

Council

Fifty-Fourth Ordinary Session
Geneva, October 30, 2020

C/54/INF/2**Administrative and Legal Committee**

Seventy-Seventh Session
Geneva, October 28, 2020

CAJ/77/INF/2**Technical Committee**

Fifty-Sixth Session
Geneva, October 26 and 27, 2020

TC/56/INF/8**Original:** English**Date:** October 9, 2020

REPORT BY THE VICE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON DEVELOPMENTS IN UPOV

Document prepared by the Office of the Union

Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance

1. The Annex to this document contains a copy of a presentation “Report on developments in UPOV” made by the Vice Secretary-General, via video, for the fifty-fourth ordinary session of the Council, the seventy-seventh session of the Administrative and Legal Committee (CAJ) and the fifty-sixth session of the Technical Committee.
2. The pre-recorded video presentation in English, with subtitles in English, French, German and Spanish, is available at the [C/54](#), [CAJ/77](#) and [TC/56](#) webpages.

[Annex follows]

DEVELOPMENTS IN UPOV

Peter Button
Vice Secretary-General, UPOV

October 1, 2020

UPOV

International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants

Preview

- Response to COVID-19 Pandemic
- Situation in UPOV
- Office of the Union
- UPOV PRISMA
- PLUTO database
- Social media

Preview

- Response to COVID-19 Pandemic
 - Responding to immediate situation
 - Towards a better, new “normal”

COVID-19 pandemic measures

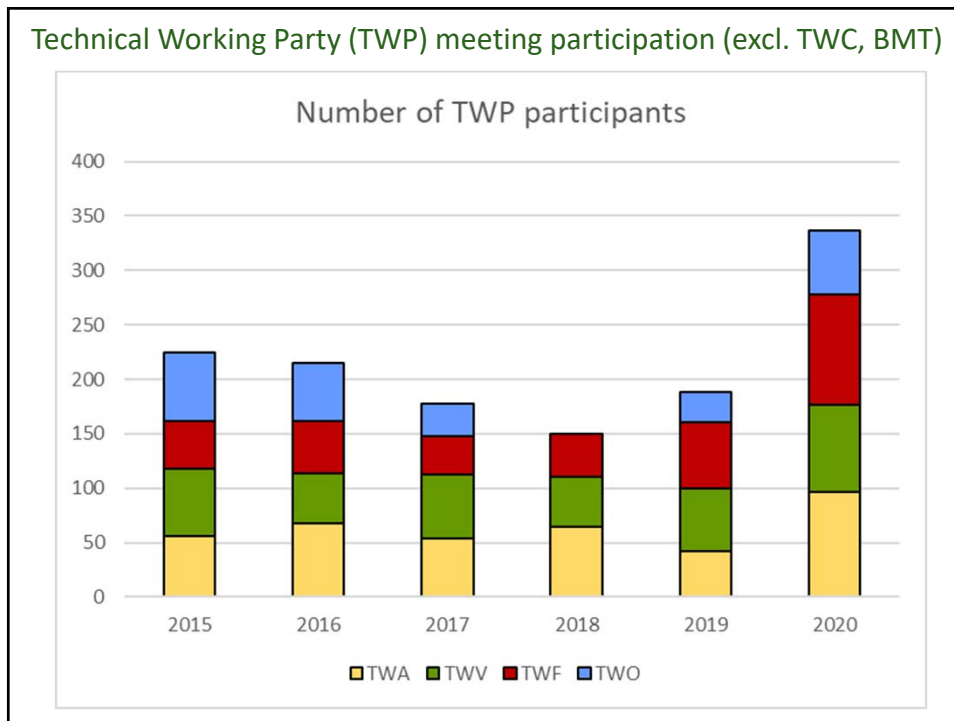
- March 17, 2020
 - UPOV premises closed except for essential personnel
 - Remote working (excellent WIPO IT support)
 - Official travel cancelled
- June 2 – Sep. 30, 2020
 - No official travel outside Switzerland
 - Phased return by all UPOV staff (except vulnerable staff)
 - Social distancing in office
 - Remote working option for up to 3 days/week

COVID-19 pandemic measures

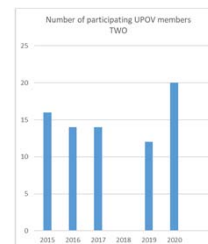
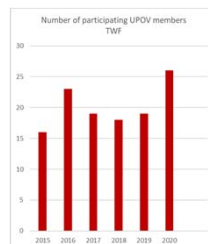
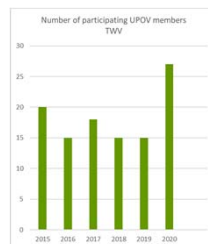
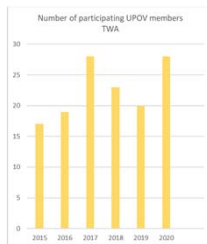
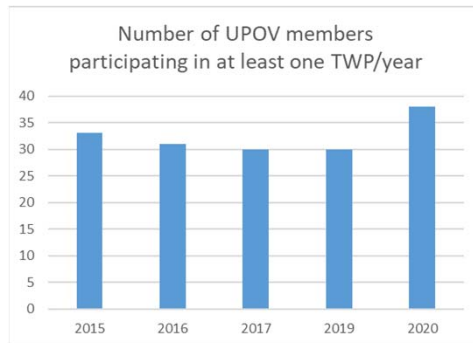
- UPOV meetings since March 17, 2020
- Virtual meetings as planned
 - Enlarged Editorial Committee (March 24)
 - Fifteenth Meeting on the Development of an Electronic Application Form (EAF/15) (March 26)
- Technical Working Parties
 - agreed by TWP Chairpersons, after consultation with the TWP hosts and the TC Chairperson, to hold the TWP sessions by electronic means

COVID-19 pandemic measures

| Date | TWP | Hosted by |
|----------------------|---|--------------------------|
| May 11 to 15 | Fifty-fourth session of the Technical Working Party for Vegetables (TWW/54) | Brazil |
| June 8 to 12 | Fifty-second session of the Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees (TWO/52) | Netherlands |
| June 22 to 26 | Forty-ninth session of the Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops (TWA/49) | Canada |
| July 6 to 10 | Fifty-first session of the Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops (TWF/51) | France |
| Sep. 21 to 23 | Thirty-eighth session of the Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs (TWC/38) | United States of America |
| Sep. 23 to 25 | Nineteenth session of the Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA-Profiling in Particular (BMT/19) | United States of America |



Technical Working Party (TWP) meeting participation: Number of members of the Union



Virtual Technical Working Party (TWP) meetings: satisfaction



COVID-19 pandemic measures

UPOV Sessions in October 2020 to be held in the form of **virtual meetings**, in combination with **prior consideration of documents by correspondence**:

- **Technical Committee:** Fifty-Sixth Session (TC/56), to be held on October 26 and 27
- **Administrative and Legal Committee:** Seventy-Seventh Session (CAJ/77), to be held on October 28
- **Consultative Committee:** Ninety-Seventh Session (CC/97), to be held on October 29
- **Council:** Fifty-Fourth Ordinary Session (C/54), to be held on October 30

UPOV

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COVID-19 pandemic measures

UPOV Search

Contact us Site map YouTube Twitter LinkedIn

ABOUT UPOV MEMBERSHIP UPOV SYSTEM PVP DATA & STATISTICS MEETINGS NEWS

HOME » ABOUT UPOV »

COVID-19 measures for breeders

UPOV has created this webpage with links to resources and measures to assist breeders in relation to plant variety protection matters in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Disclaimer: This webpage does not constitute the official source of information for COVID-19 pandemic matters for members of the Union. To obtain further information on any specific measure or details on the status of plant variety protection matters, please contact the relevant authority of the member of the Union concerned at info@uipo.int

INTERNATIONAL BREEDERS' ORGANIZATIONS

Links to webpages provided to UPOV by international breeders' organizations in relation to resources available for breeders in the context COVID-19 pandemic are provided below:

- [International Community of Breeders of Asexually Reproduced Ornamental and Fruit Tree Varieties \(IOBOR\)](#)

UPOV MEMBERS

Links provided by members of the Union to their webpages with measures on plant variety protection matters, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, are provided below:

- [Australia](#)
[IP Rights](#)
[PBR FAQs](#)
- [Canada](#)
- [China](#)
[PVP Office MARA \(Chinese\)](#)
[PVP Office NF GA \(Chinese\)](#)
- [Ecuador](#)

UPOV PRISMA

In the COVID-19 situation, an option for making online applications for plant variety protection may be even more relevant.

UPOV PRISMA is an online service to make Plant Variety Protection applications to participating UPOV members.

You can find out more [here](#) or send us message: prisma@uipo.int

**Special Session of UPOV DL-205 course during COVID-19 situation
(May 4 to June 7, 2020)
at a discounted rate for students under the Category 3
(breeders, IP managers, IP agents, lawyers, academics)**

UPOV

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Responding now

...and moving towards a new and better normal?

- UPOV virtual activities (meetings, webinars)
- Support virtual activities by partners
- Materials to support virtual activities (e.g. training videos)
- IT tools (online services, virtual communication tools)
- Redesigning meetings to make the most of virtual and physical participation (e.g. TWPs)
- Paperless/lesspaper office



UPOV

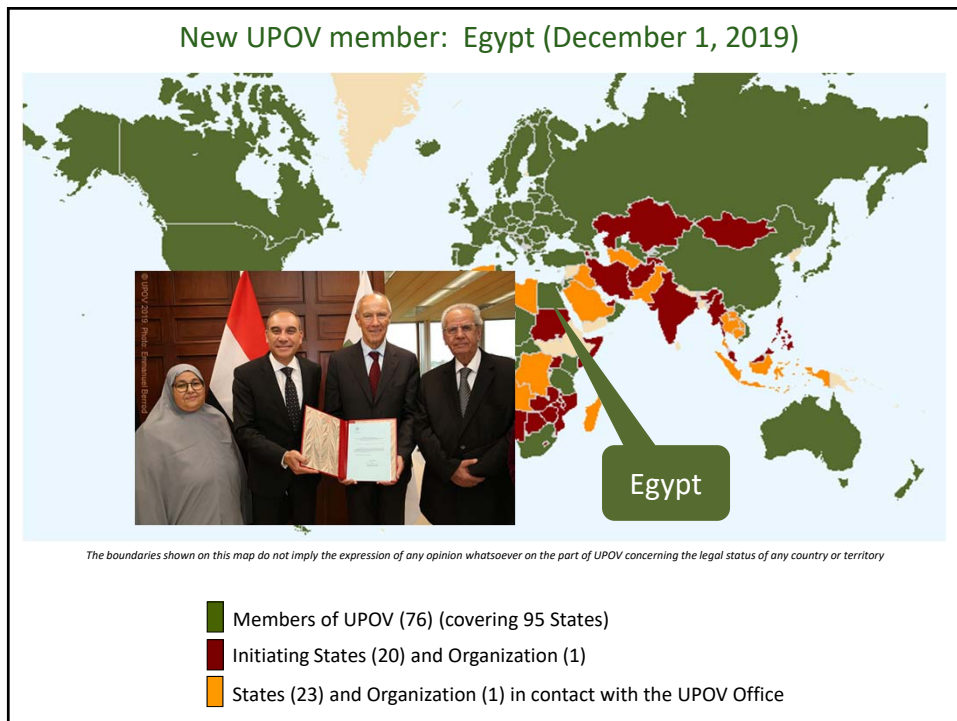
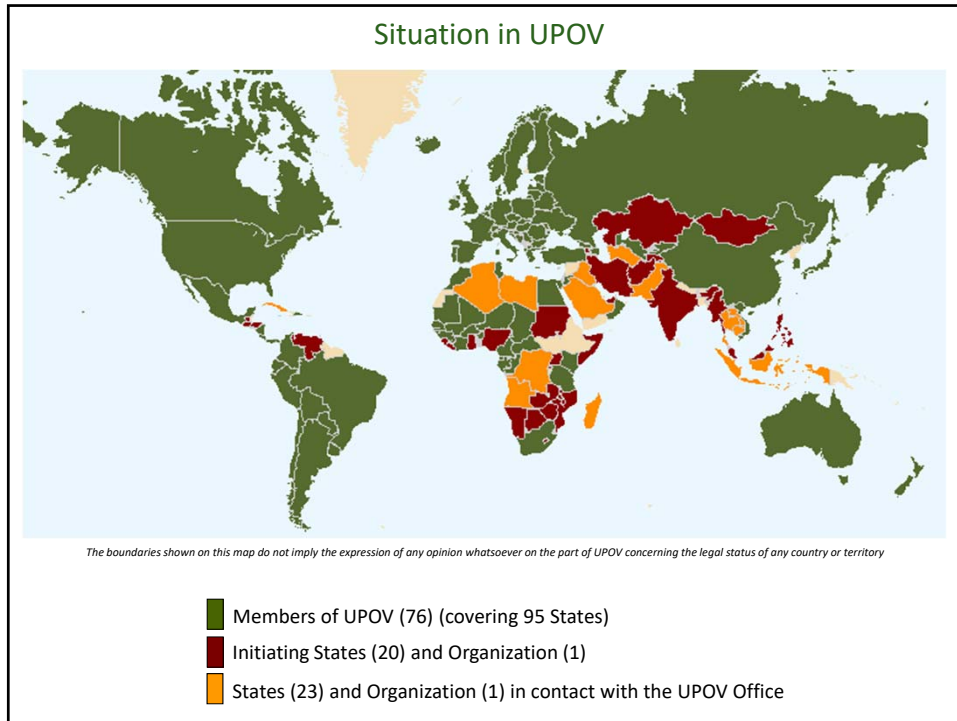
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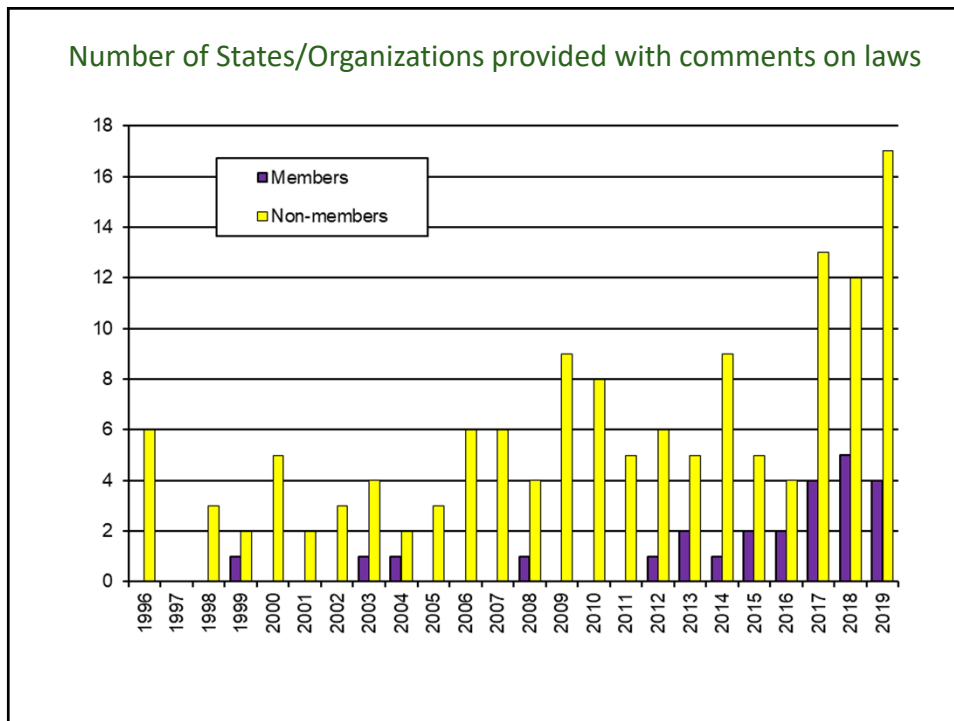
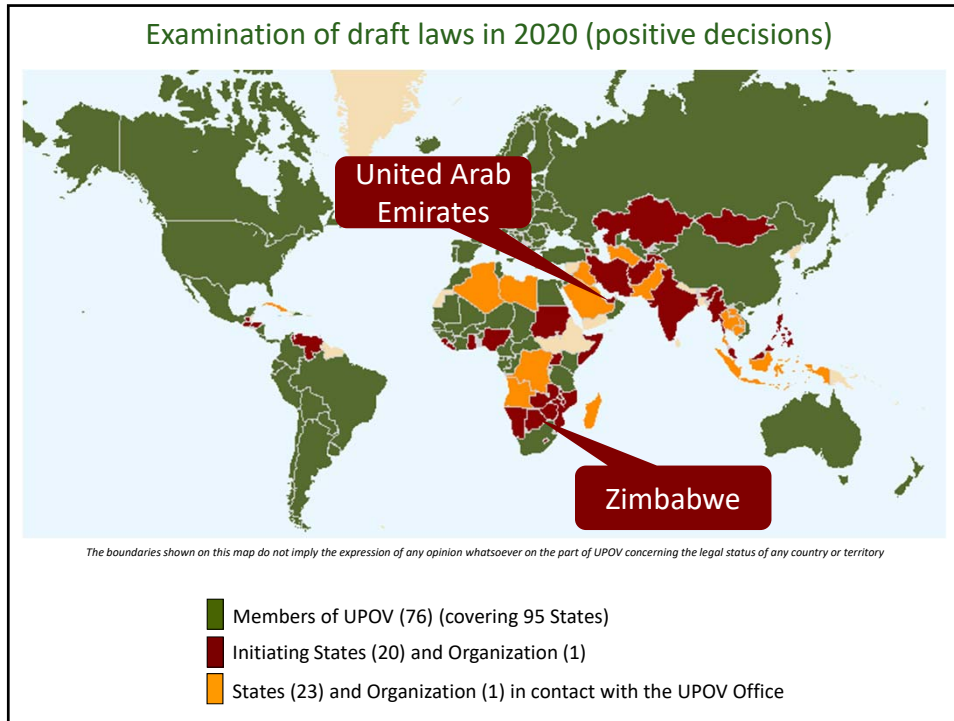
Preview

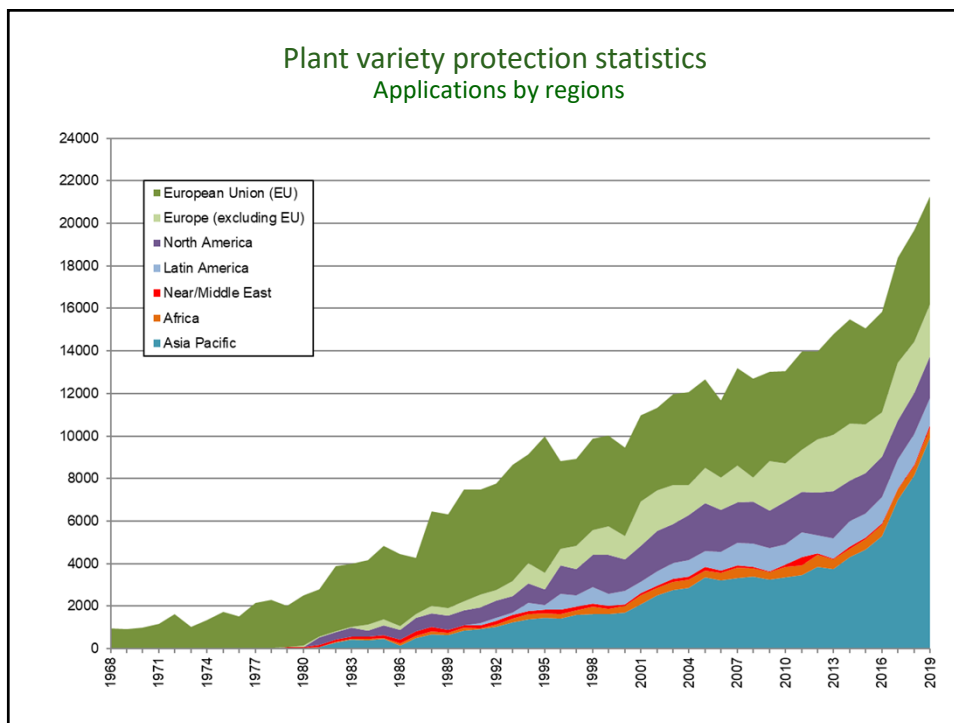
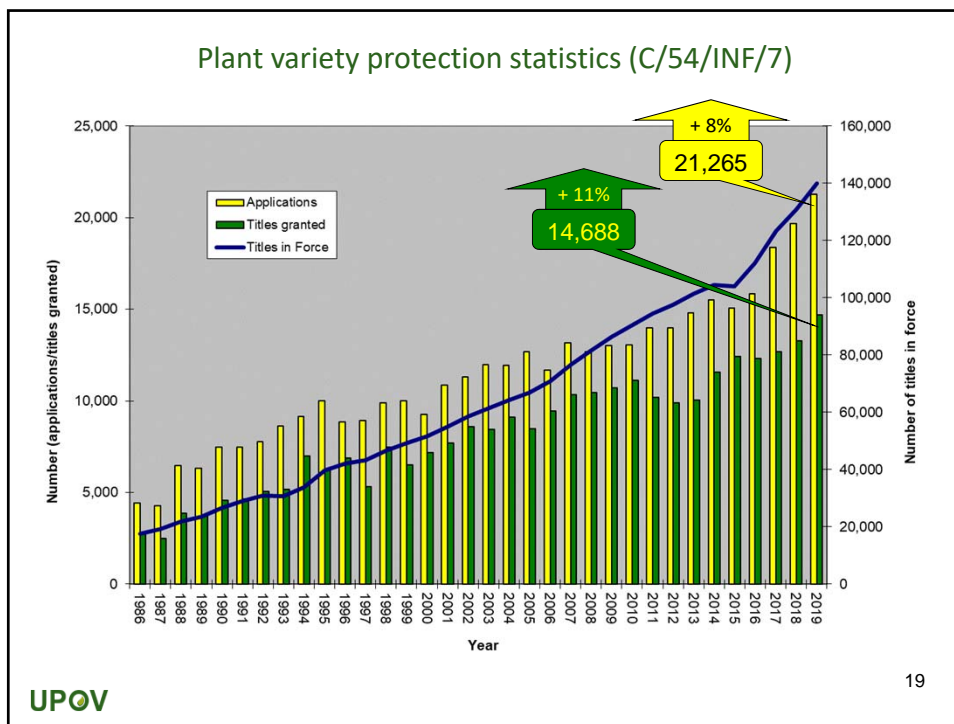
- Response to COVID-19 Pandemic
- **Situation in UPOV**
- Office of the Union
- UPOV PRISMA
- PLUTO database
- Social media

UPOV

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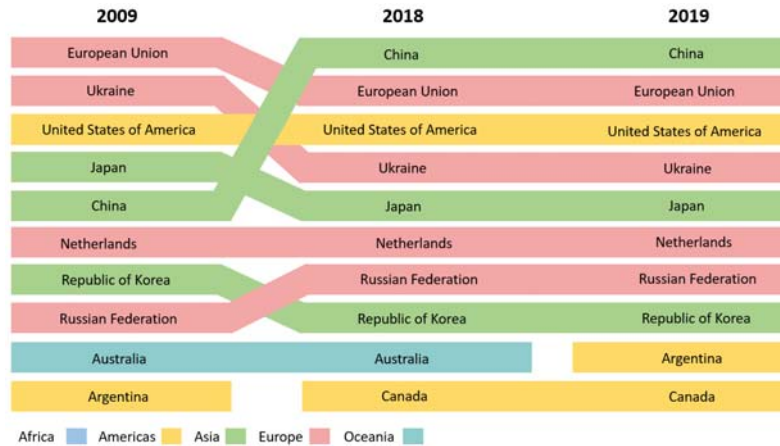






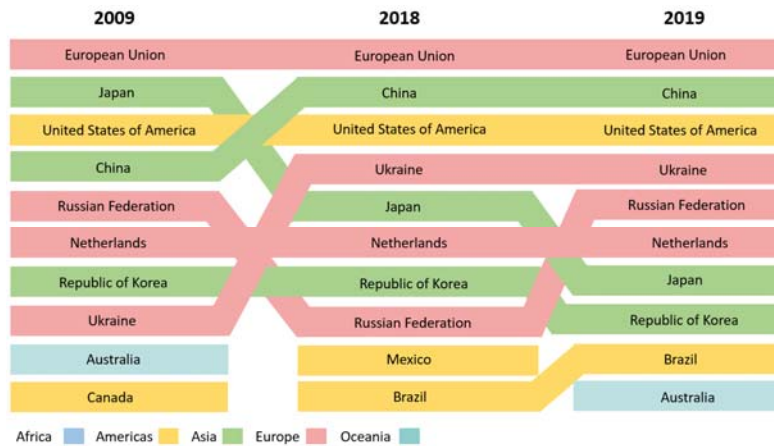
Plant variety protection statistics

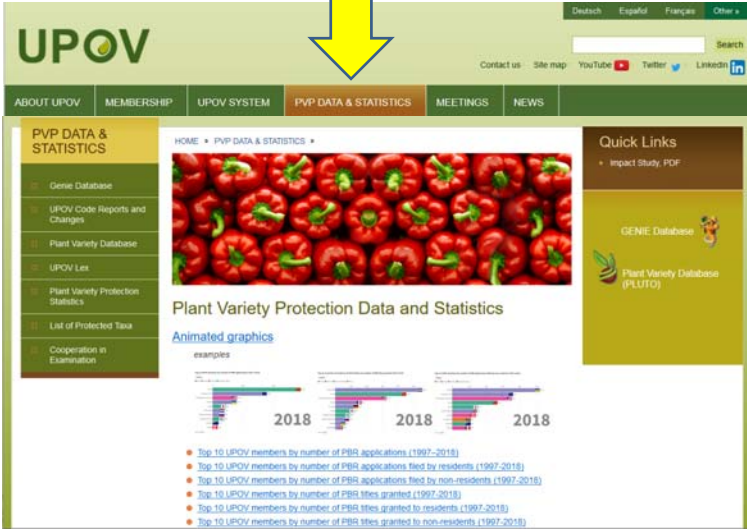
Top 10: UPOV Members by number of Plant Variety Protection applications



Plant variety protection statistics

Top 10: UPOV Members by number of Plant Variety Protection titles





The screenshot shows the UPOV website's 'PVP DATA & STATISTICS' page. A yellow arrow points to the 'PVP DATA & STATISTICS' menu item in the top navigation bar. The page features a header with the UPOV logo, navigation tabs, and a main content area with a red pepper image and a bar chart titled 'Plant Variety Protection Data and Statistics'. The chart shows data for 2018, with a legend indicating 'examples'.

UPOV

Preview

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Mr. Francis Gurry
UPOV Secretary-General
*October 30, 2008, to
September 30, 2020*



Mr. Daren Tang
Acting UPOV Secretary-General
from October 1, 2020



UPOV

Technical/Regional Officer (Asia)

*Thanks and farewell
to*
Tomochika Motomura



*Welcome
to*
Manabu Suzuki



UPOV

Fellow

*Thanks and farewell to
Wen Wen*



IT Support Officer (temporary appointment)

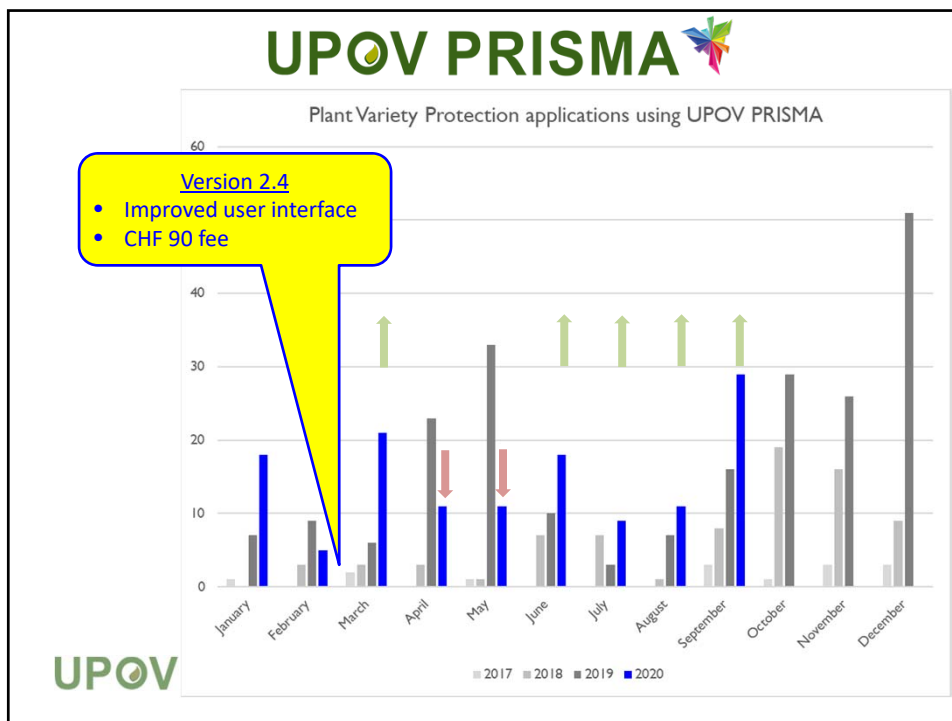
New colleague
to start
November 1, 2020

UPOV

Preview

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UPOV



Preview

- Response to COVID-19 Pandemic
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- **PLUTO database**
- Social media

The screenshot displays the UPOV PLUTO website interface. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for ABOUT UPOV, MEMBERSHIP, UPOV SYSTEM, PVP DATA & STATISTICS, MEETINGS, and NEWS. Below the menu, the main heading reads "UPOV PLUTO". The page is divided into two columns of service options:

- PLUTO Free service:**
 - ✓ Search and display results
 - ✓ Save and Upload Search criteria
 - ✓ Print results
- PLUTO Premium service CHF 750 /year:**
 - ✓ Search and display results
 - ✓ Save and Upload Search criteria
 - ✓ Print results
 - ✓ Unlimited data download
 - ✓ Alerts

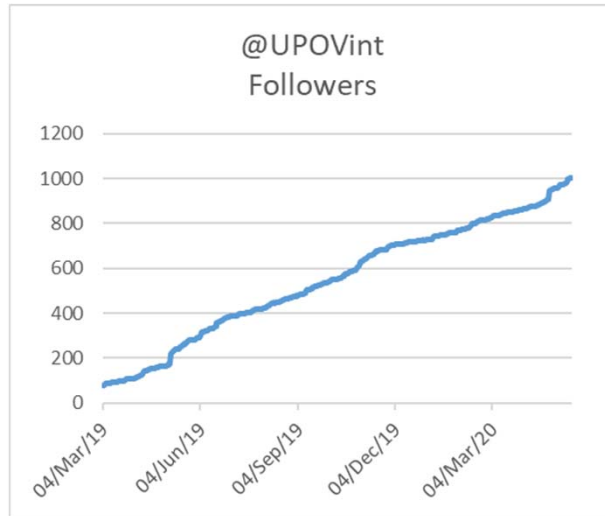
Free for UPOV members, data contributors and cases approved by UPOV members

At the bottom of the page, there is a link: "Click here to view an extract from the June 30 Webinar (recording/video)". A red arrow points to this link from the right side of the page.

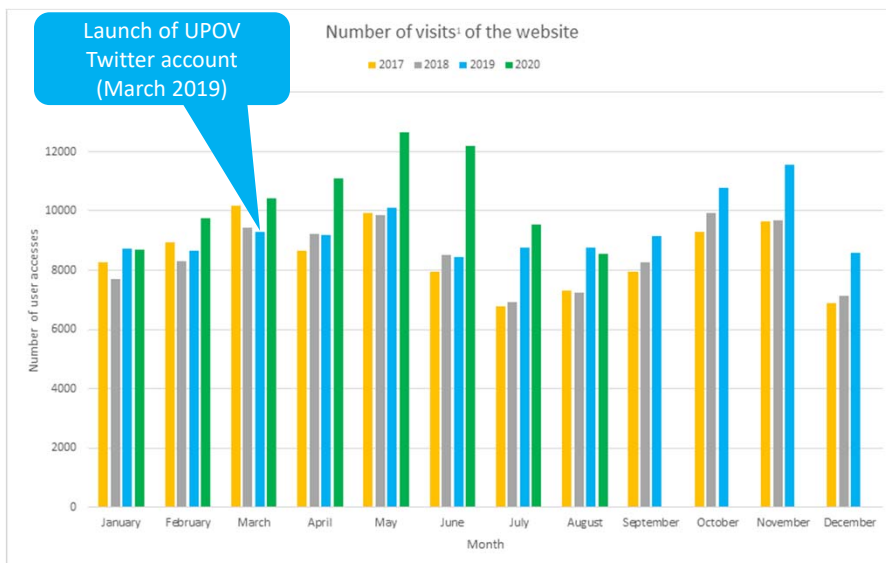
Preview

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- **Social media**

Twitter (@UPOVint)



UPOV website (www.upov.int)



The screenshot shows the UPOV website interface. At the top left is the UPOV logo. To the right, there are language options: Deutsch, Español, Français, and Other. Below the logo is a search bar and social media links for Contact us, Site map, YouTube, Twitter, and LinkedIn. A navigation menu includes ABOUT UPOV, MEMBERSHIP, UPOV SYSTEM, PVP DATA & STATISTICS, MEETINGS (highlighted), and NEWS. The main content area is titled 'Meeting Documents' and includes a breadcrumb trail 'HOME > MEETINGS >'. A red warning icon is present with the text: 'Unless otherwise agreed by the Council of UPOV, only documents that have been adopted by the Council of UPOV and that have not been superseded can represent UPOV policies or guidance.' Below this, it says 'See UPOV Collection for guidance and information materials concerning plant variety protection.' and 'UPOV sessions: program of the week'. A list of committees is provided: C Council, CAJ Administrative and Legal Committee, TC Technical Committee, and TC-EDC Enlarged Editorial Committee. A sidebar on the left lists navigation options: Home, Calendar of Meetings, Meeting Documents (highlighted), Seminars & Symposia, Restricted area, and Search Documents. The UPOV logo is also visible at the bottom left of the page.

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[Ende der Anlage und des Dokuments]/
[Fin del Anexo y del documento]