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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS
GENEVA

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

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REVISION OF ANNEX I TO DOCUMENT TC/38/8

DEVELOPMENT OF DOCUMENT TGP/7
“DEVELOPMENT OF TEST GUIDELINES”

Document prepared by the Office of the Union

1. Annex I to this document is the “TG Template” to be used as the basis for all future Test Guidelines, as agreed by the Technical Committee at its thirty-eight session, on the basis of the revisions made to document TC/38/8, Annex I.
2. Annexes II and III of document TC/38/8 have not been revised.

[Annex I follows]



TG/{...}
ORIGINAL:
DATE:

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS
 GENEVA

Main Common Name* (E, F, G & S) [types of] <i>Latin name</i> * [UPOV Code]
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GUIDELINES

FOR THE CONDUCT OF TESTS

FOR DISTINCTNESS, UNIFORMITY AND STABILITY

Alternative Names:*

Latin	English	French	German	Spanish

ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

These guidelines should be read in conjunction with document TG/1/3, “General Introduction to the Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability and the Development of Harmonized Descriptions of New Varieties of Plants” (hereinafter referred to as the “General Introduction”) and its associated “TGP” documents.

{Other associated UPOV documents }

* These names were correct at the time of the introduction of these Test Guidelines but may be revised or updated. [Readers are advised to consult the UPOV Code, which can be found on the UPOV Website (www.upov.int), for the latest information.]

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1. Subject of these Guidelines

1.1 These Test Guidelines apply to all varieties of {...}.

2. Material Required

2.1 The competent authorities decide on the quantity and quality of the plant material required for testing the variety and when and where it is to be delivered. Applicants submitting material from a State other than that in which the testing takes place must ensure that all customs formalities and phytosanitary requirements are complied with.

2.2 The material is to be supplied in the form of {...}.

2.3 The minimum quantity of plant material, to be supplied by the applicant, should be:

{...}

2.4 The plant material supplied should be visibly healthy, not lacking in vigor, nor affected by any important pest or disease.

2.5 The plant material should not have undergone any treatment which would affect the expression of the characteristics of the variety, unless the competent authorities allow or request such treatment. If it has been treated, full details of the treatment must be given.

3. Method of Examination

3.1 *Duration of Tests*

The minimum duration of tests should normally be {...}.

3.2 *Testing Place*

The tests should normally be conducted at one place. If any characteristics of the variety, which are relevant for the examination of DUS, cannot be seen at that place, the variety may be tested at an additional place.

3.3 *Conditions for Conducting the Examination*

The tests should be carried out under conditions ensuring satisfactory growth for the expression of the relevant characteristics of the variety and for the conduct of the examination.

3.4 *Test Design*

3.4.1 The design of the tests should be such that plants or parts of plants may be removed for measurement or counting without prejudice to the observations which must be made up to the end of the growing cycle.

3.4.2 Each test should be designed to result in a total of, at least, {...} plants (which should be divided between {...} replicates – *if appropriate*).

3.5 *Number of Plants / Parts of Plants to be Examined*

Unless otherwise indicated, all observations determined by measuring or counting should be made on {...} plants or {...} parts taken from each of {...} plants.

3.6 *Additional Tests*

Additional tests, for examining relevant characteristics, may be established.

4. Assessment of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability

4.1 *Distinctness*

4.1.1 General Recommendations

It is of particular importance for users of these Test Guidelines to consult the General Introduction prior to making decisions regarding distinctness. However, the following points are provided for elaboration or emphasis in these Test Guidelines:

4.1.2 Consistent Differences

The minimum duration of tests recommended in section 3.1 reflects, in general, the need to ensure that any differences in a characteristic are sufficiently consistent.

4.1.3 Clear Differences

Determining whether a difference between two varieties is clear depends on many factors, and should consider, in particular, the type of expression of the characteristic being examined, i.e. whether it is expressed in a qualitative, quantitative, or pseudo-qualitative manner. Therefore, it is important that users of these Test Guidelines are familiar with the recommendations contained in the General Introduction prior to making decisions regarding distinctness.

4.2 *Uniformity*

It is of particular importance for users of these Test Guidelines to consult the General Introduction prior to making decisions regarding uniformity. However, the following points are provided for elaboration or emphasis in these Test Guidelines:

{recommended uniformity standards to be inserted}

4.3 *Stability*

4.3.1 In practice, it is not usual to perform tests of stability that produce results as certain as those of the testing of distinctness and uniformity. However, experience has demonstrated that, for many types of variety, when a variety has been shown to be uniform, it can also be considered to be stable.

4.3.2 Where appropriate, or in cases of doubt, stability may be tested, either by growing a further generation, or by testing a new seed or plant stock to ensure that it exhibits the same characteristics as those shown by the previous material supplied.

5. Grouping of Varieties and Organization of the Growing Trial

5.1 The selection of varieties of common knowledge to be grown in the trial with the candidate varieties and the way in which these varieties are divided into groups to facilitate the assessment of distinctness is aided by the use of grouping characteristics.

5.2 Grouping characteristics are those in which the documented states of expression, even where produced at different locations, can be used, either individually or in combination with other such characteristics: (a) to select varieties of common knowledge that can be excluded from the growing trial used for examination of distinctness; and (b) to organize the growing trial so that similar varieties are grouped together.

5.3 The following have been agreed as useful grouping characteristics:

{list grouping characteristics}

5.4 Guidance for the use of grouping characteristics, in the process of examining distinctness, is provided through the General Introduction.

6. Introduction to the Table of Characteristics

6.1 *Categories of Characteristics*

6.1.1 Standard Test Guidelines Characteristics

Standard Test Guidelines characteristics are those which are approved by UPOV for examination of DUS and from which members of the Union can select those suitable for their particular circumstances.

6.1.2 Asterisked Characteristics

Asterisked characteristics (denoted by *) are those included in the Test Guidelines which are important for the international harmonization of variety descriptions and should always be examined for DUS and included in the variety description by all members of the Union, except when the state of expression of a preceding characteristic or regional environmental conditions render this inappropriate.

6.2 *States of Expression and Corresponding Notes*

States of expression are given for each characteristic to define the characteristic and to harmonize descriptions. Each state of expression is allocated a corresponding numerical note for ease of recording of data and for the production and exchange of the description.

6.3 *Types of Expression*

An explanation of the types of expression of characteristics (qualitative, quantitative and pseudo-qualitative) is provided in the General Introduction.

6.4 *Example Varieties*

Where appropriate, example varieties are provided to clarify the states of expression of each characteristic.

6.5 *Legend*

- (*) Asterisked characteristic – see section 6.1.2
- (QL) Qualitative characteristic – see section 6.3
- (QN) Quantitative characteristic – see section 6.3
- (PQ) Pseudo-Quantitative characteristic – see section 6.3

- (+) See Explanations on the Table of Characteristics in Chapter 8.

7. Table of Characteristics/Tableau des caractères/Merkmalstabelle/Tabla de caracteres

English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielsorten Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
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8. Explanations on the Table of Characteristics

9. Literature

10. Technical Questionnaire

TECHNICAL QUESTIONNAIRE	Page {x} of {y}	Reference Number:
		Application date: (not to be filled in by the applicant)
TECHNICAL QUESTIONNAIRE to be completed in connection with an application for plant breeders' rights		
1. Subject of the Technical Questionnaire		
1.1 <i>Latin Name</i>	<input type="text"/>	
1.2 Common Name	<input type="text"/>	
2. Applicant		
Name	<input type="text"/>	
Address	<input type="text"/>	
Telephone No.	<input type="text"/>	
Fax No.	<input type="text"/>	
E-mail address	<input type="text"/>	
Breeder (if different from applicant)	<input type="text"/>	
3. Proposed denomination and breeder's reference		
Proposed denomination (if available)	<input type="text"/>	
Breeder's reference	<input type="text"/>	

TECHNICAL QUESTIONNAIRE	Page {x} of {y}	Reference Number:
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4. Information on the breeding scheme and propagation of the variety

4.1 Breeding Scheme

4.2 Method of Propagating the Variety

TECHNICAL QUESTIONNAIRE	Page {x} of {y}	Reference Number:
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7. Additional information which may help in the examination of the variety

7.1 In addition to the information provided in sections 5 and 6, are there any additional characteristics which may help to distinguish the variety?

Yes [] No []

(If yes, please provide details)

7.2 Special conditions for the examination of the variety

7.2.1 Are there any special conditions for growing the variety or conducting the examination?

Yes [] No []

7.2.2 If yes, please give details:

7.3 Other information

8. Authorization for release

(a) Does the variety require prior authorization for release under legislation concerning the protection of the environment, human and animal health?

Yes [] No []

(b) Has such authorization been obtained?

Yes [] No []

If the answer to (b) is yes, please attach a copy of the authorization.

9. I hereby declare that, to the best of my knowledge, the information provided in this form is correct:

Applicant's name

Signature Date