



BMT-TWA/Potato/1/7

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

**AD HOC CROP SUBGROUP ON MOLECULAR TECHNIQUES  
FOR  
POTATO**

**First Session  
Poznań, Poland, June 28, 2004**

**REPORT**

*adopted by the Ad hoc Crop Subgroup on Molecular Techniques for Potato*

Opening of the Session

1. The *Ad hoc* Crop Subgroup on Molecular Techniques for Potato (hereinafter referred to as “the Crop Subgroup for Potato”) held its first session in Poznań, Poland, on June 28, 2004. The list of participants is reproduced in the Annex to this report.
2. The session was opened by Mrs. Beate Rücker (Germany), Chairperson of the Crop Subgroup for Potato.

Adoption of the Agenda

3. The Crop Subgroup for Potato adopted the agenda as reproduced in document BMT-TWA/Potato/1/1 Rev. The Crop Subgroup for Potato noted that agenda item 5 “BMT Guidelines” had been discussed at the *Ad hoc* Crop Subgroup on Molecular Techniques for Wheat, which had met immediately prior to the session. Taking into account that all the participants at the Crop Subgroup for Potato had attended the previous meeting, the Crop Subgroup for Potato agreed with the proposals of the Crop Subgroup for Wheat.

Report of work on molecular techniques in potato

4. The Crop Subgroup for Potato noted the developments presented in the following documents:

Estimation of genetic variation and relationships in cultivated potato using AFLP and microsatellite markers (document BMT-TWA/Potato/1/2), introduced by Mr. Alexander Braun (Germany).

Genotyping of potatoes (document BMT-TWA/Potato/1/3), introduced by Mr. Robert Cooke (United Kingdom).

Creation of an SSR database for potato varieties on the UK National List (document BMT-TWA/Potato/1/4), introduced by Mr. Alex Reid (United Kingdom).

Overview of experience gained in France on the use of molecular markers for seed potato certification and respective interest of SSR markers and visual inspection (document BMT-TWA/Potato/1/5), introduced by Mr. Yves le Hingrat and Mrs. Sylvie Marhadour (France).

Potato variety identification (genotyping): a breeder's experience with AFLPs and ISSRs 1998-2004 (document BMT-TWA/Potato/1/6), introduced by Mr. Eric Bonnel (France).

5. The Chairperson summarized the main issues raised by the presentations as follows:

(a) the importance and potential power of molecular techniques for variety identification;

(b) how to combine work on issues not related to distinctness, uniformity and stability with consideration of molecular techniques in DUS-relevant areas; and

(c) the harmonization of methods and exchange of data.

Experts from Slovakia and Ukraine expressed an interest in cooperating on developments in harmonization of methods and exchange of data.

6. The Crop Subgroup considered that the TC, the CAJ and the BMT Review Group would need to develop guidance on how specific techniques could be used for variety identification if these techniques differed from the methods used for testing distinctness, uniformity and stability.

7. The Crop Subgroup for Potato agreed that work could continue with the aim of improving and harmonizing methodologies and the construction of databases.

*8. This report has been adopted by correspondence.*

[Annex follows]

ANNEX

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