

**Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques
and DNA-Profiling in Particular****BMT/16/12****Sixteenth Session
La Rochelle, France, November 7 to 10, 2017****Original:** English
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**UPDATE ON THE AMERICAN SEED TRADE ASSOCIATION & U.S. PVP OFFICE MOLECULAR
MARKER WORKING GROUP***Document prepared by an expert from Seed Association of the Americas (SAA)**Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance*

1. In 2014 the United States Plant Variety Protection Office (U.S. PVPO) and the American Seed Trade Association (ASTA) formed a joint molecular marker working group (MMWG) to explore methods for using DNA markers in determining distinctness, uniformity, and stability (DUS). This working group is comprised of scientists and legal experts, representing both public and private institutions, and will advise the U.S. PVPO Board.
2. Here a timeline of the MMWG 3-year existence will be reviewed, highlighting successes and learnings. The current methods and research focus of the MMWG will be reviewed and a glimpse into the future of the MMWG will be provided.

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