

**Technical Committee****TC/55/13 Add.****Fifty-Fifth Session  
Geneva, October 28 and 29, 2019****Original:** English  
**Date:** October 21, 2019**ADDENDUM TO DATA PROCESSING FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF DISTINCTNESS AND FOR PRODUCING VARIETY DESCRIPTIONS***Document prepared by the Office of the Union**Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance***EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

1. The purpose of this addendum is to report on developments at the thirty-seventh session of the Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs (TWC) concerning possible new guidance on methods to convert observations into notes for producing variety descriptions of measured quantitative characteristics for inclusion in document TGP/8 on "Data Processing for the Assessment of Distinctness and for Producing Variety Descriptions".
2. The TWC considered document TWP/3/10 "Data processing for the assessment of distinctness and for producing variety descriptions" (see document TWC/37/12 "Report", paragraphs 26 to 34).
3. The TWC considered the summary of different approaches used by members of the Union to convert observations into notes for producing variety descriptions of measured characteristics, as set out in document TWP/3/10, Annex II.
4. The TWC noted that the different approaches described in the document were used for producing variety descriptions and did not mention assessment of distinctness. The TWC agreed to propose amending the title of the document to read "Data processing for the ~~assessment of distinctness and for producing~~ production of variety descriptions for measured quantitative characteristics".
5. The TWC noted the request by the TC for the experts from France, Germany, Japan and the United Kingdom to provide information on the circumstances in which their methods would be suitable, including the method of propagation of the variety and other factors considered in deciding to use the method.
6. The TWC noted that the descriptions of the methods was not sufficient for application, and the situations when the methods would or would not be suitable.
7. The TWC agreed that the experts from France, Germany, Italy and Japan should be invited to provide the information requested by the TC to the expert from the United Kingdom.
8. The TWC considered the proposal for developing a decision tree on requirements and situations for using the different approaches described. The TWC agreed to invite the experts from France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United Kingdom to consider providing the following information as a starting point for describing the requirements of each approach, as appropriate:
  - Country
  - Method
  - Is a full set of example varieties required? ["yes", "no" or "not applicable"]
  - Is a partial set of example varieties required? ["yes", "no" or "not applicable"]
  - Varieties x Years degree of freedom > 15? ["yes", "no" or "not applicable"]
  - Are delineating varieties required? ["yes", "no" or "not applicable"]
  - Is crop expert judgment required? ["yes", "no" or "not applicable"]
  - Is the full range of expression in growing trial required? ["yes", "no" or "not applicable"]
  - Can the method be used with cyclical planting? ["yes", "no" or "not applicable"]
  - Is a continuous range of expression required? ["yes", "no" or "not applicable"]

9. The TWC agreed the information provided could be displayed in the format of a table, as follows:

Methods suitable for quantitative characteristics

COUNTRY	Method : description	Full set of example varieties	Partial set of example varieties	Varieties x Years degree of freedom > 15	Delineating varieties	Crop expert judgment	Full range of expression in growing trial	can be used with cyclical planting	Continuous range of expression
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10. The TWC agreed that other criteria or requirements could be added by the experts providing information, as appropriate.

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