

**Technical Committee**

**TC/55/7 Add.**

**Fifty-Fifth Session  
Geneva, October 28 and 29, 2019**

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**ADDENDUM TO MOLECULAR TECHNIQUES**

*Document prepared by the Office of the Union*

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1. The purpose of this addendum is to report on developments concerning cooperation between international organizations on the use of molecular techniques at the forty-eighth session of the Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops (TWA).
2. The TWA, at its forty-eighth session, held in Montevideo, Uruguay, from September 16 to 20, 2019, considered the following elements for the inventory on the use of molecular marker techniques, by crop, which had been developed in consultation with the OECD, as set out in document TWP/3/7 “Molecular techniques”, paragraph 81 (see document TWA/48/9 “Report”, paragraphs 57 to 61):

Country or Intergovernmental Organization using molecular marker technique
Source [the name of the Authority] and Contact details [email address]
Type of molecular marker technique
Crop (s) for which the molecular marker technique is used [botanical name(s) and UPOV code(s) to be provided]
Purpose of the use of the molecular technique [UPOV model “Characteristic-Specific Molecular Markers”, UPOV model “Combining Phenotypic and Molecular Distances in the Management of Variety Collections”, Purity, Identity, Verification of hybridity]
Is the molecular marker technique used as part of Seed Certification in the last two years? [National certification, OECD certification] [relevant for OECD seed schemes]
In the last 2 years, how many times did the Authority use the molecular marker techniques?
The molecular marker technique is covered by [UPOV Test Guideline(s), UPOV TGP document(s), other document(s) (please specify)]
Is the molecular technique validated? [If yes, please specify a particular organization or authority] [relevant for OECD seed schemes]

3. The TWA endorsed the elements for the inventory and agreed that the meaning of the term “validation” should be clarified in the last question. The TWA agreed that the question could lead to confusion and should be considered for exclusion from the survey.
4. The TWA agreed that the question “In the last 2 years, how many times did the Authority use the molecular marker techniques?” should be clarified to explain whether the value provided referred to routine or exceptional use of the technique (e.g. screening of variety collections).
5. The TWA agreed to propose an additional question on whether respondents had created databases with information obtained from the molecular markers used.
6. The TWA agreed that the survey should be coordinated with OECD to avoid duplication of work, in particular when the same respondents would also receive the survey from UPOV.

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