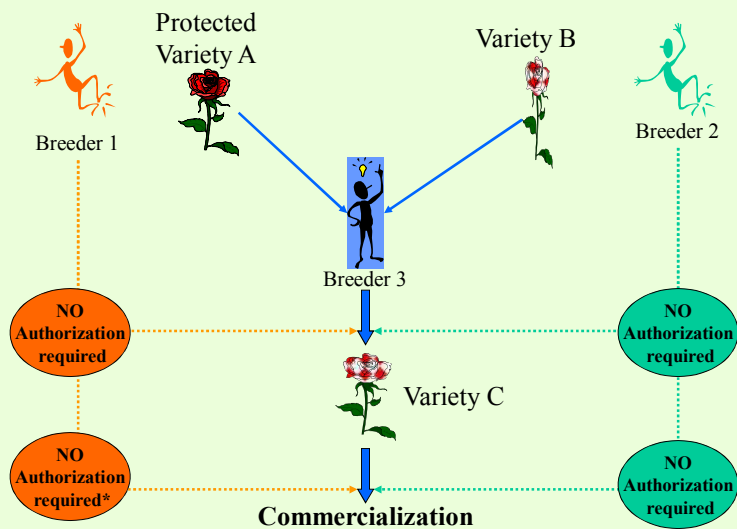
Protected plant variety



New Variety (?)

Essentially Derived Variety (?)

THE BREEDER'S EXEMPTION: *Example*



*except for: **essentially derived varieties (1991 Act)**; varieties which require repeated use of a protected variety (variety A); and varieties not clearly distinguishable from a protected variety (variety A).

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Essentially Derived Varieties (EDV's)

Can EDVs be protected ?

Can EDVs be commercially exploited?

YES

AUTHORIZATION
NEEDED

It requires the authorization of the PBR holder of the initial variety

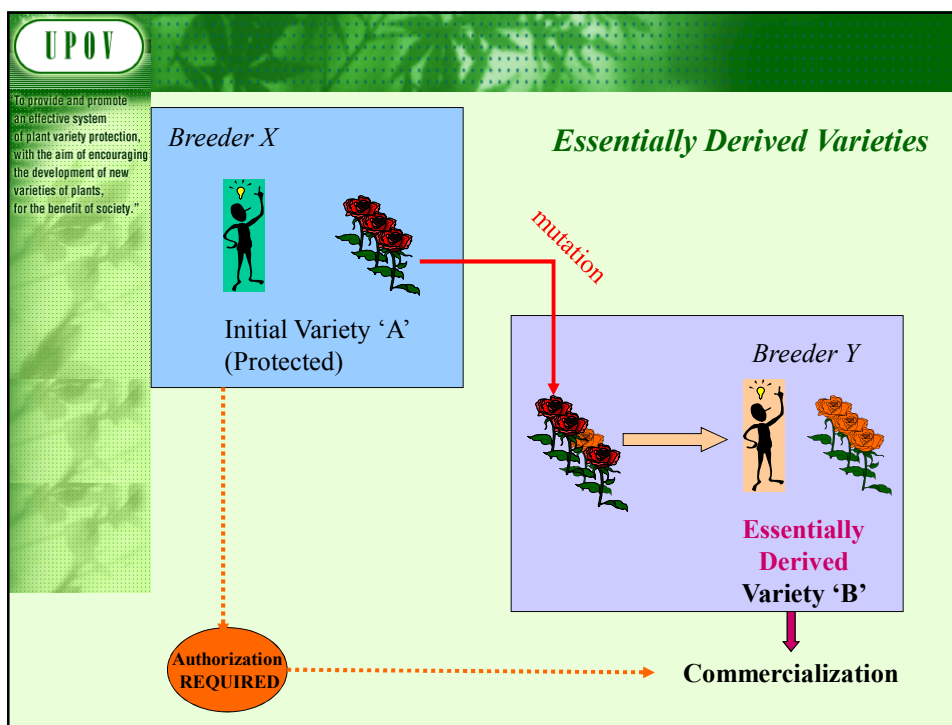
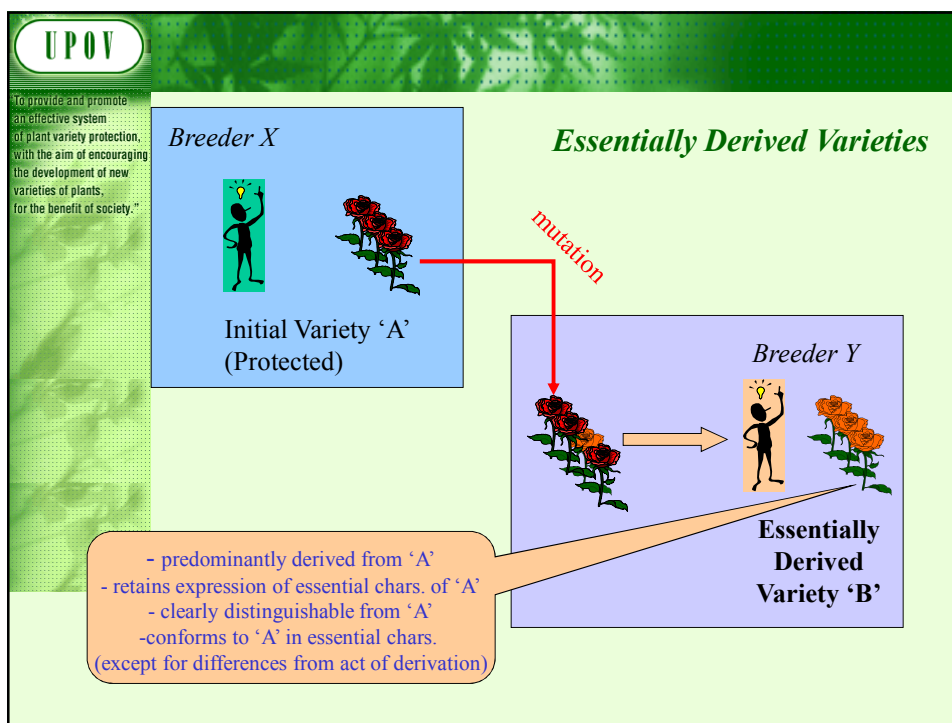
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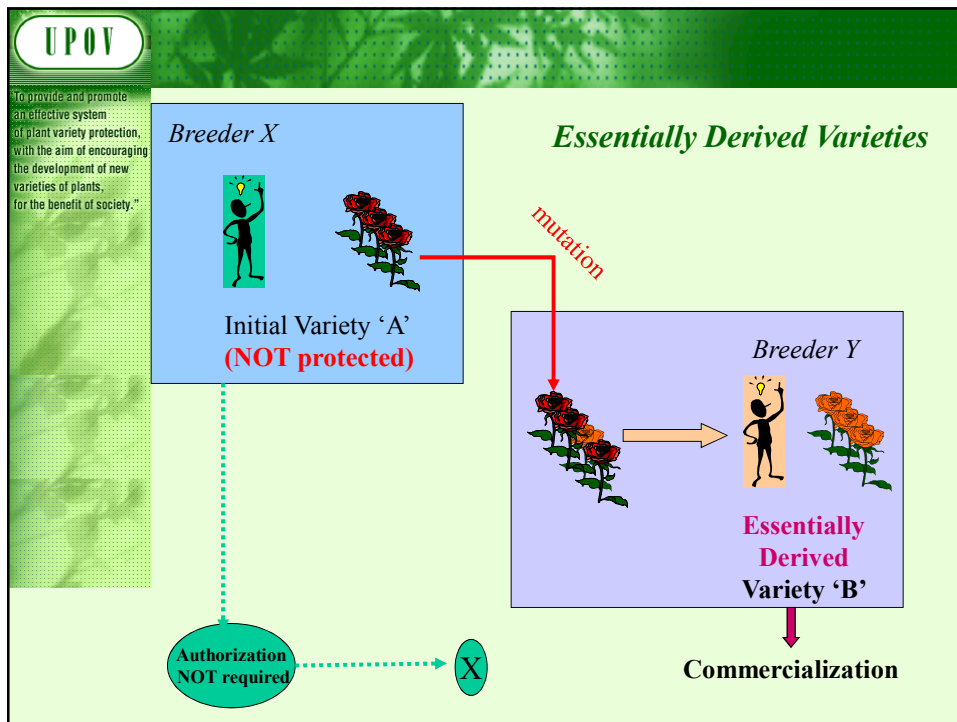
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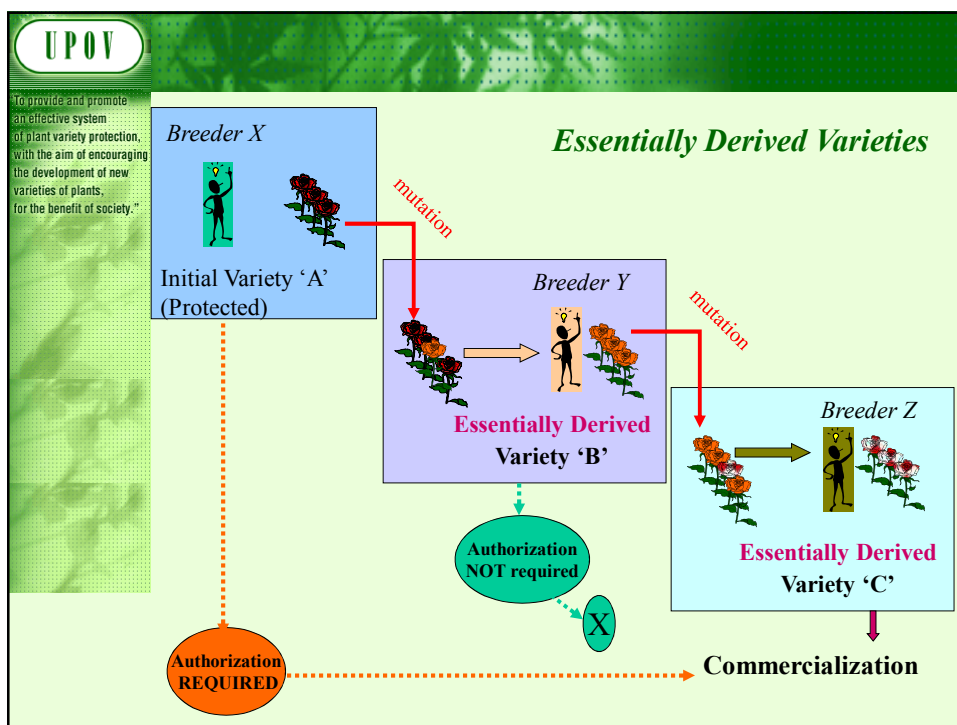
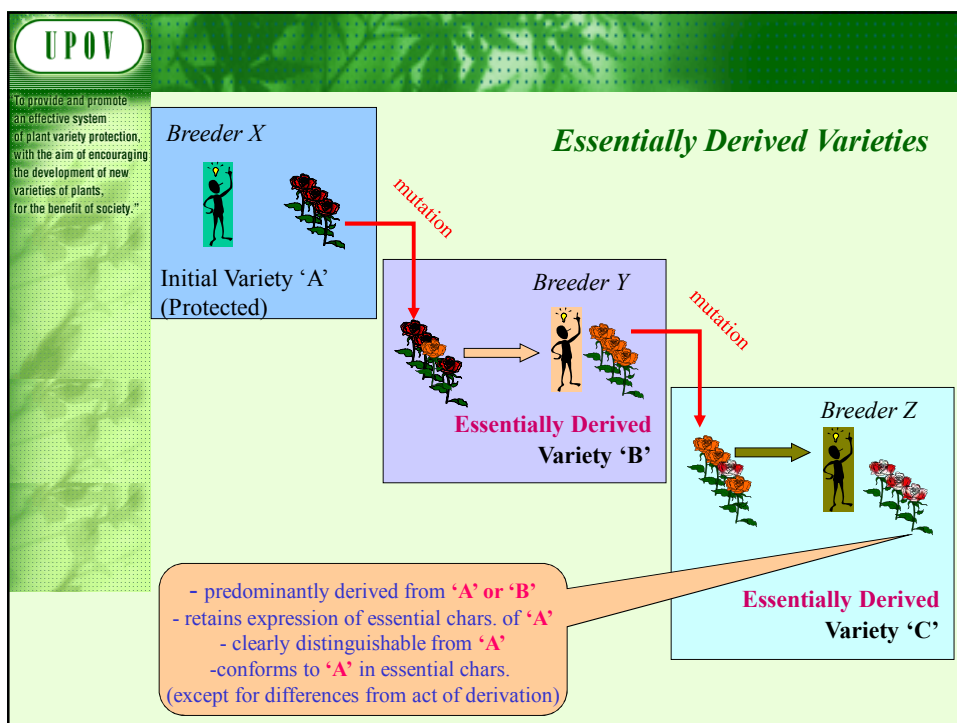
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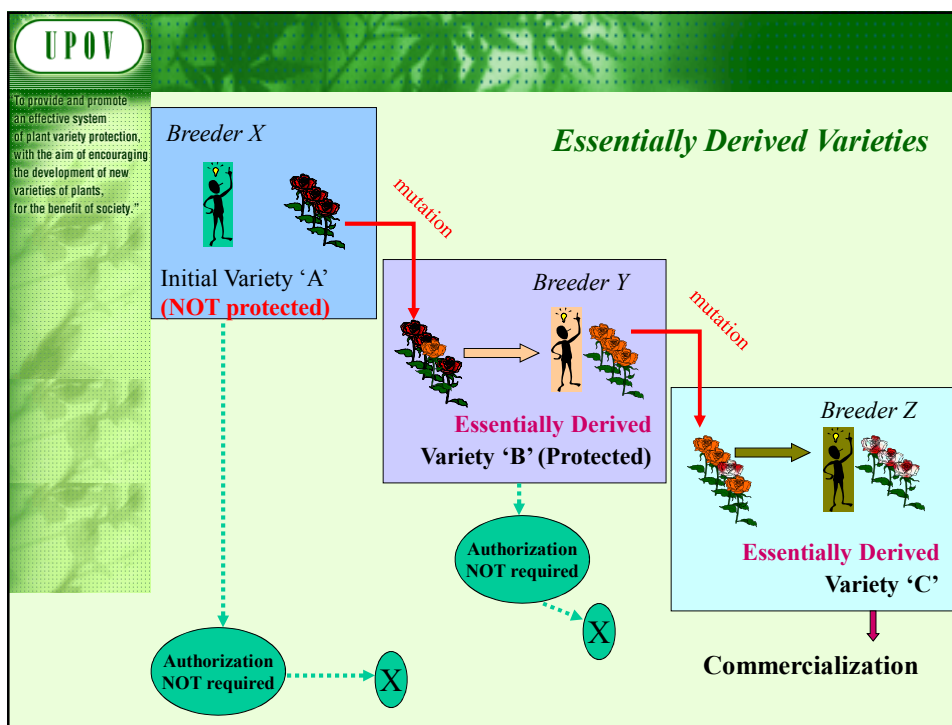
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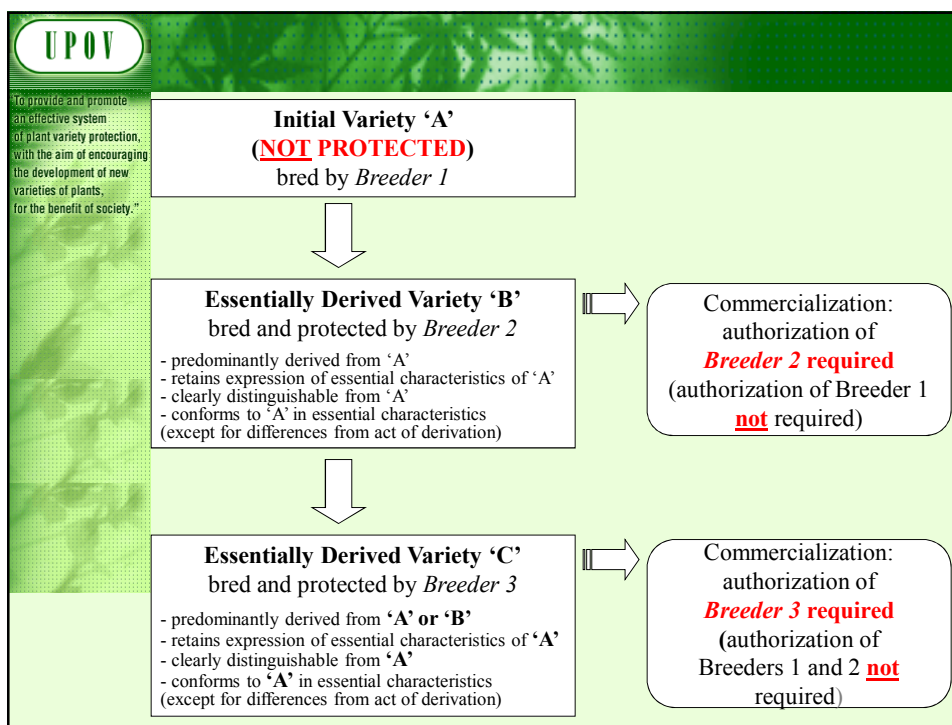
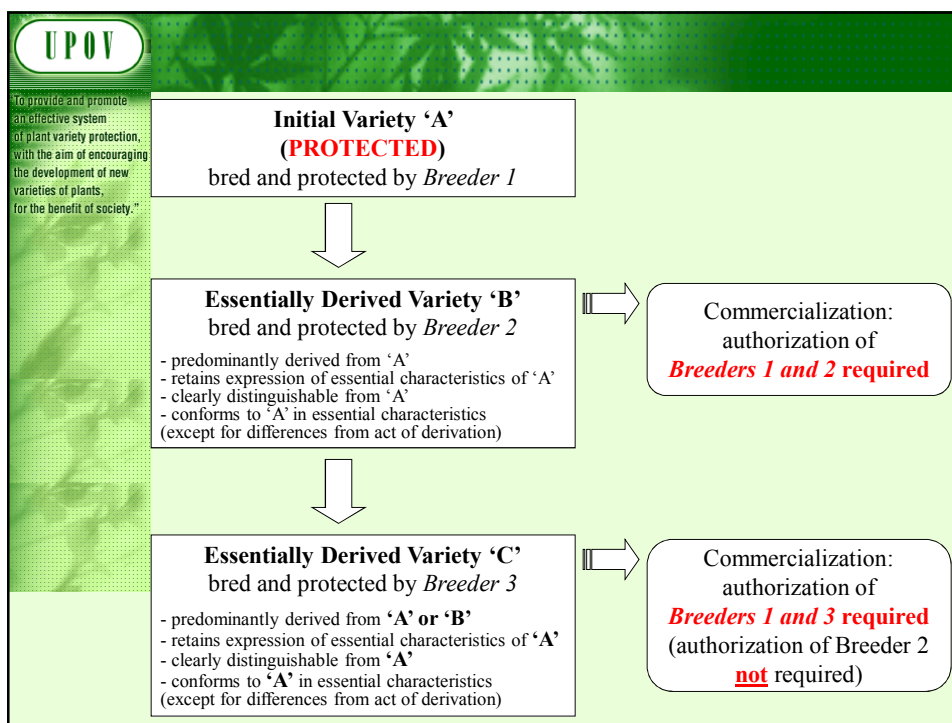
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Essentially Derived Varieties (EDV's)

...a variety shall be deemed to be essentially derived from another variety ("the **initial variety**") when ...

INITIAL variety
is not restricted to
PROTECTED variety





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THANK YOU