



TC/50/36

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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

Geneva

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**Fiftieth Session
Geneva, April 7 to 9, 2014**

REPORT ON THE CONCLUSIONS

*adopted by the Technical Committee*Opening of the session

1. The Technical Committee (TC) held its fiftieth session in Geneva from April 7 to 9, 2014. The list of participants is reproduced in Annex I to this report.
2. The session was opened by Mr. Alejandro Barrientos Priego (Mexico), Chairman of the TC, who welcomed the participants.
3. The TC expressed its condolences for the sad loss of Mr. François Boulineau, Chairman of the Technical Working Party for Vegetables (TWV), who had died on December 23, 2013. It was recalled that, in addition to being Chairman of the TWV, Mr. Boulineau had brought great experience and expert knowledge to UPOV's technical work and was a leading expert for a number of important UPOV Test Guidelines.
4. The Chairman reported that observer status had been granted to Malaysia for the TC.
5. The Vice Secretary-General reported that Mr. Fuminori Aihara had completed his three-year secondment to UPOV and had been replaced by Mr. Jun Koide, national of Japan. Following a competition, Mrs. Alexandra Fava had been appointed to the post of Secretary I on October 1, 2013.
6. The Chairman confirmed that the report of the forty-ninth session of the TC, held in Geneva on March 18 to 20, 2013 (document TC/49/42), had been adopted by correspondence and was available on the UPOV website.

Adoption of the agenda

7. The TC adopted the agenda as presented in document TC/50/1 Rev.

Report on developments in UPOV including relevant matters discussed in the last sessions of the Administrative and Legal Committee, the Consultative Committee and the Council (oral report by the Vice Secretary-General)

8. The TC considered document TC/50/10 "Report on developments in UPOV including relevant matters discussed in the last sessions of the Administrative and Legal Committee, the Consultative Committee and the Council".

Matters for Information

9. The Vice Secretary-General provided an oral report on developments in UPOV, including developments at the sixty-seventh and sixty-eighth sessions of the CAJ, the eighty-fifth and eighty-sixth sessions of the Consultative Committee and the thirtieth extraordinary session and the forty-seventh ordinary session of the Council, on the basis of the annex to document TC/50/10.

Matters for Consideration by the Technical Committee

Variety Descriptions

10. The TC noted that the CAJ, at its sixty-ninth session, to be held in Geneva on April 10, 2014, would consider the proposal of the Administrative and Legal Committee Advisory Group (CAJ-AG) to invite the TC to develop further guidance on certain matters concerning variety descriptions, as set out in document TC/50/10, paragraphs 37 to 41.

Matters Raised by the International Seed Federation (ISF)

11. The TC noted that the Consultative Committee had agreed to the development of document UPOV/INF/15 "Guidance for Members of UPOV on Ongoing Obligations and Related Notifications and on the Provision of Information to Facilitate Cooperation" into an umbrella document that would identify key issues for the operation of a plant variety protection system, as set out in document TC/50/10, paragraphs 44 and 45 .

12. The TC invited ISF to consider the relevant UPOV materials and to explain where it considered that further guidance might be developed in relation to the following matters, as set out in document TC/50/10, paragraph 46:

- (a) Photographs
- (b) Minimum sample size
- (c) Reference collections
- (d) Length of examination
- (e) Variety description of most similar variety
- (f) Variety description by applicant
- (g) Variety description databases

13. The TC noted that ISF was invited to express its views to the TC with regard to databases of variety descriptions and the criteria identified by the TC for the publication of variety descriptions, as set out in document TC/45/9 "Publication of Variety Descriptions".

Web-Based TG Template

14. The TC received a presentation on the web-based TG Template, a copy of which would be provided in an addendum to document TC/50/10. The TC noted the features of Version 1 of the web-based TG Template, as set out in document TC/50/10, paragraph 55.

15. The TC noted that the Office would request all Leading Experts to participate in the testing of Version 1 in May and June 2014. The TC also noted that the Leading and Interested Experts would be requested to use the web-based TG Template for the preparation of draft Test Guidelines for the forty-third session of the Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops (TWA), to be held in Mar del Plata, Argentina, from November 17 to 21, 2014. The TC approved the plans for the implementation of the web-based TG Template, including the exclusive use of the web-based TG Template for the development of all Test Guidelines from 2015, as set out in document TC/50/10, paragraphs 56 to 58.

16. The TC noted the features and timetable for development of Version 2 of the web-based TG Template, as set out in document TC/50/10, paragraphs 59 to 63.

Progress reports on the work of the Technical Working Parties, including the Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA-Profiling in Particular (BMT), and the Ad Hoc Crop Subgroups on Molecular Techniques

17. The TC received oral reports from the Chairpersons on the work of the Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops (TWA), the Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs (TWC), the Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops (TWF), the Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees (TWO) and the Technical Working Party for Vegetables (TWV). The TC noted that no session of the Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA-Profiling in Particular (BMT) had been held since the forty-ninth session of the TC. It noted that copies of those presentations would be provided in an annex to the detailed report.

Matters arising from the Technical Working Parties

18. The TC considered document TC/50/3.

Matters for Information and for Possible Decision to be Taken by the Technical Committee

Guidance for drafters of Test Guidelines

19. The TC noted the report on developments concerning the new web-based TG Template in document TC/50/10 "Report on developments in UPOV including relevant matters discussed in the last sessions of the Administrative and Legal Committee, the Consultative Committee and the Council".

20. The TC agreed to the organization of a series of electronic workshops (e-workshops) to demonstrate the use of the new web-based TG template. The e-workshops would be organized to coincide with the start of drafting work by Leading Experts. The TC also agreed that a demonstration of the new web-based TG template should be made at the Technical Working Party sessions.

21. The TC noted that the Office of the Union would prepare a grid template for shape and ratio characteristics, for use by Leading Experts.

Data loggers

22. The TC requested the Office of the Union to issue a new circular concerning hand-held data capture devices, inviting further entries in advance of the thirty-second session of the TWC. The TC agreed that breeders should also be invited to provide information on the use of hand-held data capture devices.

Matters for Information

Subject for discussion

23. The TC noted the addition of subjects for discussion during the TWF and the TWV at their session in 2014, as set out in document TC/50/3, paragraphs 15 and 16.

Experiences with new types and species

24. The TC noted the information on experiences with new types and species presented to the TWO and the TWA at their sessions in 2013, as set out in document TC/50/3, paragraphs 18 and 19.

TGP documents

TGP Documents Proposed for Revision in 2014

TGP/0: List of TGP Documents and Latest Issue Dates

25. The TC considered document TC/50/5 "TGP Documents" and noted that the Council would be invited to adopt document TGP/0/7, in order to reflect the adoption of TGP documents.

TGP/2: List of Test Guidelines Adopted by UPOV

26. The TC considered the revision of document TGP/2, as set out in document TC/50/5, paragraph 12, and agreed that document TGP/2 be amended to read as follows:

“A list and copies of adopted and published Test Guidelines can be obtained at http://www.upov.int/test_guidelines/en/”.

TGP/5: Experience and Cooperation in DUS Testing: Section 10: Notification of Additional Characteristics

27. The TC considered document TC/50/15 and agreed that the guidance in document TGP/5: Section 10, should read as follows:

“4.2 Proposals for additional characteristics and states of expression notified to the Office of the Union by means of document TGP/5 Section 10, will be presented to the relevant Technical Working Party(ies) (TWP(s)) at the earliest opportunity with information on the extent of use of the characteristic. The characteristics will then, as appropriate, be posted on the TG Drafters’ Webpage of the UPOV website (http://www.upov.int/restricted_temporary/tg/index.html) on the basis of comments made by the relevant TWP(s), and/or the TWP(s) may initiate a revision or a partial revision of the Test Guidelines concerned.”

TGP/7: Development of Test Guidelines

28. The TC noted that the revisions to document TGP/7 previously agreed by the TC, as set out in document TC/50/5, Annex I, would be a basis for the adoption of document TGP/7/4 by the Council, at its forty-eighth ordinary session, subject to the following amendments:

Annex I, ASW 0	in the German version: to amend the translation of “Subject of these Test Guidelines” to read “ <u>Gegenstand</u> dieser Prüfungsrichtlinien”
Annex I, GN 7	last paragraph to read: “In general, in the case of <i>plants</i> required only for a single growing trial (e.g. no plants required for special tests or variety collections), the number of plants requested in Chapter 2.3 often corresponds to the number of plants specified in Chapters 3.4 “Test Design” and 4.2 “Uniformity”. In that respect, it is recalled the quantity of plant material specified in Chapter 2.3 of the Test Guidelines is the minimum quantity that an authority might request of the applicant. Therefore, each authority may decide to request a larger quantity of plant material, for example to allow for potential losses during establishment (see GN 7 (a)).”
Annex I, GN 28, Section 3.2.2.	to read as follows: “3.2.2 Where different sets of example varieties are provided for different types of varieties covered by the same Test Guidelines, they are placed in the Table of Characteristics in the same column as normal. The sets of example varieties (e.g. winter and spring) are separated by a semicolon, and/or indicated by a key which is provided for each set and an explanation for the option chosen should be included in the legend of Chapter 6 of the Test Guidelines.”
Annex I, GN 28, Section 4.	4.1 Reference to Section 2 to be replaced by reference to Section 4.2 4.2.3 Reference to Figure 1 to be replaced by reference to Section 4.2.3 4.2.5 Reference to Figure 1 to be deleted
Annex I, GN 35, Introduction	First sentence to read: “The taking of photographs is influenced by factors, such as light conditions, quality and setting of the camera, and the background.”

29. The TC noted that the French, German and Spanish translations of the original English text would be checked by the relevant members of the Editorial Committee prior to submission of the relevant drafts of TGP documents that would be presented for adoption by the Council, at its forty-eighth ordinary session.

(i) *Revision of document TGP/7: Additional Standard Wording for Growing Cycle for Tropical Species*

30. The TC considered document TC/50/16 and agreed with the proposed ASW for evergreen species with indeterminate growth for inclusion in document TGP/7 to read as follows:

“New (after (b)): Evergreen species with indeterminate growth

“The growing cycle is considered to be the period ranging from the beginning of development of an individual flower or inflorescence, through fruit development and concluding with the harvesting of fruit from the corresponding individual flower or inflorescence.”

(ii) Revision of document TGP/7: Indication of Growth Stage in Test Guidelines

31. The TC considered document TC/50/18.

32. The TC agreed that document TGP/7, ASW 4, GN 24 and GN 9 should be amended to read as follows:

“ASW 4 (TG Template: Chapter 3.3) – Conditions for conducting the examination

“Information for conducting the examination of particular characteristics

“(a) Stage of development for the assessment

‘The optimum stage of development for the assessment of each characteristic is indicated by a reference in the second column of the Table of Characteristics. The stages of development denoted by each reference are described in Chapter 8 [...]’

“GN 9 (TG Template: Chapter 3.3) – Growth stage key

“In some cases, where it is appropriate to provide a growth stage key for the observation of characteristics, the following is a useful guide:

‘Growth stages of mono- and dicotyledonous plants - BBCH Monograph’

(Federal Biological Research Centre for Agriculture and Forestry)

ISBN Number: 3-8263-3152-4

http://www.jki.bund.de/fileadmin/dam_uploads/_veroeff/bbch/BBCH-Skala_englisch.pdf

“In some other cases, a simplified growth stages key might be more appropriate, such as the example in the Test Guidelines for Potato (document TG/23/6):

“8.3 Optimal Stage of Development for the Assessment of Characteristics

1 = bud stage

2 = flowering stage

3 = ripening stage of tubers

4 = after harvest”

“GN 24 (TG Template: Chapter 7: column 2, header row 1) – Growth stage

“In some Test Guidelines, the growth stage at which the examination of the characteristic should be done is provided here. In such cases, the stages of development denoted by each reference are described in a section within Chapter 8, according to ASW 4(a).”

(iii) Revision of document TGP/7: Providing Illustrations of Color in Test Guidelines

33. The TC considered document TC/50/19.

34. The TC agreed to include the following guidance on the risks of providing illustrations of color in Test Guidelines in document TGP/7:

“It is generally not appropriate to use illustrations of color, as such, in the Test Guidelines because the color in photographs can be affected by the technology of the camera, the facilities used to display the photograph (including printer, computer and screen) and lighting conditions under which the photograph is/was taken. Furthermore, the expression of color may vary according to the environment in which the variety is grown. For example, a photograph of a ‘weak intensity’ of anthocyanin coloration (or ‘light intensity’ of a color) observed in one environment may not represent a ‘weak intensity’ of anthocyanin coloration (or ‘light intensity’ of a color) observed in another environment.”

(iv) Revision of document TGP/7: Presence of Leading Expert at Technical Working Party Sessions

35. The TC considered document TC/50/20.

36. The TC agreed to include the following guidance on the presence of Leading Experts in Technical Working Party sessions in document TGP/7, Section 2.2.5.3:

“In order to be considered by a Technical Working Party, the Leading Expert of the draft Test Guidelines should be present at the session. Subject to approval by the Technical Working Party Chairperson, and where arranged sufficiently in advance of the session, a suitable alternative expert may act as the Leading Expert at the session, or the Leading Expert may participate by electronic means, where that enables the Test Guidelines to be considered in an effective way.”

TGP/8: Trial Design and Techniques Used in the Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability

37. The TC noted that the revisions to document TGP/8 previously agreed by the TC, as set out in document TC/50/5, Annex II, would be a basis for the adoption of document TGP/8/2 by the Council, at its forty-eighth ordinary session subject to the following amendments:

Annex II, Part I, Section 2.3.3.6.2	to delete heading “The absolute zero point”
Annex II, Part I, Section 2.3.3.7.3	to correct format for case I and case II and formulas
Annex II, Part I, Sections 3.5.1 and 4.2.2	to reinsert scales to graphs and remove colors
Annex II, Part I, Section 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • title to read as follows: “Cyclic planting of varieties from the variety collection to reduce trial size” • paragraph 1.1 to read as follows: “Cyclic planting of varieties from the variety collection (established varieties) to reduce trial size is appropriate for use in trials where:” • paragraph 1.1 to introduce a last bullet point: “three independent growing cycles are normally grown. The guidance below is for this case. However, it may also be adapted for crops where two independent growing cycles are normally grown.” • last sentence of second paragraph in 1.2 to read as follows: “If, after DUS testing, a variety is added to the variety collection it is allocated to a series and is cyclically omitted from the trial every third year.” • paragraph 1.3, sentences 5 and 6 to read as follows: “Because of a possible lag between final DUS testing and the decision on the application, candidate varieties are kept in trial for a fourth year after the three-year test period. If a positive decision is taken, they will become an established variety and will enter the cyclic planting system.” • note in paragraph 1.4, first sentence to read as follows: Note: if the DUSTNT software is used, a variety can be made to appear missing simply by removal of the variety from the “E file”. • paragraph 4.2.1, to remove extra dash in “t—test”

38. The TC noted that the French, German and Spanish translations of the original English text would be checked by the relevant members of the Editorial Committee prior to submission of the relevant drafts of TGP documents that would be presented for adoption by the Council, at its forty-eighth ordinary session.

Revision of document TGP/8: Part II: Section 10: Uniformity Assessment on the Basis of the Relative Variance Method

39. The TC considered document TC/50/23 and agreed with the proposed revision of document TGP/8, Section 10: "Uniformity Assessment on the Basis of the Relative Variance Method", as set out in document TC/50/23, Annex II.

TGP/14: Glossary of Terms Used in UPOV Documents – Correction (Spanish)

40. The TC noted the correction to the Spanish version of document TGP/14: Section 2: Subsection 3: Color, paragraph 2.2.2, as set out in document TC/50/5, paragraph 22.

Future Revision of TGP Documents Previously Agreed by the TC

TGP/9: Examining Distinctness

41. The TC noted the revisions already agreed by the TC for document TGP/9, as set out in document TC/50/5, Annex III.

42. The TC agreed to request an expert from Germany to develop guidance on the use of photographs for the analysis of distinctness for inclusion in document TGP/9. The new guidance would make reference to the complete guidance available in TGP/7.

Future Revisions under Development

TGP/7: Development of Test Guidelines

Revision of document TGP/7: Source of Propagating material

43. The TC considered document TC/50/17.

44. The TC encouraged experts to present to the TWPs, at their sessions in 2014, their experiences with regard to plant material submitted for examination and how they had addressed the problems that could arise, which could be developed into guidance that would reflect good practice. The title of the document should be amended accordingly.

TGP/8: Trial Design and Techniques Used in the Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability

(i) Revision of document TGP/8: Part I: New Section: Minimizing the Variation due to Different Observers

45. The TC considered document TC/50/21.

46. The TC noted that the TWF had requested an expert from New Zealand to report, at its session in 2014, on the previous work done on harmonized variety description for apple for an agreed set of varieties, as set out in document TC/50/21, paragraph 17.

47. The TC invited the expert from Australia, with the assistance of experts from the European Union, France, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, to draft further guidance to be included in a future revision of document TGP/8 on minimizing the variation due to different observers, including guidance on PQ and QN/MG characteristics, for consideration by the TWPs at their sessions in 2014.

(ii) Revision of document TGP/8: Part II: Method of Calculation of COYU

48. The TC considered document TC/50/22 and received a presentation by Mr. Adrian Roberts, United Kingdom, on "Proposed Improvements to COYU". It noted that a copy of the presentation would be made available as an addendum to document TC/50/22.

49. The TC noted the developments in the work concerning the proposals to address the bias in the present method of calculation of COYU, as set out in document TC/50/22, paragraphs 8 to 21.

50. The TC agreed that the development of a demonstration module in DUST should be continued and demonstrated to the TWC at its session in 2014. The TC agreed that a practical exercise should be conducted using real data to compare decisions made using the current and the proposed improved method.

51. The TC requested the Office of the Union to issue a new circular inviting further information on the extent and modalities of use of the current COYU method, in advance of the thirty-second session of the TWC.

(iii) Revision of document TGP/8: Part II: New Section 11: Examining DUS in Bulk Samples

52. The TC considered document TC/50/24.

53. The TC invited experts from France and the Netherlands to provide examples of their experience in the development of characteristics based on bulk samples, for seed- and vegetatively propagated varieties, as a basis to develop guidance on the development of characteristics examined on the basis of bulk samples.

(iv) Revision of document TGP/8: Part II: New Section: Data Processing for the Assessment of Distinctness and for Producing Variety Descriptions

54. The TC considered document TC/50/25.

55. The TC noted the invitation by the TWF to an expert from New Zealand to make a presentation at its forty-fifth session, on the project for “apple reference varieties” that began in New Zealand in 2011, and how that work would contribute to developing improved example varieties and variety descriptions.

56. The TC agreed to invite an expert from Germany to develop a text to explain the different forms that variety descriptions could take and the relevance of scale levels in that regard.

57. The TC agreed that the experts from France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Republic of Korea and United Kingdom should provide the results on the practical exercise to the Office of the Union and noted the plans for a summary of aspects in common and divergences between the methods to be presented to the TWPs in 2014 and to the TC at its fifty-first session.

58. The TC noted that, on the basis of the results of the practical exercise, it would be invited to consider whether to develop guidance on data processing for the assessment of distinctness and for producing variety descriptions that would be relevant for different types of propagation.

(v) Revision of document TGP/8: Part II: New Section: Guidance of Data Analysis for Blind Randomized Trials

59. The TC considered document TC/50/26 and agreed to request that experts from France continue the development of the proposed guidance on the basis of the comments in that document.

60. The TC agreed that the circumstances under which blind randomized trials would be appropriate should be clarified.

61. The TC agreed that the structure of the document should be reviewed in order to improve clarity and that consideration should be given to including guidance on the use of blind randomized trials without data analysis, which would require deletion of “Data analysis” from the title of document. The TC agreed that the Office of the Union should seek information on the use of blind randomized trials for presentation to the TWPs and the TC.

(vi) Revision of document TGP/8: Part II: New Section: Examining Characteristics Using Image Analysis

62. The TC considered document TC/50/27.

63. The TC agreed to the redrafting of the proposed text, by an expert from the European Union, into a standard TGP style of impersonal speech and to add the following introduction to the proposed text, as set out in document TC/50/27, paragraph 9:

"1. Introduction

"Characteristics which may be examined by image analysis should also be able to be examined by visual observation and/or manual measurement, as appropriate. Explanations for observing such characteristics, including where appropriate explanations in Test Guidelines, should ensure that the characteristic is explained in terms which would enable the characteristic to be understood and examined by all DUS experts."

"2. Combined characteristics

"2.1 The General Introduction (document TG/1/3, Chapter 4, Section 4) states that:

'4.6.3 Combined Characteristics

'4.6.3.1 A combined characteristic is a simple combination of a small number of characteristics. Provided the combination is biologically meaningful, characteristics that are assessed separately may subsequently be combined, for example the ratio of length to width, to produce such a combined characteristic. Combined characteristics must be examined for distinctness, uniformity and stability to the same extent as other characteristics. In some cases, these combined characteristics are examined by means of techniques, such as Image Analysis. In these cases, the methods for appropriate examination of DUS are specified in document TGP/12, 'Special Characteristics'.'

"2.2 Thus, the General Introduction clarifies that the use of image analysis is one possible method for examining characteristics which fulfill the basic requirements for use in DUS testing (see document TG/1/3, Chapter 4.2), which includes the need for the uniformity and stability of such characteristics to be examined. With regard to combined characteristics, the General Introduction also explains that such characteristics should be biologically meaningful."

(vii) Revision of document TGP/8: Part II: New Section: Statistical Methods for Visually Observed Characteristics

64. The TC considered document TC/50/28.

65. The TC agreed to the development of a new method for multinomial distributed data.

66. The TC invited the TWC to compare the new method for multinomial distributed data and the Chi-square test, as set out in document TC/50/28, paragraph 10.

67. The TC requested the TWC to identify a suitable expert to draft the document.

TGP/14: Glossary of Terms Used in UPOV Documents

Revision of document TGP/14: Section 2: Botanical Terms, Subsection 3: Color: Definition for "Dot"

68. The TC considered document TC/50/29 and agreed not to develop a definition of "dot" for inclusion in document TGP/14, Section 2: "Botanical Terms, Subsection 3: Color".

New Proposals for Future Revisions of TGP documents

TGP/7: Development of Test Guidelines

(i) Coverage of the Test Guidelines

69. The TC agreed to request the Office of the Union to develop guidance for Test Guidelines that are developed on the basis of varieties with one type of propagation when varieties may be developed in the future with other types of propagation.

(ii) Revision of document TGP/7: Drafter's Kit for Test Guidelines

70. The TC agreed that document TGP/7 Section 4.3: "Drafter's Kit for Test Guidelines" and Annex 4 "Collection of Approved Characteristics" should be revised, subject to the introduction of the web-based TG Template in 2014.

TGP/9: Examining Distinctness

(i) Method of Observation

71. The TC agreed that examples and illustrations to explain a single measurement (MG) on plant parts should be compiled by the Office of the Union and presented to the TWPs for inclusion in a future revision of document TGP/9, Subsections 4.3.2 and 4.3.4.

(ii) Schematic Overview of TGP Documents Concerning Distinctness

72. The TC considered the revision of the flow diagram in TGP/9, as set out in document TC/50/5, paragraph 34, and agreed that it should be reviewed in conjunction with other possible changes to be introduced in documents TGP/4 “Constitution and Maintenance of Variety Collections” and TGP/9 “Examining Distinctness” resulting from the adoption of document UPOV/INF/15 “Guidance for Members of UPOV on Ongoing Obligations and Related Notifications and on the Provision of Information to Facilitate Cooperation”.

TGP/14: Glossary of Terms Used in UPOV Documents

Section 2.4: Apex/Tip Shape Characteristics

73. The TC requested the Office of the Union to develop an explanation that it may be possible in some cases for an apex characteristic to include a state of expression based on a differentiated tip, for consideration by the TWPs at their sessions in 2014.

PROGRAM FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF TGP DOCUMENTS

74. The TC agreed to delay the revision of document TGP/9 until 2015.

75. The TC agreed the program for the development of TGP documents, as set out in document TC/50/5, Annex IV, subject to its conclusions, above, on matters concerning TGP documents.

Molecular techniques

76. The TC considered document TC/50/13.

USE OF BIOCHEMICAL AND MOLECULAR MARKERS IN THE EXAMINATION OF DISTINCTNESS, UNIFORMITY AND STABILITY (DUS)

77. The TC encouraged experts from China, the Republic of Korea and other members of the Union to make presentations at the fourteenth session of the BMT, on the use of molecular techniques to supplement the selection of similar varieties for inclusion in the growing trial, as set out in document TC/50/13, paragraph 6.

WORKING GROUP ON BIOCHEMICAL AND MOLECULAR TECHNIQUES, AND DNA-PROFILING IN PARTICULAR (BMT)

78. The TC noted that the fourteenth session of the BMT would be held in Seoul, the Republic of Korea, from November 10 to 13, 2014.

79. The TC agreed to the proposed amendment of the program of the fourteenth session of the BMT, as set out in paragraph 20 of this document.

80. The TC agreed to the proposed plan for the fourteenth session of the BMT to be held in conjunction with the Joint Workshop with ISTA and OECD, to be held on November 12, 2014, as set out in document TC/50/13, paragraph 21.

81. The TC agreed that the progress of work of the BMT and the outcomes of the Joint Workshop with ISTA and OECD should be reported to the TC at its fifty-first session.

PRESENTATION OF INFORMATION ON THE SITUATION IN UPOV WITH REGARD TO THE USE OF MOLECULAR TECHNIQUES TO A WIDER AUDIENCE, INCLUDING BREEDERS AND THE PUBLIC IN GENERAL

82. The TC considered the proposed explanation of the situation in UPOV with regard to the use of molecular techniques, as set out in document TC/50/13, paragraph 26.

83. The TC recalled that, at its forty-ninth session, held in Geneva from March 18 to March 20, 2013, it had agreed that there was a need to provide suitable information on the situation in UPOV with regard to the use of molecular techniques to a wider audience, including breeders and the public in general. That information should explain the potential advantages and disadvantages of the techniques, and the relationship between genotype and phenotype, which lay behind the situation in UPOV (see document TC/49/41 "Report on the Conclusions").

84. The TC agreed that the explanation provided in document TC/50/13, paragraph 26, provided suitable information on the situation in UPOV with regard to the use of molecular techniques for breeders and persons with knowledge of DUS testing, subject to the following amendments:

Question: Does UPOV allow molecular techniques (DNA profiles) in the DUS examination?

Answer: "It is important to note that, in some cases, varieties may have a different DNA profile but be ~~morphologically~~ phenotypically identical, whilst, in other cases, varieties which have a large phenotypic difference may have the same DNA profile for a particular set of molecular markers (e.g. some mutations).

"In relation to the use of molecular markers that are not related to phenotypic differences, the concern is that it might be possible to use a limitless number of markers to find differences between varieties. ~~In particular, differences could be found~~ at the genetic level that are not reflected in morphological phenotypic characteristics.

"On the above basis, UPOV has agreed the following uses of molecular markers in relation to DUS examination:

"(a) Molecular markers can be used as a method of examining DUS characteristics that satisfy the criteria for characteristics set out in the General Introduction if there is a reliable link between the marker and the characteristic.

"(b) A combination of phenotypic differences and molecular distances can be used to improve the selection of varieties to be compared in the growing trial if the molecular distances are sufficiently related to phenotypic differences and the method does not create an increased risk of not selecting a variety in the variety collection which should be compared to candidate varieties in the DUS growing trial.

"The situation in UPOV is explained in documents TGP/15 'Guidance on the Use of Biochemical and Molecular Markers in the Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability (DUS)' and UPOV/INF/18 'Possible use of Molecular Markers in the Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability (DUS)'".

85. With regard to a wider audience, the TC agreed that the question was not framed in an appropriate way and, therefore, it would not be appropriate to seek to develop an answer to that question. The TC agreed that the question should be rephrased after clarification of the issues of interest to a wider audience.

Variety denominations

86. The TC considered document TC/50/14.

POSSIBLE REVISION OF DOCUMENT UPOV/INF/12 "EXPLANATORY NOTES ON VARIETY DENOMINATIONS UNDER THE UPOV CONVENTION"

87. The TC noted the ongoing work of the CAJ-AG concerning the development of guidance on variety denominations, as set out in paragraphs 3 to 6 of document TC/50/14.

88. The TC noted that the CAJ, at its sixty-ninth session to be held in Geneva on April 10, 2014, would be invited to consider whether it would be appropriate to amend document UPOV/INF/12, paragraph 2.3.3(a)(i), as set out in document TC/50/14, paragraph 7.

89. The TC agreed that the example “Bough” and “Bow” in document UPOV/INF/12, paragraph 2.3.3(i) should be replaced by a suitable example and further noted that the work on the possible development of a UPOV similarity search tool might be reflected in a review of document UPOV/INF/12. It also agreed that guidance on confusion for phonetic reasons should continue to be included in document UPOV/INF/12.

POSSIBLE DEVELOPMENT OF A UPOV SIMILARITY SEARCH TOOL FOR VARIETY DENOMINATION PURPOSES

90. The TC noted the report concerning the possible development of a UPOV similarity search tool for variety denomination purposes provided in document TC/50/14, Section II.

91. The TC welcomed the establishment of a working group for the development of a UPOV similarity search tool and invited experts to contribute to its work.

92. The TC agreed that there were some challenges concerning linguistic and alphabet aspects which should be considered by the working group when defining the objectives of its work.

DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING POTENTIAL AREAS FOR COOPERATION WITH THE IUBS COMMISSION AND THE ISHS COMMISSION

93. The TC noted the developments concerning potential areas for cooperation between the International Commission for the Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants of the International Union for Biological Sciences (IUBS Commission), the International Society for Horticultural Science Commission for Nomenclature and Cultivar Registration (ISHS Commission) and UPOV, as set out in document TC/50/14, Section III.

Information and databases

(a) UPOV information databases

94. The TC considered document TC/50/6.

Information on type of crop

95. The TC agreed to provide information on the type of crop for each UPOV code in the GENIE database, as set out in document TC/50/6, paragraph 8. It was clarified that more than one crop type could be allocated to a single UPOV Code

96. The TC noted that the proposed approach would enable the data in the PLUTO database to be analyzed with regard to applications filed, titles issued and titles having ceased to be in force by type of crop, whilst noting that the multiple crop types for some UPOV codes would result in some limitations in that regard.

UPOV CODE SYSTEM

97. The TC noted the developments concerning UPOV codes, as set out in document TC/50/6, paragraph 13.

98. The TC noted the plan of the Office of the Union to prepare tables of UPOV codes additions and amendments, for checking by the relevant authorities, for each of the TWP sessions in 2014, as set out in paragraph 14 of document TC/50/6.

PLUTO DATABASE

99. The TC noted the developments concerning the program for improvements to the Plant Variety Database, as reported in document TC/50/6, paragraphs 16 to 38.

SURVEY OF MEMBERS OF THE UNION ON THEIR USE OF DATABASES AND ELECTRONIC APPLICATION SYSTEMS

100. The TC noted the results of the survey of members of the Union on their use of databases for plant variety protection purposes and also on their use of electronic application systems, as presented in document TC/50/6, Annex IV.

101. The TC noted that the CAJ would be invited to consider the results of the survey at its sixty-ninth session, to be held in Geneva on April 10, 2014.

Variety description databases

102. The TC considered document TC/50/7.

103. The TC noted the developments on variety description databases, as set out in document TC/50/7, paragraphs 10 to 21.

104. The TC noted that the TWV had requested an expert from France to make a presentation, at its forty-eighth session, on the GEMMA software being used by the Group for Study and Control of Varieties and Seeds (GEVES) in a Community Plant Variety Office of the European Union (CPVO) Research and Development project. In that regard, it noted the report from France that the presentation would not be possible for 2014.

105. The TC noted that the TWC had invited an expert from China to make a presentation on variation of variety descriptions over years in different locations, at its thirty-second session. The TC agreed that it would be beneficial to make a presentation to the TWA.

106. The TC noted that the TWC had suggested that the information presented by experts from China, at its thirty-first session, on the research on the construction of DNA fingerprint database in Maize, should be made available to the BMT.

107. The TC noted that the TWF had invited an expert from the European Union to present the development of a database for Peach and noted the report that this presentation would now be made in 2015.

108. The TC noted that the TWO had requested an expert from Australia to lead an initial study on the viability of the development of a database, in a similar way to the database being developed for Pea, at its forty-seventh session.

Exchangeable software

109. The TC considered document TC/50/8.

PROPOSAL TO DEVELOP A NEW INFORMATION DOCUMENT

110. The TC agreed to propose document UPOV/INF/22 "Software and equipment used by members of the Union" for adoption by the Council at its forty-eighth ordinary session, to be held in Geneva on October 16, 2014, as set out in document TC/50/8, paragraphs 6 to 8.

111. The TC noted that the comments of the TC, at its fiftieth session, on the proposed new information document UPOV/INF/22, would be reported to the CAJ, at its sixty-ninth session, to be held on April 10, 2014.

112. Subject to adoption of document UPOV/INF/22 by the Council at its forty-eighth ordinary session, to be held in Geneva on October 16, 2014, the TC agreed to issue a circular to the designated persons of the members of the Union in the TC, inviting them to provide information regarding non-customized software and equipment used by members of the Union, as appropriate, as set out in document TC/50/8, paragraph 9.

REVIEW OF DOCUMENT UPOV/INF/16 “EXCHANGEABLE SOFTWARE”

Software proposed for inclusion in document UPOV/INF/16 “Exchangeable software”

113. The TC agreed to include the SIVAVE software in document UPOV/INF/16, as set out in document TC/50/8, paragraph 15.

114. The TC noted that a revision of document UPOV/INF/16/3 concerning the inclusion of the SIVAVE software would be presented to the CAJ, at its sixty-ninth session, to be held on April 10, 2014, and if agreed by the CAJ, would be presented for adoption by the Council at its forty-eighth ordinary session, to be held on October 16, 2014, as set out in document TC/50/8, paragraphs 16 and 17.

115. The TC noted that Mexico had been invited to provide further information on the SISNAVA software at the thirty-second session of the TWC.

Information on use by members

116. The TC approved the revision of document UPOV/INF/16 concerning the inclusion of information on the use of software by members of the Union, as set out in document TC/50/8, Annex III.

117. The TC noted that the comments of the TC, at its fiftieth session, concerning the use of software by members of the Union, would be reported to the CAJ at its sixty-ninth session, to be held in Geneva on April 10, 2014.

TRANSLATION OF SOFTWARE IN DOCUMENT UPOV/INF/16/3

118. The TC noted that an expert from France would make a presentation on the AIM software at the thirty-second session of the TWC, based on the English translation of the software, as set out in document TC/50/8, paragraph 25.

119. The TC noted that the translation of the user interfaces of the “Information System (IS) used for Test and Protection of Plant Varieties in the Russian Federation” software would be technically very difficult.

120. The TC agreed that selected screenshots in English of the software “Information System (IS) used for Test and Protection of Plant Varieties in the Russian Federation” be presented to the TWC at its thirty-second session, in order to explain how the software worked, as set out in document TC/50/8, paragraph 28.

Electronic application systems

121. The TC considered document TC/50/9.

122. The TC noted the developments concerning the development of a prototype electronic form as set out in document TC/50/9.

Assessing uniformity by off-types on basis of more than one sample or sub-samples

123. The TC considered document TC/50/12.

124. The TC noted that the TWC had proposed to provide more detailed information and further analysis on the consequences of the use of the approaches presented in situations A, B, C and D at its session in 2014, as set out in document TC/50/12, paragraph 33. The TC agreed that the document should be modified in order to explain that, in Situations A and B, a variety might be rejected after a single growing cycle under certain circumstances.

125. The TC noted that the TWC had proposed that the statistical basis for the acceptable number of off-types in situation D be considered further at its session in 2014, as set out in document TC/50/12, paragraphs 34 and 35.

126. The TC agreed to develop guidance in document TGP/10 for situations A, B, C and D, as set out in document TC/50/12, Annexes I to IV, after consideration of the comments by the TWC.

127. The TC agreed that document TGP/10, paragraph 6 should be considered when considering the possible development of guidance on the approach presented in situation C, as set out in document TC/50/12, Annex III.

Preparatory workshops

128. The TC considered document TC/50/11.

129. The TC noted the report of the preparatory workshops held in 2013.

130. The TC noted that the results of a survey and possible measures for improving the effectiveness of the preparatory workshops were considered in document TC/50/35.

131. The TC considered the proposed program for preparatory workshops for 2014, as set out in document TC/50/11, paragraphs 10 to 12.

Discussion on improving the effectiveness of the Technical Committee, Technical Working Parties and Preparatory Workshops

132. The TC considered document TC/50/35 and received a presentation by the Office of the Union on improving the effectiveness of the Technical Committee, Technical Working Parties and Preparatory Workshops.

Background

133. The TC noted the measures implemented at the TWP sessions in 2013, for improving the effectiveness of the TWPs, as set out in document TC/50/35, paragraph 10.

Results from the surveys in 2013

134. The TC noted the participation to the surveys in 2013, as presented in document TC/50/35, paragraphs 12 and 13.

135. The TC noted the results of the surveys in 2013 presented in document TC/50/35, Annex I.

Proposals for improving the effectiveness of the Technical Committee, Technical Working Parties and Preparatory Workshops

136. The TC noted the aims set out in document TC/50/35, paragraph 18, that were the basis of the proposals for improving the effectiveness of the TWPs.

137. The TC noted the information provided in document TC/50/35, Annex II, containing information on attendance of members of the Union to the TC and TWPs in the last five years.

Technical Committee

138. The TC agreed the proposals concerning possible means of improving the effectiveness of the Technical Committee, as set out in document TC/50/35, paragraph 21, and agreed that further consideration should be given to other proposals at its fifty-first session.

Technical Working Parties and Preparatory Workshops

139. The TC considered the proposals concerning possible means of improving the effectiveness of the TWPs, as set out in document TC/50/35, paragraphs 23 to 27, and agreed:

(a) to revise TWP invitations, as proposed in document TC/50/35, Annex III; and

(b) to make a survey of the participants at the TWP sessions in 2014, on the basis of document TC/50/35, Annex IV, and to include a question on whether participants to the TWPs and Preparatory Workshops had participated in the UPOV distance learning courses.

140. In the case of proposals that could imply cost or timing changes, it agreed that the TWPs should be invited to consider the proposals set out in document TC/50/35, paragraphs 23 and 24, on the basis of further information to be provided by the Office of the Union. The TC would consider those proposals, on the basis of the comments of the TWPs, at its fifty-first session.

Discussion on Opportunities for training in the examination of DUS

141. The TC received the following presentations on opportunities for training in the examination of DUS:

Australia: Training in DUS Examination	Australia (Mr. Nik Hulse)
Opportunities for Training in the Examination of DUS in Japan	Japan (Mr. Kenji Numaguchi)
Opportunities for Training in DUS Testing in the Netherlands	Netherlands (Mr. Kees van Ettehoven)
Formación en el examen DHE co-organizada por España	Spain (Mr. Luis Salaices)
Training resources in UPOV	UPOV Office (Mr. Peter Button)

142. The TC noted that a copy of the presentations would be made available on the UPOV website.

Discussion on Cooperation with breeders in the examination of DUS

143. The TC received the following presentations on cooperation with breeders in the examination of DUS:

Organization of DUS examination in Argentina	Argentina (Mr. Alberto Ballesteros)
Breeder Cooperation	Australia (Mr. Nik Hulse)
Canada's Plant Breeders' Rights (PBR) Framework: Breeder Cooperation	Canada (Mr. Anthony Parker)
Implementation of cooperation with breeders in the French Examination Office	France (Ms. Virginie Bertoux)
Cooperation with Breeders in New Zealand DUS Testing	New Zealand (Mr. Chris Barnaby)
Breeder Cooperation in DUS Examination in South Africa	South Africa (Mrs. Carensa Petzer)
Cooperation with Breeders in the Examination of DUS	United States of America (Mr. Paul Zankowski)

144. The TC noted that a copy of the presentations would be made available on the UPOV website.

Test Guidelines

145. The TC considered documents TC/50/2, TC/50/30, TC/50/31, TC/50/32, TC/50/33 and TC/50/34.

146. The TC adopted six new Test Guidelines for the Conduct of Tests for Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability and nine revised Test Guidelines, as listed in the table below, on the basis of the amendments specified in Annex II to this document and the linguistic changes recommended by the TC-EDC and agreed that they should be published on the UPOV website at the earliest opportunity:

**	TWP	Document No. No. du document Dokument-Nr. No del documento	English	Français	Deutsch	Español	Botanical name
<u>NEW TEST GUIDELINES / NOUVEAUX PRINCIPES DIRECTEURS D'EXAMEN / NEUE PRÜFUNGSRICHTLINIEN / NUEVAS DIRECTRICES DE EXAMEN</u>							
NL	TWO	TG/HOSTA (proj.9)	Funkia, Hosta, Plantain Lily	Funkia, Hémérocalle du Japon	Funkie	Hosta	Hosta Tratt.
CN	TWO	TG/LILAC(proj.6)	Lilac	Lilas	Flieder	Lila	Syringa L.
CN	TWF	TG/LITCHI (proj.5)	Litchi, Lychee	Litchi	Litschi	Litchi	Litchi chinensis Sonn.
NL	TWO	TG/MANDE (proj.7)	Brazilian-jasmine		Brasilijasmin		Mandevilla Lindl., Dipladenia A. DC.
AU	TWA	TG/RHODES (proj.4)	Rhodesgrass	Herbe de Rhodes	Rhodesgras	Hierba de Rhodes	Chloris gayana Kunth
MX	TWF	TG/VANIL(proj.5)	Vanilla	Vanillier	Vanille-Pflanze	Vainilla, Xanath	Vanilla planifolia Jacks.
<u>REVISIONS OF TEST GUIDELINES / RÉVISIONS DE PRINCIPES DIRECTEURS D'EXAMEN ADOPTÉS / REVISIONEN ANGENOMMENER PRÜFUNGSRICHTLINIEN / REVISIONES DE DIRECTRICES DE EXAMEN ADOPTADAS</u>							
DE	TWA	TG/33/7(proj.4)	Kentucky Bluegrass	Pâturin des prés	Wiesenrispe	Poa de los prados	Poa pratensis L.
ZA	TWA	TG/93/4(proj.5)	Groundnut	Arachide	Erdnuß	Cacahuete, Maní	Arachis L.
HU	TWV	TG/166/4(proj.6)	Opium/Seed Poppy	OEillette, Pavot	Mohn, Schlafmohn	Adormidera, Amapola, Opio	Papaver somniferum L.
DE	TWF	TG/187/2(proj.4)	Prunus Rootstocks	Porte-greffes de Prunus	Prunus-Unterlagen	Portainjertos de prunus	Prunus L.
NL	TWV	TG/198/2(proj.4)	Chives, Asatsuki	Ciboulette, Civette	Schnittlauch	Cebollino	Allium schoenoprasum L.
<u>PARTIAL REVISIONS OF TEST GUIDELINES / RÉVISIONS PARTIELLES DE PRINCIPES DIRECTEURS D'EXAMEN ADOPTÉS / TEILREVISIONEN ANGENOMMENER PRÜFUNGSRICHTLINIEN / REVISIONES PARCIALES DE DIRECTRICES DE EXAMEN ADOPTADAS</u>							
FR	TWV	TG/7/10 and document TC/50/32	Pea	Pois	Erbse	Guisante, Arveja	Pisum sativum L.
FR	TWF	TG/53/7 and documents TC/50/33, TG/53/7 Rev. (proj.1)	Peach	Pêcher	Pfirsich	Durazno, Melocotonero	Prunus persica (L.) Batsch, Persica vulgaris Mill., Prunus L. subg. Persica
NL/FR	TWV	TG/61/7 and document TC/50/30	Cucumber, Gherkin	Concombre, Cornichon	Gurke	Pepino, Pepinillo	Cucumis sativus L.
NL/FR	TWV	TG/104/5 and document TC/50/31	Melon	Melon	Melone	Melón	Cucumis melo L.

147. UPOV has adopted 301 Test Guidelines, all of which are freely available on the UPOV website (http://www.upov.int/test_guidelines/en/).

148. With regard to the Test Guidelines for Peach (documents TC/50/33 and TG/53/7 Rev.(proj.1)), the TC adopted the Test Guidelines subject to the following issues being approved by the TWF at its forty-fifth session, as set out in Annex II to this report:

- grouping characteristics
- the deletion of "Fruit: flesh type" from TQ 5 (to be moved to TQ 7.3).
- change of method of observation for Characteristics 56 and 59

149. The TC adopted the Test Guidelines for Vanilla subject to the addition of asterisks to Characteristics 5, 7, 11, 14, 21 being approved by the TWF by correspondence, as set out in Annex II to this report.

150. The TC noted that the Leading Expert, Mr. Hennie Venter (South Africa), after consultation with Chairperson of the TWF, had requested that the draft Test Guidelines for Apple rootstocks (*Malus* Mill.) be rediscussed by the TWF at its forty-fifth session in order to agree on the proposals concerning example varieties, as set out in Annex II to this report.

151. The TC agreed to inform the TWPs that it would be helpful if the Leading Experts could be contacted by e mail during the TC-EDC meetings to resolve minor issues.

Corrections to Test Guidelines

152. The TC noted the corrections made to the adopted Test Guidelines for Curly Kale (document TG/90/6), Tomato Rootstocks (document TG/294/1) and African Lily (document TG/266/1 Rev.), on the basis of document TC/50/34.

Draft Test Guidelines Discussed by the Technical Working Parties in 2013

153. The TC noted the draft Test Guidelines discussed by the Technical Working Parties at their sessions in 2013, as listed in document TC/50/2, Annex II.

Draft Test Guidelines to be discussed by the Technical Working Parties in 2014

154. The TC agreed the program for the development of new Test Guidelines and for the revision of Test Guidelines, as shown in document TC/50/2, Annex III, subject to the inclusion of the partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Spinach (document TG/55/7 Rev. 2).

155. The TC noted the status of the existing Test Guidelines, as listed in Annex IV to document TC/50/2.

Test Guidelines on the UPOV Website

Superseded versions of Test Guidelines

156. The TC noted the list of superseded Test Guidelines, as presented in document TC/50/2, Annex V.

157. The TC noted that information on the date of adoption of Test Guidelines had been made available on the UPOV website.

158. The TC approved the cover page and location on the UPOV website of superseded versions of Test Guidelines, as set out in document TC/50/2, paragraphs 22 and 23.

Guidance for drafters of Test Guidelines

159. The TC noted that the provision of training on the use of the web-based TG Template was considered in document TC/50/3 "Matters arising from the Technical Working Parties".

160. The TC noted that a report on the development of a web-based Test Guidelines template was considered in document TC/50/10 "Report on developments in UPOV including relevant matters discussed in the last sessions of the Administrative and Legal Committee, the Consultative Committee and the Council".

161. The TC noted the importance of a harmonized approach in the different Test Guidelines so that the assessment of uniformity would take into consideration the specific question of cross-pollinated varieties (relative uniformity standard). This matter is addressed in TGP/7 which was not in effect when many of the existing Test Guidelines were adopted.

List of genera and species for which authorities have practical experience in the examination of distinctness, uniformity and stability

162. The TC considered document TC/50/4 and noted the number of genera and species for which members of the Union indicated their practical experience in the examination of DUS increased from 2,589 in 2013 to 3,305 in 2014 (+ 27.7%). The information on members of the Union with practical experience in DUS examination is freely accessible via the GENIE database.

Chairpersons

163. The TC agreed to recommend to the Council the election of the next chairpersons of the TWPs as follows:

<u>TWP</u>	<u>Proposal</u>
TWA	Mr. Tanvir Hossain (Australia)
TWC	Mr. Adrian Roberts (United Kingdom)
TWF	Mr. Katsumi Yamaguchi (Japan)
TWO	Mr. Kenji Numaguchi (Japan)
TWV	Ms. Swenja Tams (Germany)
BMT	Mr. Kees van Ettehoven (Netherlands)

Program for the fifty-first session

164. The following draft agenda was agreed for the fifty-first session of the TC, to be held in Geneva in 2015:

1. Opening of the session
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Discussion on:
 - (a) Molecular Techniques
 - (b) Possible ways of improving the effectiveness of the TC, TWPs and Preparatory Workshops
4. Report on developments in UPOV including relevant matters discussed in the last sessions of the Administrative and Legal Committee, the Consultative Committee and the Council (oral report by the Vice Secretary-General)
5. Progress reports on the work of the Technical Working Parties, including the Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA-Profiling in Particular (BMT)
6. Matters arising from the Technical Working Parties
7. TGP documents
8. Molecular techniques
9. Variety denominations
10. Information and databases
 - (a) UPOV information databases
 - (b) Electronic application systems
 - (c) Exchangeable software
 - (d) Variety description databases
11. Assessing uniformity by off-types on the basis of more than one sample or sub-samples
12. Preparatory workshops
13. Test Guidelines
14. List of genera and species for which authorities have practical experience in the examination of distinctness, uniformity and stability
15. Program for the fifty-second session
16. Adoption of the report on the conclusions (if time permits)
17. Closing of the session

165. The TC agreed that consideration should be given to inviting other organizations e.g. the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), ISTA, the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA), OECD and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) to make presentations at a future session. In that regard, it agreed that it would be appropriate to report this suggestion for consideration by the Consultative Committee.

166. The TC adopted this report at the close of its session on April 9, 2014.

[Annexes follow]

ANNEXE I / ANNEX I / ANLAGE I / ANEXO I

LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS /
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS /
TEILNEHMERLISTE /
LISTA DE PARTICIPANTES

(dans l'ordre alphabétique des noms français des membres /
in the alphabetical order of the French names of the Members /
in alphabetischer Reihenfolge der französischen Namen der Mitglieder /
por orden alfabético de los nombres en francés de los miembros)

I. MEMBRES / MEMBERS / VERBANDSMITGLIEDER / MIEMBROS

AFRIQUE DU SUD / SOUTH AFRICA / SÜDAFRIKA / SUDÁFRICA



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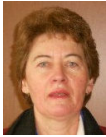
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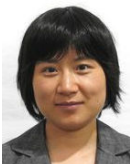
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[L'annexe II suit/
Annex II follows/
Anlage II folgt/
Sigue el Anexo II]

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT TEST GUIDELINES
PRIOR TO THEIR ADOPTION AT THE FIFTIETH SESSION OF
THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (TC)

1. PARTIAL REVISIONS

TC/50/30 Partial Revision of the Test Guidelines for Cucumber (Document TG/61/7)

(a) The following table contains the comments by the Enlarged Editorial Committee at its meeting on January 8 and 9, 2014. Unless otherwise indicated, all comments are already incorporated in document TC/50/30, submitted to the TC:

General remark	to improve format of explanations
5.3	to correct numbering of characteristics in EN, FR, ES

(b) Changes proposed by the TC-EDC in April 2014, which are to be included in the document submitted to the TC:

Char. 47	in the Spanish version to delete “velloso” from the name of the characteristic
Char. 48	to add ex. var. “Pepinova” for state 1 (already used in Ad. 48); written approval requested by TWV, no objections received (circular E-14/032)

TC/50/31 Partial Revision of the test guidelines for Melon (Document TG/104/5)

(a) The following table contains the comments by the Enlarged Editorial Committee at its meeting on January 8 and 9, 2014. Unless otherwise indicated, all comments are already incorporated in document TC/50/31, submitted to the TC:

General remark	to improve format of explanations
Table of Chars.	- to replace “race” by “pathotype” in the French translations <i>Leading Expert disagreed</i> - to add (+) to all sub chars. of all chars.

(b) Changes proposed by the TC-EDC in April 2014, which are to be included in the document submitted to the TC:

General remark on Addendums	to remove highlight in bold and/or color
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TC/50/32 Partial Revision of the Test Guidelines for Pea (Document TG/7/10)

The following table contains the comments by the Enlarged Editorial Committee at its meeting on January 8 and 9, 2014. Unless otherwise indicated, all comments are already incorporated in document TC/50/32, submitted to the TC:

Par. 5	to delete reference to maintainer
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TC/50/33 Partial Revision of the test guidelines for Peach (Document TG/53/7)

The TC-EDC recommended to the TC that the Test Guidelines for Peach be adopted subject to the following issues being approved by the TWF at its forty-fifth session:

- grouping characteristics
- the deletion of "Fruit: flesh type" from TQ 5 (to be moved to TQ 7.3).
- change of method of observation for Characteristics 56 and 59

(a) The following table contains the comments by the Enlarged Editorial Committee at its meeting on January 8 and 9, 2014. Unless otherwise indicated, all comments are already incorporated in document TC/50/33, submitted to the TC:

General remark	the Office to prepare a complete draft for TC/50 session <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
3.5	to read "...plants should be at least 5."
6.5	to add full explanation on method of observation to Chapter 4
Table of Chars.	Method of observation: - VG for 59, not MG (to delete duplicate) <i>Leading Expert agreed</i> - to check if some chars. are missing <i>Leading Expert: no characteristics are missing</i> Numbering of char. has to be changed from 52 on. So far only the change due to deletion of old 63 was considered. General remark on renumbering would be sufficient. <i>Leading Expert: The numbering of chars. has changed from the Characteristic 52 to the last Characteristic 70.</i> to check example variety of Char. 51 <i>Leading Expert: to replace "Lovel" by "Lovell"</i>
New Chars. 52, 53, 54	- to delete underlined part (see TGP/7) - to retain the example varieties for states in the current TG (e.g. Redhaven; is it absent or present? To be clarified) <i>Leading Expert: The new presentation of the Characteristics 52, 53, 54 does not require to make appear the variety Redhaven as an example variety. Also, "Redhaven" is an old variety, which is not used anymore.</i> - to be checked whether it should be "Springfire" or "Spring Fire"? <i>Leading Expert: We propose to maintain the orthography "Springfire". This is the peach example variety proposed by the NZ delegation in may 2012 at the same time of the proposition of the additional Characteristics 52, 53, 54. We want to highlight the possible confusion between the peach variety "Springfire" (which have the anteriority) and the nectarine variety "Spring Fire" granted in the US and in application in ZA and AU.</i>
Ad. 55	to replace "extent" by "amount"
Char. 65 64	to delete underlined part <i>Leading Expert: agreed. In this case the only change to the characteristic is the addition of the method of observation.</i>
Char. and Ad. 68 67	- to read "Time of maturity" Ad. to read "The time of maturity is when the overall appearance, firmness and taste indicate that the fruit is ready for consumption."
Ad. 8	to read "The density of flower buds is determined along the length of the current year's shoot."
Ad. 50	to be deleted
TQ 5	to be updated according to the agreed changes to the grouping characteristics (see general remark above)
TQ 7.1	- to be moved to TQ 7.3 and keep Standard Wording for 7.1 - to add request to provide information on flesh type for the candidate variety (box)

(b) Changes proposed by the TC-EDC in April 2014, which are to be included in the document submitted to the TC:

5.3, TQ 7.3.3	to use “stony hard” in the French version instead of the translation “dure comme la pierre” throughout the whole document
New Chars. after 52, 53, 54	to read “Fruit: intensity of...” instead of “degree of”
Char. 56	to be indicated as MG instead of VG
Char. 59	to be indicated as VG instead of MG
Ad. 3	to delete sentence

2. NEW TEST GUIDELINES

General

8.	- TGP/14: grids: to delete brackets in header - to check spacing in titles of Addendums
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Hosta (<i>Hosta</i> Tratt.)	TG/HOSTA(proj.9)
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(a) The following table contains the comments by the Enlarged Editorial Committee at its meeting on January 8 and 9, 2014. Unless otherwise indicated, all comments are already incorporated in the draft Test Guidelines (document TG/HOSTA(proj.9)), submitted to the TC:

5.3 (b), (c)	to read “largest” instead of “greatest” (according to TGP/14)
Table of Chars.	to check spelling of Example Variety “Georg Smith” <i>Leading Expert: to read “Georg Smith”</i>
Char. 1	to provide example varieties for states 1 and 3 <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
Char. 5	to read “Petiole: shape of inner side in cross section”
Char. 7	to check with Leading Expert whether state 1 to read “absent” <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
Char. 11	to check with Leading Expert whether order of states can be reversed (according to TGP/14) <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
Chars. 14 to 33	to follow order in TGP/14: color; distribution; pattern; total area
Char. 14	to add VG
Chars. 16, 20, 24, 28, 32	- state 1 to read “at basal zone” - state 3 to read “at center”
Char. 47	to read “Bract: shape in cross section”
Char. 51	to be indicated as QN
Chars. 57 to 64	to underline “ <u>inner</u> ” and “ <u>outer</u> ”
Chars. 58, 62	to change order of states according to TGP/14
Char. 63	to read “Corolla: color of outer side of inner lobes”
Char. 67	to provide example varieties for state 1 or 2 <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
B.1 (b)	last sentence to read “The Guideline makes provision for five colors;...”
Ad. 1	to read “The Characteristic should be observed when the first shoots emerge and before opening of the leaves.”
Ad. 10	to provide improved illustrations for states 1 and 2 and add lines where to be observed; or use drawings instead of photos <i>Leading Expert provided drawings for all four states</i>

Ad. 11	- to add images for states 1 and 5 - the image for state 6 corresponds to an ovate not an elliptic leaf blade, and it corresponds better to note 2, and the image of note 2 is better set on note 1. A better example of a narrow elliptic is in Ad. 36 image 1. <i>Leading Expert provided photos for states 1, 2, 5 and 8</i>
Ad. 12	to improve photo for state 3 (The Ad. 11 image 8 is the same on note 3 and was manipulated to have a truncate base shape. Another image is necessary, possibly closer to image 1 in Ad. 13) <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
Ad. 16	to delete notes and keep states only (different notes for Char. 16 and Chars. 20, 24, 30, 32 for the same illustration)
Ad. 58, 62	- to check order of states and provide illustration in a grid according to TGP/14 - to improve illustration for states 7 and 8 <i>provided by Leading Expert; Leading Expert also provided missing illustration for state 4</i>
TQ 5	to delete char. numbers (Reference to Chars. 14, 17 and 18 is not appropriate because of different classification of colors (proportion vs. RHS numbering))
9.3	to check whether to delete <i>Leading Expert: no change</i>

(b) Changes proposed by the TC-EDC in April 2014, which are to be included in the document submitted to the TC:

Char. 1	to read "Plant: color of first scaly leaves"
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Lilac (<i>Syringa</i> L.)	TG/LILAC(proj.6)
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(a) The following table contains the comments by the Enlarged Editorial Committee at its meeting on January 8 and 9, 2014. Unless otherwise indicated, all comments are already incorporated in the draft Test Guidelines (document TG/LILAC(proj.6)), submitted to the TC:

General remark	to check wording whether to use "flower" and use consistently throughout TG <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
2.2	to delete "2-year to 3-year old"
Char. 3	to check whether 9 notes is appropriate <i>Leading Expert: to have notes 1, 3, 5</i>
Chars. 6, 7, 8	- to check whether the characteristics can be reliably assessed (especially state 1 in Char. 7) <i>Leading Expert: no change</i> - to check whether illustrations in Ad. 7 (state 7) are correct <i>Leading Expert: no change</i> - to check notes of Char. 7 <i>Leading Expert: Characteristic 7 to have notes 1, 2, 3, 4</i> - to check whether example varieties can be provided <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
Char. 7, 8	Characteristic 7 implies a continuous variation from absent to very deep. Is it possible to assess a correct number in char. 8? <i>Leading Expert: Yes, it is possible. It is quite easy to count lobe number. This char. is used to assess the number of lobes, it has a different visual quality especially between numerous lobes and less lobes.</i>
Char. 9	to check with Leading Expert whether state 4 to read "broad elliptic" <i>Leading Expert: no change</i>
Char. 11	to read "Leaf: main color of upper side"
Char. 12	- to read "Leaf: secondary color of upper side" - state 1 to read "none" instead of "absent"
Char. 15	to replace species by example variety in state 7 <i>Leading Expert: to delete "S. chinensis" and reduce scale to have notes 1, 3, 5</i>
Char. 16	- to check whether to be indicated as QN <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i> - state 2 to read "conic to cylindrical" - state 3 to read "cylindrical"

Char. 17	to clarify what a panicle is, particularly for all the illustrations in Ad. 18; if unclear check whether Char. 17 can be deleted <i>Leading Expert: to delete Characteristic 17</i>
Char. 19	to read "Floret: fragrance" <i>Leading Expert: to read "Flower: fragrance"</i>
Chars. 21, 22	to check whether MG is used or whether to delete it <i>Leading Expert: to delete MG</i>
Char. 25	to check whether state 1 to read "broad elliptic" <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
Char. 28	to delete underlined part
Char. 33	to check whether VG is applicable or to be deleted <i>Leading Expert: to delete VG</i>
8.1 (a)	to read "Observations on the leaf should be made on leaves from the middle part of the shoot on the current year's growth."
8.1 (b)	- to read "Observations on the inflorescence should be made on inflorescences from the middle to upper part of the shoots <u>when 50% of the inflorescences have all flowers open</u> . Observations on the flower should be made on flowers from the middle part of the inflorescence. Observations on the corolla lobe of double flowers should be made on the lobes of the second whorl from the top of the flower." - further editing needed (check flower vs. floret) <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
Ad. 8	add "es" to sinus
Ad. 9	- to add explanation how to observe on simple leaves and on compound leaves (e.g. each state in Ad. 7) – imaginary outline? <i>provided by Leading Expert</i> - to correct grid according to TGP/14
Ad. 10	to read "For compound leaves, the terminal leaflet should be observed."
Ad. 12	to read "The secondary color (if present)..."
Ad. 13	to read "Observation on the flower bud should be made before opening."
Ad. 15	- to check what should be observed - to improve indication of length <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
Ad. 20	to add explanation <i>Leading Expert provided additional illustration</i>
Ad. 22	to review illustrations <i>Leading Expert provided additional illustration</i>
Ad. 23	to explain what constitutes whorls <i>Leading Expert provided improved illustration</i>
Ad. 25	to correct grid according to TGP/14
Ads. 29, 30	to be combined
9.	to complete the reference: "Peart, B.: Database of Lilac Photographs" <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
TQ 1	to read: 1.1 Genus 1.1.1 Botanical name <i>Syringa</i> L. 1.1.2 Common name Lilac 1.2 Species 1.2.1 Botanical name (please complete) 1.2.2 Common name

(b) Changes proposed by the TC-EDC in April 2014, which are to be included in the document submitted to the TC:

Char. 12	to move example variety "Chantilly Lace" from state 1 "none" to state 2 "white"
Char. 19	to correct spelling of example variety to read "Edith Braun"
Chars. 19, 21	to replace example variety "Blanche Sweet" by "Magelan"
Char. 25	to move example varieties "Edith Braun" and "Wan Hua Zi" from state 2 "medium" to state 3 "strong" to move example variety "Alba Grandiflora" from state 3 "strong" to state 2 "medium"
Char. 26	to correct spelling of example varieties to read "Helena Agathe Keessen"; "Frank Paterson"; and "Bailbelle"

Ads. 11, 12	to be combined (see Ad. 29, 30)
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Litchi (<i>Litchi chinensis</i> Sonn.)	TG/LITCHI(proj.5)
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(a) The following table contains the comments by the Enlarged Editorial Committee at its meeting on January 8 and 9, 2014. Unless otherwise indicated, all comments are already incorporated in the draft Test Guidelines (document TG/LITCHI(proj.5)), submitted to the TC:

4.1.4	- to check whether to read "Unless otherwise indicated, for the purposes of distinctness, all observations on single plants should be made on 5 plants or parts taken from each of 5 plants and any other observations made on all plants in the test, disregarding any off-type plants." <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i> - to check whether to add "In the case of observations of parts taken from single plants, the number of parts to be taken from each of the plants should be 2." <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
Char. 1	to check whether to be indicated as QN (as Char. 5) <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
Char. 10	to check whether to be indicated as PQ <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
Char. 12	to check whether to read "Petiole: color of upper side" <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
Char. 13	state 5 to read "oblanceolate"
Char. 14	to check whether to reverse order of states <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
Char. 19	to provide illustration (illustration is always needed for ratio; see TGP/14) <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
Chars. 20, 22, 24	to read "Leaflet: ..."
Chars./Ads. 20, 21	- to check whether Char. 21 can be deleted as it is covered by Char. 20 (same illustrations) <i>Leading Expert agreed</i> - to improve illustration for state 2 in Ad. 20 <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
Char. 23	state 3 to read "truncate"
Char. 30	to provide illustration (illustration is always needed for ratio; see TGP/14) <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
Char. 41	states to read as follows: (1) smooth or slight protuberances (2) moderate protuberances (3) strong protuberances
Char. 45	- to read "Seed: shape" - state 3 to read "ovate"
Char. 46	to read "Seed: color"
Char. 47	to read "Fruit: brown color on the inner side of aril" and add corresponding states (light brown, medium brown, dark brown)
Char. 48	to have notes 1, 2, 3 (see Ad. 48)
Char. 49	VG to be deleted
Char. 51	to check whether to be indicated as MG instead of VG <i>Leading Expert: yes, to be indicated as MG</i>
8.1 (b)	to check whether to read "Observations on the shoot should be made on the mature autumnal shoots at the outside of the upper canopy, when all leaves are turning green." (deletion of last part) - check wording "leaves are turning green" in autumn <i>Leading Expert: to read "Observations on the shoot should be made on the mature autumnal shoots at the outside of the upper canopy, when all leaves have turned green in autumn."</i>
8.1 (c)	to read "Observations on the leaf should be made on well developed leaves at the central third of the mature autumnal shoots at the outside of the upper canopy."

Ad. 6	to be improved (position of arrows); it does not indicate length but height <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
Ad. 36	to move state 1 up, to move state 3 down
Ad. 44	to read "Flesh should be assessed at time of harvest maturity and to be determined on 20 fruits. When weighing the flesh, fruit skin and seed should be removed."
Ad. 45	- to rotate drawings to have the point of attachment as the base - state "irregular" to be moved out of grid
Ad. 48	- to read "Select 20 fruits randomly, then cut the fruit into pieces along the suture to take out the seeds and then vertically cut the seed open to check the number of the aborted embryos." - It is not appropriate to indicate "%" for a sample of 20 seeds. To read: Low: less than 4 seeds aborted Medium: 4 - 16 seeds aborted High: more than 16 seeds aborted
Ad. 50	- to review explanation (The absorption capacity of the paper is probably much more important than the size (A5). The method for state 3 seems to be different?) <i>Leading Expert: to delete "(A5 paper size)"; provided modified explanation for state 3</i> - to delete "and" after coma in first sentence
Ad. 51	to be clarified (how is the observation done?) to check whether to read "The beginning of flowering is considered when 10% of the flowers on 5 inflorescences have started to flower." <i>Leading Expert: to read "The beginning of flowering is when 10% of the inflorescences on each plant have started to flower."</i>
Ad. 52	to read "The time of harvest maturity is when the overall appearance, firmness and taste indicate that the fruit is ready for consumption."
TQ 5	to check whether more chars. to be added (only the 4 grouping characteristics are asked for; is more chars not advisable?) <i>Leading Expert: We would not like to add more characteristics, since there are not so many varieties for Litchi. We think 4 grouping characteristics are enough.</i>

(b) Changes proposed by the TC-EDC in April 2014, which are to be included in the document submitted to the TC:

8.1 (d)	to read "Observations on the flower should be made on well developed flowers at the outside of the upper canopy when 25-75% of the flowers are in blossom"
8.1 (e)	to read "Observations on the fruit should be made at the time of physiological ripeness at the outside of the upper canopy"
Ad. 35	to remove last column

Mandevilla (<i>Mandevilla sanderi</i> (Hemsl.) Woodson; <i>Mandevilla ×amabilis</i> (Backh. & Backh. f.) Dress)	TG/MANDE(proj.7)
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(a) The following table contains the comments by the Enlarged Editorial Committee at its meeting on January 8 and 9, 2014. Unless otherwise indicated, all comments are already incorporated in the draft Test Guidelines (document TG/MANDE(proj.7)), submitted to the TC:

Char. 1	to add explanation (density of what?) <i>Leading Expert: characteristic to read "Plant: density of foliage"</i>
Char. 2	state 1 to read "none"
Chars. 4, 10	state 3 to read "moderate"
Char. 14	to read "Leaf blade: ratio length/width" and provide illustration <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
Char. 21	to read "Leaf blade: bulging between veins"
Char. 25	to read "Leaf blade: shape in cross section"
Char. 31	to check whether to use "position of broadest part" (and appropriate states of expression) rather than botanical shape terms <i>Leading Expert: In our opinion it is better and much clearer to keep it as it is. According to the breeders which are working with Mandevilla, the shape of the leaf gives them more information rather than position of largest width.</i>
Chars. 34, 35	to add note (e)

Char. 38	to add Char. 38 to Ad. 36, 37, 39, 40
Char. 41	- state 1 to read "funnel-shaped" - state 3 to read "tubular"
Chars. 44, 45	to be indicated as VG
Char. 46	to check whether to be indicated as QN <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
Char. 52	to add explanation <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
8.1 (a)	to check whether to read "Young stems are stems which are not lignified." <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
8.1 (c)	to become Ad. 31
Ad. 3, 4	to be deleted (see 8.1 (a))
Ad. 25	illustration should show inner and outer side <i>Leading Expert added indication of inner side</i>
Ad. 36 etc.	lines need to be corrected (e.g. Corolla throat: width of distal part) <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
Ad. 41	to remove corolla lobes <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
Ad. 46	to add explanation how to be observed (from base to midpoint or to apex?) <i>Leading Expert added lines to photos to indicate how the characteristic should be observed</i>
TQ 5	to include grouping chars. 36 and 41
TQ 5.4	to check whether to split in 5.4 i (RHS Colour Chart (indicate reference number)) and 5.4 ii <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>

(b) Changes proposed by the TC-EDC in April 2014, which are to be included in the document submitted to the TC:

Cover page	to add French common name "Dipladénia" and "Mandevilla"
Char. 31	to have note (c) instead of (b)
Char. 50	to add note (c)
Char. 52	to read "Corolla lobe: shape of distal part in longitudinal section"
9.	to complete first literature reference to read: "Chittenden, F. J., 1951: Dictionary of Gardening. Oxford, GB: p. 1245"

Rhodesgrass (<i>Chloris gayana</i> Kunth)	TG/RHODES(proj.4)
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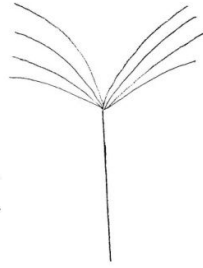
(a) The following table contains the comments by the Enlarged Editorial Committee at its meeting on January 8 and 9, 2014. Unless otherwise indicated, all comments are already incorporated in the draft Test Guidelines (document TG/RHODES(proj.4)), submitted to the TC:

Cover page	to add Spanish common names: Pasto de Rhodes, Grama de Rhodes
3.3.2	to be deleted
4.2	to read "4.2.2 The assessment of uniformity should be according to the recommendations for cross-pollinated varieties in the General Introduction. For the characteristics Plant: ploidy (characteristic 1) and Inflorescence: color of spike (characteristic 23), a population standard of 2% and an acceptance probability of 95% should be applied. In the case of a sample size of 60 plants, 3 off-types are allowed."
6.5	to delete A and C (see comment on 3.3.2)
Table of Chars.	to delete A and C (see comment on 3.3.2)
Char. 3	to be deleted
Char. 4	- to provide explanation on branching of stolons <i>provided by Leading Expert</i> - to delete (b)
Chars. 6 to 9	to delete (b)
Chars. 7, 8, 9	to provide information which leaf to be observed <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
Char. 11	to replace "width" by "thickness"

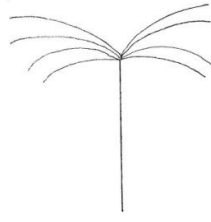
Char. 20	to replace "width" by "thickness"
Char./Ad. 22	to reword and have illustration as follows:



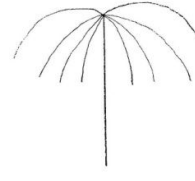
1
upright



2
spreading



3
drooping



4
weeping

Char. 26	to read "Time of flowering"
8.1 (a)	- see Chars. 7 to 9: to check whether to clarify explanation or change image in 8.2 - to check whether to replace "tip" by "distal end of stolon" <i>Leading Expert:</i> - 8.1 (a) to read "Observations on the stolon should be made on the fourth visible stolon node from the distal part of the stolon." - 8.1 (b) does not need to be changed. This is an image of a typical Rhodesgrass plant showing different plant parts. This image is provided to give a general impression of the morphology of the plant, not necessarily to show the position of the fourth stolon. The fourth stolon node can be identified easily by counting the number for stolon nodes from distal part of the stolon.
Ad. 19	to check whether to replace "inflorescence" by "spikes" <i>Leading Expert agreed and proposes to read "peduncle length" instead of only "length"</i>
Ad. 20	to check whether to replace "inflorescence" by "spikes" <i>Leading Expert agreed and proposes to read "peduncle width" instead of only "width"</i>
Ad. 26	to add explanation of when a plant is flowering <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>

(b) Changes proposed by the TC-EDC in April 2014, which are to be included in the document submitted to the TC:

TQ 7.3	to reinstate missing standard wording
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Vanilla	TG/VANIL(proj.5)
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The TC-EDC recommended to the TC that the Test Guidelines for Vanilla be adopted subject to the addition of asterisks to Characteristics 5, 7, 11, 14, 21 being approved by the TWF by correspondence.

(a) The following table contains the comments by the Enlarged Editorial Committee at its meeting on January 8 and 9, 2014. Unless otherwise indicated, all comments are already incorporated in the draft Test Guidelines (document TG/VANIL(proj.5)), submitted to the TC:

Cover page	- German name to read "Vanille" - to check whether to change coverage to Vanilla and L.E. to request interested experts' approval <i>Leading Expert: to indicate the coverage of TG/Vanilla as follows:</i>												
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>VANIL_PLA</td> <td><i>Vanilla planifolia</i> Jacks.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>VANIL_POD</td> <td><i>Vanilla planifolia</i> Jacks. x <i>Vanilla odorata</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>VANIL_PBA</td> <td><i>Vanilla planifolia</i> Jacks. x <i>Vanilla bahiana</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>VANIL_PPO</td> <td><i>Vanilla planifolia</i> Jacks. x <i>Vanilla pompona</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>VANIL_PPH</td> <td><i>Vanilla planifolia</i> Jacks. x <i>Vanilla phaeantha</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>VANIL_PTA</td> <td><i>Vanilla planifolia</i> Jacks. x <i>Vanilla tahitensis</i></td> </tr> </table>	VANIL_PLA	<i>Vanilla planifolia</i> Jacks.	VANIL_POD	<i>Vanilla planifolia</i> Jacks. x <i>Vanilla odorata</i>	VANIL_PBA	<i>Vanilla planifolia</i> Jacks. x <i>Vanilla bahiana</i>	VANIL_PPO	<i>Vanilla planifolia</i> Jacks. x <i>Vanilla pompona</i>	VANIL_PPH	<i>Vanilla planifolia</i> Jacks. x <i>Vanilla phaeantha</i>	VANIL_PTA	<i>Vanilla planifolia</i> Jacks. x <i>Vanilla tahitensis</i>
VANIL_PLA	<i>Vanilla planifolia</i> Jacks.												
VANIL_POD	<i>Vanilla planifolia</i> Jacks. x <i>Vanilla odorata</i>												
VANIL_PBA	<i>Vanilla planifolia</i> Jacks. x <i>Vanilla bahiana</i>												
VANIL_PPO	<i>Vanilla planifolia</i> Jacks. x <i>Vanilla pompona</i>												
VANIL_PPH	<i>Vanilla planifolia</i> Jacks. x <i>Vanilla phaeantha</i>												
VANIL_PTA	<i>Vanilla planifolia</i> Jacks. x <i>Vanilla tahitensis</i>												

1.	to delete “and interspecific hybrids” (see TGP/7)
2.2	to read “...with at least 2 nodes, or one-year-old plants.”
3.1.1	- to read “The minimum duration of tests should normally be two growing cycles. In particular, it is essential that the plants produce a satisfactory crop of fruit in each of the growing cycles.” - to clarify whether 2 growing cycles are needed <i>Leading Expert: yes, two growing cycles are correct</i>
3.3	to delete second sentence
4.1.4	can only be a maximum of 9 plants <i>Leading Expert: yes, 9 plants is correct</i>
4.2.2	to read “For the assessment of uniformity, a population standard of 1% and an acceptance probability of at least 95 % should be applied. In the case of a sample size of 10 plants, one off-type is allowed.”
Table of Chars.	to check number of (*) characteristics <i>Leading Expert:</i> <i>to add an asterisk to the following characteristics:</i> 5 Stem: internode length 7 Stem: texture 11 Leaf: base 14 Leaf: width 21 Inflorescence: number of flowers
Char. 7	to check wording of characteristic <i>Leading Expert:</i> characteristic to read “Stem: texture” and to have states 1 “smooth” and 9 “rough”
Chars. 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 19, 20	to read “Leaf: ...”
Char. 9	state 3 to read “rounded”
Char. 13	to read “Leaf: intensity of green color”
Char. 16	to read “Leaf: ratio length/width”
Char. 19	to read “Leaf: shape in cross section”
Char. 23	to read “Petal Flower: length”
Char. 24	to read “Petal Flower: width”
Char. 26	to read “Fruit: shape in cross section”
8.1 (a)	to read “Stem and leaf: observations should be made, when the first fruit is fully developed. Observations on the stem should be taken at mid-length of the stem. Observations on the leaf blade should be made on fully developed leaves from the middle third of the stem.”
8.1 (c)	to read “Fruit: observations should be made at physiological maturity”
8.2	all red backgrounds to be removed – new pictures to be provided <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
Ad. 7	to improve picture for state 9 <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
Ad. 9	to add lines to indicate exclusion of tip <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
Ad. 16	to be improved <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
Ad. 22	- first sentence to be deleted - to add explanation that some parts of the flower are removed (left petal and left lower petal are missing). <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
Ad. 25	to improve photos <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
Ad. 26	image for state 4 “trullate” to be placed half way down in large cell
Ad. 29, 30	- to improve explanation (e.g. pods from 5 plants, quantification on the basis of fresh or dry matter, allocation of notes according to example varieties, consistency with chapter 4.1.4) <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
9.	to check whether to delete literature reference Kaunzinger, Juchelka, Mosandl <i>Leading Expert agreed</i>

TQ 6	to replace current example (char. "Fruit: color" was deleted) <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
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(b) Changes proposed by the TC-EDC in April 2014, which are to be included in the document submitted to the TC:

Chars. 16	to read "Leaf blade: ..."
Char. 29	to replace example variety of state 9 with "A55"

3. REVISIONS

Kentucky Bluegrass (<i>Poa pratensis</i> L.)	TG/33/7(proj.4)
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The following table contains the comments by the Enlarged Editorial Committee at its meeting on January 8 and 9, 2014. Unless otherwise indicated, all comments are already incorporated in the draft Test Guidelines (document TG/33/7(proj.4)), submitted to the TC:

4.2.2	to delete space before %
Ad. 9, 10	to delete commas to read "Length should be measured from the tip of the leaf blade to the leaf sheath." "Width should be measured at the widest point of the leaf blade."
8.2	DC 49: to have capital "F" for first

Groundnut (<i>Arachis</i> L.)	TG/93/4(proj.5)
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The following table contains the comments by the Enlarged Editorial Committee at its meeting on January 8 and 9, 2014. Unless otherwise indicated, all comments are already incorporated in the draft Test Guidelines (document TG/93/4(proj.5)), submitted to the TC:

3.1	to check whether one growing cycle correct for a seed propagated crop <i>Leading expert: to change to two growing cycles</i>
3.3.3	to be deleted, no relevant characteristics
4.2	to read: "4.2 Uniformity 4.2.1 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: 4.2.2 For the assessment of uniformity, a population standard of 1% and an acceptance probability of at least 95 % should be applied. In the case of a sample size of 60 plants, 2 off-types are allowed."
Char. 1	to delete hyphen in state 2
Char. 5	to delete (a)
Char. 6	- to check whether to delete MG and to add MS <i>Leading Expert: to be indicated as VG/MS</i> - to read "Leaflet: length"
Char. 7	- to read "Leaflet: ..." - to reverse order of states
Char. 8	- to read "Leaflet: ..."
Chars. 13, 14	to check whether to add growth stage 99 <i>Leading Expert agreed</i>
Char. 14	to read "Kernel: presence of secondary color of testa" (see Ad. 13/14, same stage as for Char. 13)
Char. 15	- to read "100 kernel weight" and to have states low to high - to add (+)

Char. 16	- to add (+) - to check whether “pod thickness” or “seed covers thickness” <i>Leading Expert: to read “Pod: thickness of shell”</i>
B.1 (a)	to read “Observations on the leaflet should be made on a fully developed basal leaflet.”
Ads. 4, 9	to split and create separate Ad. 9 with wording at bottom
Ad. 6	- text box to read only “Length” - to correct arrows <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
Ad. 7	to consider a new image (or illustration) for state 2. The position of the broadest part appears to be towards the middle. Difference between 2 and 3 appears to be in basal leaflet width. <i>Leading Expert: to delete illustration for state 2</i>
Ad. 10	to use new illustrations with arrows added



1
absent or very weak



2
weak



3
medium



4
strong



5
very strong

Ad. 11	to check whether to improve illustration for state 3 <i>new photo provided by Leading Expert</i>
Ads. 13, 14	- Ad 13 and 14 should be combined. - to add sentence on secondary color
Ad. 15	to replace “seeds” by “kernels”
Ad. 18	to correct number to 16 and move after Ad. 15
8.3	- to check format of growth stages after 13 and 23 <i>provided by Leading Expert</i> - 2: capital F
TQ 6	to replace current example (current one doesn't exist in T.o.C.) <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
TQ 7	to provide example variety for state “Runner” <i>provided by Leading Expert</i> 7.1 to become 7.3 and to reinstate standard wording for 7.1
TQ 9.3	to check whether to be deleted <i>Leading Expert: can be deleted</i>

Apple Rootstocks (<i>Malus</i> Mill.)	TG/163/4(proj.4)
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The Leading Expert Mr. Hennie Venter (South Africa), after consultation with the Chairperson of the TWF, request that the draft Test Guidelines for Apple rootstocks (*Malus* Mill.) be rediscussed by the TWF at its forty-fifth session in order to agree on the proposals concerning example varieties.

The following table contains the comments by the Enlarged Editorial Committee at its meeting on January 8 and 9, 2014. Unless otherwise indicated, all comments are already incorporated in the draft Test Guidelines (document TG/163/4(proj.5)), submitted to the TC:

General remark	to check whether all AB indications can be deleted (and remove from Chapter 6.5) <i>Leading Expert agreed</i>
Alternative names	to correct French name to "Porte-greffe de pommier"
1.	to delete reference to "vegetatively propagated"
3.4.1	to split in two paragraphs to read: "3.4.1 In the case of trees, each test should be designed to result in a total of at least 5 plants. 3.4.2 In the case of stoolbeds, each test should be designed to result in a total of at least 10 plants."
4.2.2	to add standard sentence that in a sample size of 10 plants one off-type is allowed
6.4, Table of Chars.	to include only example varieties from Europe in the Test Guidelines and to add the other example varieties in an annex as regional sets (see TGP/7, 4.2.3 and TG/16/8 Rice Annex/16) to check spaces for example varieties (e.g G202, G 202)
Char. 6	to read "One-year-old shoot: growth pattern"
Char. 9	MG to be deleted and to add MS
Chars. 19, 48	Should it be "M116"?
Char. 33	to replace MG by MS
Char. 34	to read "Petiole: extent of anthocyanin coloration"
Char. 51	- to check if VG has to be deleted (see attached explanation, document TC/49/18, Annex) <i>Leading Expert: delete VG</i> - to check whether to add indication A or B <i>Leading Expert: no, neither A nor B needs to be added</i>
Char. 52	to check if VG has to be deleted <i>Leading Expert: delete VG</i>
8.1 (b)	to delete "Unless otherwise indicated,"
Ad. 4	to add sentence that Addendum only applies to "B"
Ad. 34	to read "Should be assessed regarding the degree to which the amount of anthocyanin coloration extends from the petiole base towards the base of the leaf."
Ad. 39	to read "The observation should be done with the petals pressed into a horizontal position."
Ad. 51	to read "The time of beginning of bud burst is when 10% of the buds show green points."
Ad. 52	to read "The time of beginning of flowering is when 10% of the flowers on the 5 trees are fully open."
TQ 1	to add full list of species covered by the TG (see TG/Prunus rootstocks TG/187/2(proj.3)) or to read as follows 1.1 Genus 1.1.1 Botanical name 1.1.2 Common name 1.2 Species 1.2.1 Botanical name (please complete) 1.2.2 Common name <i>Leading Expert: I prefer the second option</i>
TQ 4.1	to be adapted according to TGP/7/3 ASW 15
TQ 4.3	to move to TQ 7.3
TQ 5	to add indication "A"

Opium/Seed Poppy (<i>Papaver somniferum</i> L.)	TG/166/4(proj.6)
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(a) The following table contains the comments by the Enlarged Editorial Committee at its meeting on January 8 and 9, 2014. Unless otherwise indicated, all comments are already incorporated in the draft Test Guidelines (document TG/166/4(proj.6)), submitted to the TC:

Char. 22	to be indicated as VG
8.1 (b)	to read "Observations on the flower bud should be made at hook stage of pedicel."
8.1 (d)	to read "...drop down on the main stem."
Ad. 18	it would be better to have the axes length/width ratio and broadest part and improve grid <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
Ad. 24	to delete photos and keep only illustrations <i>Leading Expert: disagreed and prefers to keep photos and illustrations</i>
Ad. 29 – 32	- Heading should be as usual with the correct quotation of the characteristics. - Sampling is not clear: analysis of capsules or stalk (see sampling vs. sample preparation)? <i>Leading Expert: 3.1 Sample preparation to read "The receipt sample is weighted and dried to air-dry condition. The capsules with 1-2 cm stem are ground using 0,5 mm sieve."</i> - Expression of results in mg/kg is not appropriate. Guidance necessary for allocation of notes.(use ex. vars. for calibration to exclude influence of environment (see TG/Hemp)) <i>Leading Expert: to keep the mg/kg because mg/kg=%_o and %_o is not accepted unit.</i>
9.	to be completed and to reorder according to the date: - Bernáth, J., 1998: "Poppy, The Genus <i>Papaver</i> ", Harwood Academic Publishers >> to add country <i>Leading Expert: to add the Netherlands</i> - Biomed. Chromatogr., 2001,15,45. >> to add author and title - Biomed. Chromatogr., 2002,16,390. >> to add author and title <i>Leading Expert: to delete these references and replace with new provided one</i>

(b) Changes proposed by the TC-EDC in April 2014, which are to be included in the document submitted to the TC:

Ad. 29, 30, 31, 32	- to provide clarification on the method <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
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Prunus Rootstocks (<i>Prunus</i> L.)	TG/187/2(proj.4)
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(a) The following table contains the comments by the Enlarged Editorial Committee at its meeting on January 8 and 9, 2014. Unless otherwise indicated, all comments are already incorporated in the draft Test Guidelines (document TG/187/2(proj.4)), submitted to the TC:

Cover page	to add TGs from Chapter 1.2 to "Associated documents" <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
2.3	to check whether "seedlings" to be replaced by "plants" <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
3.4	to complete and add information for seed propagated varieties <i>Leading Expert: agreed and proposed consequential change to Chapter 4.2.2</i>
4.1.4.1 and .2	to replace "plants" with "varieties" <i>Leading Expert: agreed</i>
6.5, Table of Chars.	to check if the indication of C, PL, PE and AP should be deleted from Table of Characteristics and be added to Chapter 8.3 <i>Leading Expert provided table to be added to Chapter 8.3 with the following corrections to the table presented in document TG/187/2(proj.3):</i> - corrected spelling of example variety "GF 655" to "GF 655-2" in the table as well as in Characteristic 21, state 3, Characteristic 34, state 2, in Characteristic 36, state 1. - addition of "(AL). for the use of almond varieties" to the legend, which was missing - addition of example varieties "Myruni" and "Prunus besseyi" to the table, which was already in Table of Characteristics as example variety

Table of Chars.	to check number of (*) characteristics <i>Leading Expert: The number of (*) characteristics in the current draft guidelines had been a matter of discussion during the subgroup discussions. The participants were made aware that a low number of (*) characteristics would reduce the amount of international harmonization. However, the current draft Guidelines, with the indications of asterisks as they are, is what the group was able to agree upon, only.</i>
Char. 18	- state 2 to read "medium ovate" - to provide example variety for state 6 if available <i>Leading Expert agreed and provided example variety for state 6</i>
Ad. 5	to check whether the explanation should read as follows: "Should be assessed at the middle third of the shoot." <i>Leading Expert agreed and noted that Ad. 4, 7 and Ad. 5 should be combined as they now have the same wording</i>
TQ 1	1.1 to be deleted 1.4.10 and 1.4.11 need space for providing the requested information (text box) <i>Leading Expert agreed</i>
TQ 7.3	depending on comment on 6.5, T.o.C: include information on the use (C, PL, PE and AP) <i>Leading Expert agreed</i>

(b) Changes proposed by the TC-EDC in April 2014, which are to be included in the document submitted to the TC:

8.3	to remove bold font of example variety "Alkavo"
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Chives (<i>Allium schoenoprasum</i> L.)	TG/198/2(proj.4)
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The following table contains the comments by the Enlarged Editorial Committee at its meeting on January 8 and 9, 2014. Unless otherwise indicated, all comments are already incorporated in the draft Test Guidelines (document TG/198/2(proj.4)), submitted to the TC:

Char. 2	to add (+) and explanation <i>provided by Leading Expert</i>
Char. 14	to have states "absent to very low", "low", "very high"
8.1 (b)	remove "Particularly the..." in the second sentence
8.1 (a), (b)	to delete underlined parts
Ad. 9	to read "Observations should be made when 10% of the plants have a bud and directly after bud emergence."
Ad. 14	- state 1 should be % male sterility = "< 10%" - state 3 should be % male sterility = "> 80%"

[End of Annex II and of document]