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| International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants |  |

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| Administrative and Legal Committee  Seventy-Ninth Session  Geneva, October 26, 2022 | CAJ/79/INF/3  Original: English  Date: October 15, 2022 |

UPOV information databases

Document prepared by the Office of the Union

This document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance

Executive summary

The purpose of this document is to provide an update on developments concerning the GENIE database and the UPOV Code system.

Matters concerning developments on the PLUTO plant variety database (PLUTO database) are presented in documents CAJ/79/5 “PLUTO Plant Variety Database” and CAJ/79/6 “UPOV denomination similarity search tool”.

The TC, at its fifty-eighth session, will be invited to consider a proposal to revise document UPOV/INF/23 “UPOV Code System” ” to clarify the maximum number of characters to be used in the appended element to UPOV codes, as set out in paragraph 9 of this document. The conclusion of the TC will be reported to the CAJ in document CAJ/79/2 “Report on developments in the Technical Committee”.

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The following abbreviations are used in this document:

CAJ: Administrative and Legal Committee

GRIN: Germplasm Resources Information Network

TC: Technical Committee

TWA: Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops

TWC: Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs

TWF: Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops

TWM: Technical Working Party for Testing Methods and Techniques

TWO: Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees

TWP(s): Technical Working Party(ies)

TWV: Technical Working Party for Vegetables

# GENIE database

## Background

The GENIE database (<http://www.upov.int/genie/en/>) has been developed to provide online information on the status of protection, cooperation in examination, experience in DUS testing and existence of UPOV Test Guidelines for different GENera and specIEs (hence GENIE). The GENIE database is used to generate the relevant Council and TC documents concerning that information[[1]](#footnote-2).

The GENIE database is the repository of the UPOV codes and provides information concerning the principal and alternative botanical names and common names of plant taxa.

# UPOV code system

## Proposals for the revision of document UPOV/INF/23 “Guide to the UPOV code system”

The guide to the UPOV code system (document UPOV/INF/23 “UPOV Code System”) was adopted by the Council on September 21, 2021, and is available on the UPOV website at <https://www.upov.int/genie/resources/pdfs/upov_code_system_en.pdf> (see document C/55/12 “Outcome of consideration of documents by correspondence”, paragraph 32).

The CAJ is invited to note that the TC, at its fifty-eighth session, will be invited to consider a proposal to revise document UPOV/INF/23 “UPOV Code System” ” to clarify the maximum number of characters to be used in the appended element to UPOV codes, as follows (deletions indicated with highlighting and ~~strikethrough~~; additions indicated with highlighting and underline):

“5 UPOV CODE: APPENDED INFORMATION

“5.1 Appended element construction

“5.1.1. Where required, an element may be appended to a UPOV code to provide information on the variety group, variety type and/or denomination class.

“The appended element to UPOV codes is identifiable though the following naming convention:

* “A digit (number from 1 to 9) prefix identifies the new appended element.
* “Different digits or letters could, if appropriate, indicate different categories of information.
* “The appended element should contain a maximum of six digits or letters in total (e.g. ‘1AC2TG’)

“This element may be appended to any UPOV code, regardless of plant taxa (genera, species or subspecies levels). Examples:

“UPOV code for genus *Abies*: ABIES

“UPOV code with appended element: ABIES\_~~1234~~ 1AC2TG

“UPOV code for species *Abies sibirica*: ABIES\_SIB

“UPOV code with appended element: ABIES\_SIB\_~~1234~~ 1AC2TG

“UPOV code for sub-species *Abies sibirica* subsp. *semenovii*: ABIES\_SIB\_SEM

“UPOV code with appended element: ABIES\_SIB\_SEM\_~~1234~~ 1AC2TG”

9. Developments on matters presented in this document at the TC, at its fifty-eighth session, will be reported to the CAJ in document CAJ/79/2 “Report on developments in the Technical Committee”.

## UPOV code developments

10. In 2021, 131 new UPOV codes were created. The total number of UPOV codes in the GENIE database as of December 31, 2021 was 9,342.

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|  | Year | | | | | | | | | | |
|  | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
| New UPOV codes | 173 | 212 | 209 | 577 | 188 | 173 | 440 | 242 | 243 | 177 | 131 |
| Amendments | 12 | 5 | 47\* | 37 | 11 | 16 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 44 | 35 |
| Total UPOV Codes | 6,851 | 7,061 | 7,251 | 7,808 | 7,992 | 8,149 | 8,589 | 8,844 | 9,077 | 9,213 | 9,342 |

\* including changes to UPOV codes resulting from the amendment of the “Guide to the UPOV Code System” concerning hybrids (see document TC/49/6).

[End of document]

1. See documents C/[session]/INF/6 “List of the taxa protected by the members of the Union; C/[session]/INF/5 “Cooperation in Examination”; TC/[session]/INF/4 “List of genera and species for which authorities have practical experience in the examination of distinctness, uniformity and stability”; and TC/[session]/2 “Test Guidelines”. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)