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

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| Technical Committee  Fifty-Ninth Session  Geneva, October 23 and 24, 2023 | TC/59/28.  Original: English  Date: October 24, 2023 |

Report

adopted by the Technical Committee

Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance

The Technical Committee (TC) held its fifty-ninth session in Geneva on October 23 and 24, 2023. The list of participants is reproduced in Annex I to this report.

The session was opened by Ms. Beate Rücker, Chairperson of the TC, who welcomed the participants.

The Secretary‑General introduced Ms. Yolanda Huerta, who was appointed to the post of Vice Secretary-General, on October 23, 2023, Mr. Martin Ekvad, appointed Director of Legal Affairs and Mr. Leontino Taveira, appointed Director of Global Development and Technical Affairs, on October 15, 2023.

## Adoption of the agenda

The TC adopted the agenda as presented in document TC/59/1 Rev.

## Report by the Vice Secretary-General on developments in UPOV

The TC received a presentation from the Vice Secretary-General and noted that a copy of the presentation would be made available after the UPOV sessions on the UPOV website.

The TC noted that Nigeria had been granted observer status at the Technical Working Parties (TWPs) and that Rwanda had been granted observer status at the Council, Administrative and Legal Committee, Technical Committee and the TWPs.

## Progress report on the work of the Technical Working Parties

The TC noted that, since its fifty-eighth session, the Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops (TWA), Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops (TWF), Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees (TWO) and Technical Working Party for Vegetables (TWV) had each held one session. The TC noted that the TWV and TWF had held hybrid meetings and that the TWA and TWO had met virtually.

The TC received oral reports from the chairpersons on the work of the TWA, TWF, TWO and TWV. The TC noted that the reports from the chairpersons were provided in the Annexes to document TC/59/8.

Following the report from the TWF chairperson, the TC agreed to invite the TWF to consider at its fifty‑fifth session the use of methods of observations for single measurements of a group of plants or parts of plants (MG) and for measurements of a number of individual plants or parts of plants (MS) for the assessment of characteristics in Test Guidelines for fruit crops.

The TC approved the programs of work for the TWPs, at their sessions in 2024, as set out in the Annexes to document TC/59/8, with the addition of the agenda item on methods of observation of characteristics for the TWF.

The TC noted that the TWM did not hold a session in 2023.

## Matters arising from the Technical Working Parties

The TC considered document TC/59/3.

### Matters for information and for a possible decision to be taken by the TC

#### Information on mutant varieties of apple useful for DUS examination

The TC considered the proposal to support the exchange of information on mutant varieties of apple, as set out in document TC/59/3, paragraphs 6 to 10.

The TC agreed that it would not be appropriate to make available confidential information on a restricted area of the UPOV website.

The TC noted that the Office of the Union would not be in position to assess whether or not information provided would include confidential or sensitive data and that UPOV members providing data were responsible in case of misuse of the information.

The TC agreed that authorities should continue to cooperate in variety examination of apple mutants, including exchange of information on bilateral basis. The TC agreed that the TWF should continue discussions to support DUS examination of mutant varieties of apple.

### Matters for information

The TC noted developments in the TWPs concerning ongoing discussions on the following matters reported in document TC/59/3:

(i) Assessing distinctness in disease resistance characteristics;

(ii) New technologies in DUS examination;

(iii) Image analysis of vegetable crops;

(iv) DUSCEL statistical analysis software;

(v) Experiences with new types and species; and

(vi) Ornamental varieties of agricultural, fruit or vegetable crops.

## Development of guidance and documents proposed for adoption by the Council

### Matters for adoption by the Council in 2023

The TC considered document SESSIONS/2023/2.

#### Information Documents

##### Revision of document UPOV/INF/16 “Exchangeable Software” (document UPOV/INF/16/12 Draft 1)

The TC agreed to propose the revision of document UPOV/INF/16/11 “Exchangeable Software”, on the basis of document UPOV/INF/16/12 Draft 1.

##### Revision of document UPOV/INF/22 “Software and Equipment Used by Members of the Union” (document UPOV/INF/22/10 Draft 1)

The TC agreed to propose the revision of document UPOV/INF/22/9 “Software and equipment used by members of the Union”, on the basis of document UPOV/INF/22/10 Draft 1

#### Explanatory Notes on Variety Denominations under the UPOV Convention

##### New variety denomination classes for Allium

The TC agreed to propose the creation of new variety denomination classes within the genus *Allium*, as presented in document SESSIONS/2023/2, Annex I, and reproduced as follows:

*Classes within a genus*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| New: Class 5.1 | *Allium cepa* L.  *Allium fistulosum* L. | ALLIU\_CEP  ALLIU\_FIS | Onion, Echalion, Shallot  Welsh Onion |
| New: Class 5.2 | *Allium sativum* L. | ALLIU\_SAT | Garlic |
| New: Class 5.3 | *Allium* other than classes 5.1 and 5.2 | other than classes 5.1 and 5.2 | - |

The TC noted that the Council would be invited to adopt the agreed changes to the Explanatory Notes on Variety Denominations under the UPOV Convention (document UPOV/EXN/DEN), at its fifty-seventh session, subject to agreement from the CAJ, at its eightieth session.

##### New variety denomination classes for Prunus

The TC considered the creation of new variety denomination classes within the genus *Prunus*, as presented in document SESSIONS/2023/2, Annex I.

The TC considered the proposed explanation that “denominations of interspecific hybrids to be different from denominations in the denomination classes of all the parent species” and agreed that the situation was applicable to all the genera in the list of classes within a genus and not only to *Prunus.*

The TC agreed to invite the TWPs, at their sessions in 2024, to consider other situations when a denomination should be compared with denominations in other classes within a genus or the entire genus, such as:

* Denominations for varieties identified at genus level only, where the variety belongs to one of the genera included in the following list of “Classes within a genus” must be different from denominations within that genus.
* Denominations for varieties belonging to one of the “Classes within a genus” must be different from all denominations for varieties identified at genus level only.
* Denominations of interspecific hybrids must be different from denominations of varieties in classes of all the parent species.
* Denominations for varieties belonging to one of the “Classes within a genus” must be different from all denominations for varieties of interspecific hybrids with at least one parent species within that class.

##### New variety groups for Beta vulgaris

The TC agreed to propose the creation of variety groups for the UPOV codes for *Beta vulgaris* L. ssp. *vulgaris*, on the basis of the proposed amendments presented in document SESSIONS/2023/2, Annex I, and reproduced as follow:

*Classes within a genus*

|  | Botanical names | UPOV codes |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |
| Class 2.1 | *Beta vulgaris* Fodder Beet Group (Other botanical names:  *Beta vulgaris* L. ssp. *vulgaris* var. *alba* DC.,  *B. vulgaris* L. ssp. *vulgaris* var. *crassa* Alef.;  *B. vulgaris* L. ssp. *vulgaris* var. *crassa* Mansf.;  *B. vulgaris* L. ssp. *vulgaris* var. *rapacea* K. Koch)  *Beta vulgaris* Sugar Beet Group(Other botanical names:  *Beta vulgaris* L. ssp. *vulgaris* var. *saccharifera* Alef.  *Beta vulgaris* L. ssp. *vulgaris* var. *altissima* Doell) | BETAA\_VUL\_GVA;  BETAA\_VUL\_GVS |
| Class 2.2 | *Beta vulgaris* Garden Beet Group (Other botanical names:  *Beta vulgaris* ssp. *vulgaris* var. *conditiva* Alef. ~~(syn.:~~ *~~B. vulgaris~~* ~~L. var.~~ *~~rubra~~* ~~L.),~~  *B. vulgaris* L. ssp. *vulgaris* var. *esculenta* L.;  *B. vulgaris* L. ssp. *vulgaris* var. *hortensis*  *Beta vulgaris* Leaf Beet Group(Other botanical names:  *Beta vulgaris* L. ssp. *vulgaris* var. *flavescens* DC. f. Crispa,  *B. vulgaris* L. var. *cicla* ~~L.~~ (L.) Ulrich, *B. vulgaris* L. ssp. *vulgaris* var. *vulgaris* ) | BETAA\_VUL\_GVC;  BETAA\_VUL\_GVF |
| Class 2.3 | *Beta* other than classes 2.1 and 2.2. | other than classes 2.1 and 2.2 |

The TC noted that the Council would be invited to adopt the agreed changes to document UPOV/EXN/DEN at its fifty-seventh session, subject to agreement from the CAJ, at its eightieth session.

#### TGP Documents

##### TGP/7: Development of Test Guidelines, GN 13, paragraph 3.6, (Revision): Disease resistance characteristics: addition of state of expression and placement of non asterisked disease resistance characteristics in Section 5 of the Technical Questionnaire

The TC agreed to propose amending document TGP/7, GN 13, paragraph 3.6, to clarify that disease resistance characteristics not indicated with an asterisk in the table of characteristics may be presented in Section 5 of Technical Questionnaires (TQ) with the addition of a state of expression “not tested”, when the characteristic was not used as a grouping characteristic, as set out in document SESSIONS/2023/2, Annex II, and reproduced as follows:

“3.6 GN 13(4)(b) explains that “TQ characteristics selected from the Table of Characteristics should, in general, receive an asterisk in the Table of Characteristics”.  Certain characteristics, particularly disease resistance characteristics, which are potentially useful as grouping characteristics might not be indicated with an asterisk in the Table of Characteristics.  In the case of disease resistance characteristics, for example, there may be obstacles to the use of the characteristic for a number of members of the Union because of technical or quarantine requirements.  Those same obstacles might also make it difficult for applicants to provide information on those characteristics ~~if they were included in the Technical Questionnaire, Section 5 “Characteristics of the variety to be indicated”~~.  Therefore, disease resistance characteristics not indicated with an asterisk at the Table of Characteristics and not used as grouping characteristic may be presented in Section 5 of Technical Questionnaires (TQ) with the addition of a state of expression “not tested”.  ~~information should be sought in Section 7 “Additional information which may help in the examination of the variety” of the Technical Questionnaire~~.  ~~The guidance on the presentation of the characteristics for Section 5 (see GN 13.3 & 13.4 above would also apply for the presentation of characteristics in Section 7.~~”

##### TGP/12: Guidance on Certain Physiological Characteristics (Revision): Example disease resistance characteristic

The TC agreed to propose the revision of document TGP/12 “Guidance on certain physiological characteristics”, Section 2.3.2, to replace the example of disease resistance characteristic, as presented in document SESSIONS/2023/2, Annex IV, paragraph 3, to read as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 70. | VG | Resistance to *Podosphaera xanthii* (Px) (ex *Sphaerotheca fuliginea)* (Powdery mildew) |  |  |
| **70.1  (+)** |  | **Race 1 (Px: 1)** |  |  |
| **QN** |  | absent or low | Védrantais | 1 |
|  |  | medium | Escrito | 2 |
|  |  | high | Arum | 3 |

The TC noted that the Council would be invited to adopt the agreed changes to document TGP/12 at its fifty-seventh session, subject to agreement from the CAJ, at its eightieth session.

### Matters for consideration by the Technical Committee

#### (a) Explanatory Notes:

##### UPOV/EXN/DEN: Explanatory Notes on Variety Denominations under the UPOV Convention: Amending variety denomination classes for Brassica

The TC considered the proposal to amend the variety denomination classes for *Brassica* to create a separate denomination class for Rapeseed varieties (UPOV code BRASS\_NAP\_NUS), as set out in document SESSIONS/2023/2, Annex III.

The TC noted that the proposal would entail the examination of variety denominations for subspecies of *Brassica napus*, *B. nigra* or *B. rapa* under separate denomination classes and that no consensus had been reached at the TWA. The TC agreed that the proposal should not be further discussed.

#### (b) TGP Documents

##### TGP/5: Section 6 “UPOV Report on Technical Examination and UPOV Variety Description” (Revision)

The TC considered the proposals from the TWF and TWO to amend guidance in document TGP/5: Section 6, to propose additional explanations under Section 16 “Similar varieties and differences from these varieties” and 17 “Additional information”, as provided document SESSIONS/2023/2, Annex III, paragraphs 5 to 13.

The TC agreed to invite the TWPs, at their sessions in 2024, to consider the proposed revisions to document TGP/5, Section 6, items 16 and 17, and whether to provide further guidance on information about similar varieties considered in the examination and additional information that could be provided with variety descriptions.

##### TGP/5: Section 11 “Examples of Policies and Contracts for Material Submitted by the Breeder” (Revision): Access to plant material for the purpose of management of variety collections and DUS examination

The TC considered the proposal from the TWF to develop guidance on elements for inclusion in requests for the submission of plant material of candidate varieties and varieties of common knowledge for DUS examination, as set out in document SESSIONS/2023/2, Annex III, paragraphs 14 and 15.

The TC agreed that it would not be appropriate to include the proposed guidance in document TGP/5, Section 11 “Examples of Policies and Contracts for Material Submitted by the Breeder”.

The TC agreed to invite the TWPs, at their sessions in 2024, to consider the elements proposed by the TWF and further experiences and policies on requesting plant material from breeders. The TC agreed that a suitable place to make this information available should be identified and not necessarily in a TGP document.

##### TGP/7 Development of Test Guidelines, (Revision): Example varieties for asterisked quantitative characteristics when illustrations are provided

The TC noted discussions on possible amendments to document TGP/7, GN 28 “Example Varieties” reported in document SESSIONS/2023/2, Annex III, paragraphs 16 to 26. The TC noted that the TWA had invited the expert from Germany to draft a proposal to amend the guidance in document TGP/7, GN 28, concerning the situations where illustrations could replace example varieties and their complementary role to clarify the states of expression of a characteristic for consideration at the TWPs, at their sessions in 2024.

##### New proposals for revision of document TGP/7: ASW 3 – Explanation of the growing cycle

The TC considered the proposal from TWF to amend the current standard wording of growing cycle for “fruit species with clearly defined dormant period” and agreed to invite the TWPs, at their sessions in 2024, to consider the proposed amendments to document TGP/7, ASW 3(a), as set out in document SESSIONS/2023/2, paragraph 69, and reproduced as follows:

“(a) Fruit species with clearly defined dormant period

“3.1.2 The growing cycle is considered to be the duration of a single growing season, beginning with the dormancy period, followed by bud burst (flowering and/or vegetative), flowering and fruit harvest and concluding when the following dormant period starts ~~ends with the swelling of new season buds~~.”

##### New proposals for revision of document TGP/7: ASW 7(b) – Number of plants / parts of plants to be examined

The TC considered the proposal from the TWF to amend standard wording in Test Guidelines on the number of parts of single plants to be observed for distinctness to clarify that the number provided was an indication of minimum quantity. The TC agreed to invite the TWPs, at their sessions in 2024, to consider the proposed amendments to document TGP/7, Additional Standard Wording 7(b), as set out in document SESSIONS/2023/2, paragraph 70, and reproduced as follows:

“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 at least { y }.”

##### TGP/12: Guidance on Certain Physiological Characteristics

The TC considered whether to amend document TGP/12 to include a table of equivalence of states of expression in Test Guidelines with terminology used in the vegetable seed sector, as set out in document SESSIONS/2023/2, paragraph 74, and reproduced as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Equivalence of states of expression in UPOV Test Guidelines with the terminology used in the vegetable seed sector | |
|  | State of expression in UPOV Test Guidelines | Terminology used in the vegetable seed sector\* |
| UPOV notes | Resistance to (disease resistance name) is: | Reaction of a plant variety to a specific pest is: |
| 1 | absent or low | Susceptibility (S) |
| 2 | medium | Intermediate Resistance (IR) |
| 3 | high | High Resistance (HR) |

\* Source: <https://worldseed.org/>

The TC agreed to invite the TWPs, at their sessions in 2024, to consider the proposal to amend document TGP/12 to include a table of equivalence of states of expression in Test Guidelines with terminology used in the vegetable seed sector. The TC agreed to invite the TWPs to consider whether to add an explanation that the table could be used in case of equivalence between the states of expression according to the method described in the explanation of the characteristic (Section 8.2 of the Test Guidelines).

UPOV information databases

The TC considered document SESSIONS/2023/3.

### Updating botanical nomenclature of UPOV CODES

#### UPOV codes for redundant genera in the GENIE database

The TC agreed to delete the UPOV codes for 53 redundant genera in the GENIE database, as presented in document SESSIONS/2023/3, paragraph 11, and reproduced as follows:

| GENIE database | | GRIN database | GENIE database | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Reclassified genera | Redundant UPOV code to be deleted | Accepted genera name in GRIN | UPOV code for the accepted genera in GRIN | Relevant Technical Working Party(s) |
| *Acanthopanax* | ACNTP | *Eleutherococcus* | ELEUT | TWO |
| *Acmena* | ACMEN | *Syzygium* | SYZYG | TWO, TWF |
| *Ajania* | AJANI | *Chrysanthemum* | CHRYS | TWO |
| *Ammophila* | AMMOP | *Calamagrostis* | CALMG | TWO |
| *Anagallis* | ANAGA | *Lysimachia* | LYSIM | TWO |
| *Belamcanda* | BELAM | *Iris* | IRISS | TWO |
| *Cardaria* | CARDA | *Lepidium* | LEPID | TWO, TWV |
| *Castalis* | CASTL | *Dimorphotheca* | DIMOR | TWO |
| *Chamaecytisus* | CHMCT | *Cytisus* | CYTIS | TWO |
| *Cheiranthus* | CHEIR | *Erysimum* | ERYSI | TWO |
| *Cimicifuga* | CIMIC | *Actaea* | ACTAE | TWO |
| *Cnicus* | CNICU | *Centaurea* | CENTA | TWO |
| *Cochlioda* | COCHD | *Oncidium* | ONCID | TWO |
| *Coluria* | COLUR | *Geum* | GEUMM | TWO |
| *Crypsis* | CRYPS | *Sporobolus* | SPORO | TWO, TWA |
| *Daemonorops* | DAEMO | *Calamus* | CALAM | TWO |
| *Dichroa* | DICHR | *Hydrangea* | HYDRN | TWO |
| *Dodecatheon* | DODEC | *Primula* | PRIMU | TWO |
| *Fortunella* | FORTU | *Citrus* | CITRU | TWO, TWF |
| *Gaura* | GAURA | *Oenothera* | OENOT | TWO |
| *Hebe* | HEBEE | *Veronica* | VERON | TWO |
| *Hemidiodia* | HEMID | *Oenothera* | OENOT | TWO |
| *Hylocereus* | HYLOC | *Selenicereus* | SELEN | TWO, TWV, TWF |
| *Laurentia* | LAURE | *Lobelia* | LOBEL | TWO |
| *Lychnis* | LYCHN | *Silene* | SILEN | TWO, TWV |
| *Manfreda* | MANFR | *Agave* | AGAVE | TWO, TWV |
| *Manglietia* | MANGL | *Magnolia* | MAGNO | TWO |
| *Menziesia* | MENZI | *Rhododendron* | RHODD | TWO |
| *Miyamayomena* | MIYAM | *Aster* | ASTER | TWO |
| *Odontoglossum* | ODONT | *Oncidium* | ONCID | TWO |
| *Parakmeria* | PARAK | *Magnolia* | MAGNO | TWO |
| *Pedilanthus* | PEDIL | *Euphorbia* | EUPHO | TWO, TWV |
| *Pennisetum* | PENNI | *Cenchrus* | CENCH | TWO, TWA |
| *Poncirus* | PONCI | *Citrus* | CITRU | TWO, TWF |
| *Porphyra* | PORPH | *Callicarpa* | CALLC | TWO, TWV |
| *Pratia* | PRATI | *Lobelia* | LOBEL | TWO |
| *Pulsatilla* | PULSA | *Anemone* | ANEMO | TWO |
| *Rhagodia* | RHAGO | *Chenopodium* | CHENO | TWO, TWA |
| *Rollinia* | ROLLI | *Annona* | ANNON | TWF |
| *Schizophragma* | SCHIO | *Hydrangea* | HYDRN | TWO |
| *Sclerostachya* | SCLRS | *Miscanthus* | MISCA | TWO |
| *Sedirea* | SEDIR | *Phalaenopsis* | PHALE | TWO |
| *Sophronitis* | SOPHR | *Cattleya* | CATTL | TWO |
| *Stephanandra* | STEPH | *Neillia* | NEILL | TWO |
| *Tacitus* | TACIT | *Graptopetalum* | GRATP | TWO |
| *Taxodiomeria* | TAXDI | *Taxodium* | TAXOD | TWO |
| *Trichloris* | TRICL | *Leptochloa* | LPTOC | TWO |
| *Uncinia* | UNCIN | *Carex* | CAREX | TWO |
| *Vaccaria* | VACCA | *Gypsophila* | GYPSO | TWO |
| *Vetiveria* | VETIV | *Chrysopogon* | CHRPG | TWO |
| *Vulpia* | VULPI | *Festuca* | FESTU | TWO, TWA |
| *Waldsteinia* | WALDS | *Geum* | GEUMM | TWO |
| *Xanthocyparis* | XNTHC | *Cupressus* | CUPRE | TWO |

#### Updating principal botanical names of species in the GENIE database following developments in GRIN

The TC considered the resource implications of the proposal to develop a systematic procedure for checking and updating the principal botanical names of species in the GENIE database to follow taxonomic developments in the GRIN. The TC agreed that the updates to principal botanical names of species in the database should continue to be provided in accordance with guidance in document INF/23 “Guidance to the UPOV Code system” or if a particular need was identified by UPOV members.

### Replacing complex botanical nomenclature by variety groups

#### UPOV codes for *Brassica oleracea*

The TC agreed to create variety groups for the UPOV codes for *Beta vulgaris* L. ssp. *vulgaris* to replace complex infra‑specific botanical names, as set out in document SESSIONS/2023/3, paragraph 20, and reproduced as follows:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| UPOV code | BOTANICAL NAMES IN GENIE | BOTANICAL NAMES IN GRIN | Group name |
| BRASS\_OLE\_ALB | *Brassica oleracea* L. var. *alboglabra* (L. H. Bailey) Musil  *Brassica alboglabra* L. H. Bailey; *Brassica oleracea*  var. *albiflora* auct. | *Brassica oleracea*  L. var. *alboglabra* (L. H. Bailey) Musil (*Brassica oleracea*  Chinese Kale or Kailaan Group) | *Brassica oleracea*  L. (Chinese Kale or Kailaan Group) |
| BRASS\_OLE\_COS | *Brassica oleracea*  L. var. *costata* DC.  *Brassica capitata* subsp. *costata* (DC.) Lizg.; *Brassica oleracea*  convar. *acephala* var. *luteola* Alef.; *Brassica oleracea*  subsp. *oleracea* convar. *costata* (DC.) Gladis; *Brassica oleracea*  var. *tronchuda* L.H. Bailey | *Brassica oleracea*  L. var. *costata* DC. (*Brassica oleracea*  Portuguese Kale Group) | *Brassica oleracea*  L. (Tronchuda Group) |
| BRASS\_OLE\_GA | *Brassica oleracea*  L. convar. *acephala* (DC.) Alef. | *Brassica oleracea*  L. var. *sabellica* L. (*Brassica oleracea*  Kale Group) | *Brassica oleracea*  L. (Kale Group) |
| BRASS\_OLE\_GAM | *Brassica oleracea*  L. convar. *acephala* (DC.) Alef. var. *medullosa* Thell.  *Brassica oleracea*  L. var. *medullosa* Thell. | *Brassica oleracea*  L. var. *medullosa* Thell. (*Brassica oleracea*  Marrowstem Kale Group) | *Brassica oleracea*  L. (Marrowstem Kale Group) |
| BRASS\_OLE\_GAR | *Brassica oleracea*  L. var. *ramosa* DC. | *Brassica oleracea*  L. var. *ramosa* DC. (*Brassica oleracea*  Thousand Head Kale Group) | *Brassica oleracea*  L. (Thousand Head Kale Group) |
| BRASS\_OLE\_GAS | *Brassica oleracea*  L. convar. *acephala* (DC.) Alef. var. *sabellica* L.  *Brassica oleracea*  L. var. *sabellica* L. | *Brassica oleracea*  L. var. *sabellica* L. (*Brassica oleracea*  Acephala Group) | *Brassica oleracea*  L. (Curly kale Group) |
| BRASS\_OLE\_GBB | *Brassica oleracea*  L. convar. *acephala* (DC.) Alef. var. *viridis* L.  *Brassica oleracea*  L. var. *viridis* L. | *Brassica oleracea*  L. var. *viridis* L. (*Brassica oleracea*  Collard Group) | *Brassica oleracea*  L. (Collard Group) |
| BRASS\_OLE\_GBC | *Brassica oleracea*  L. var. *italica* Plenck  *Brassica oleracea*  L. var. *botrytis* L. subvar. *cymosa* Duchesne; *Brassica oleracea*  L. var. *cymosa* (Duchesne) DC.; *Brassica oleracea*  subvar. *cymosa* Duchesne | *Brassica oleracea*  L. var. *italica* Plenck (*Brassica oleracea*  Broccoli Group) | *Brassica oleracea*  L. (Broccoli Group) |
| BRASS\_OLE\_GC | *Brassica oleracea*  L. convar. *capitata* (L.) Alef.  *Brassica oleracea*  L. convar. *capitata* (L.) Alef. var. *alba* DC. x *Brassica oleracea*  L. convar. *capitata* (L.) Alef. var. *rubra* (L.) Thell.; *Brassica oleracea*  L. convar. *capitata* (L.) Alef. var. *capitata* (L.) Alef.; *Brassica oleracea*  L. var. *capitata* L. | *Brassica oleracea*  L. var. *capitata* L. (*Brassica oleracea*  Red Cabbage and White/Green Cabbage Groups) | *Brassica oleracea*  L. (Cabbage Group) |
| BRASS\_OLE\_GCA | *Brassica oleracea*  L. convar. *capitata* (L.) Alef. var. alba DC.  *Brassica oleracea*  L. convar. *capitata* (L.) Alef. var. *capitata* L. f. alba DC. | *Brassica oleracea*  L. var. *capitata* L. (*Brassica oleracea*  White Cabbage Group) | *Brassica oleracea*  L. (White Cabbage Group) |
| BRASS\_OLE\_GCR | *Brassica oleracea*  L. convar. *capitata* (L.) Alef. var. *rubra* (L.) Thell.  *Brassica oleracea*  L. convar. *capitata* (L.) Alef. var. *capitata* L. f. *rubra* (L.) Thell. | *Brassica oleracea*  L. var. *capitata* L. (*Brassica oleracea*  Red Cabbage Group) | *Brassica oleracea*  L. (Red Cabbage Group) |
| BRASS\_OLE\_GCS | *Brassica oleracea*  L. convar. *capitata* (L.) Alef. var. *sabauda* L.  *Brassica oleracea*  L. convar. *capitata* (L.) Alef. var. *bullata* DC. | *Brassica oleracea*  L. var. sabauda L. (*Brassica oleracea*  Savoy Cabbage Group) | *Brassica oleracea*  L. (Savoy Cabbage Group) |
| BRASS\_OLE\_GGM | *Brassica oleracea*  L. var. *gemmifera* Zenker  *Brassica oleracea*  L. convar. *oleracea* var. *gemmifera* DC.; *Brassica subspontanea* lizg | *Brassica oleracea*  L. var. *gemmifera* DC. (*Brassica oleracea*  Brussels Sprouts Group) | *Brassica oleracea*  L. (Brussels Sprouts Group) |
| BRASS\_OLE\_GGO | *Brassica oleracea*  L. var. *gongylodes* L.  *Brassica caulorapa* (DC.) Pasq.; *Brassica oleracea*  L. convar. *acephala* (DC.) Alef. var. *gongylodes* L.; *Brassica oleracea*  var. *caulorapa* DC. | *Brassica oleracea*  L. var. gongylodes L. (*Brassica oleracea*  Kohlrabi Group) | *Brassica oleracea*  L. (Kohlrabi Group) |
| BRASS\_OLE\_PAL | *Brassica oleracea*  L. var. *palmifolia* DC. | *Brassica oleracea*  L. var. *palmifolia* DC. (*Brassica oleracea*  Jersey Kale or Palmtree Kale Group) | *Brassica oleracea*  L. (Palm Kale Group) |

#### UPOV codes for *Cichorium intybus*

The TC agreed to create variety groups for the UPOV codes for *Cichorium intybus*, as set out in document SESSIONS/2023/3, paragraph 25, and reproduced as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| UPOV code | Botanical names in GENIE | GRIN | Proposed Group name | English | French | German | Spanish |
| CICHO\_INT\_1WIT | *Cichorium intybus* L. | *Cichorium intybus* L. | Witloof Chicory Group | Witloof chicory | Endive | Chicorée | Endivia |
| CICHO\_INT\_FOL | *Cichorium intybus* L. var. *foliosum* Hegi | *Cichorium intybus* L. | Leaf Chicory Group | Salad Chicory; Leaf chicory | Chicorée à feuille; Chicorée italienne | Salatzichorie | Achicoria |
| CICHO\_INT\_SAT | *Cichorium intybus* L. var. *sativum* DC. | *Cichorium intybus* L. | Industrial Chicory Group | Industrial Chicory; Large-rooted Chicory | Chicorée à café | Wurzelzichorie | Achicoria de café |
| CICHO\_INT\_2FOR | *Cichorium intybus* L. | *Cichorium intybus* L. | Forage Chicory Group | Forage Chicory | Chicorée fourrage | Futterzichorie | Achicoria forrajera |

#### UPOV codes for *Zea mays*

The TC agreed to delete the UPOV code ZEAAA\_MAY\_MIC, which would be replaced by the UPOV code ZEAAA\_MAY\_EVE.

The TC agreed to amend the UPOV codes ZEAAA\_MAY\_EVE, ZEAAA\_MAY\_MAY and ZEAAA\_MAY\_SAC and associated information to establish the variety groups “Popcorn”, “Sweet Corn” and “Maize”, as set out in document SESSIONS/2023/3, paragraph 31, and reproduced as follows:

| Current | | | Proposal | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| UPOV code | Principal botanical name | Other botanical name(s) | UPOV code | Principal botanical name | Other botanical name(s) | Note |
| ZEAAA\_MAY\_EVE | *Zea mays* L. var. *everta* (Praecox) Sturt. | n.a. | ZEAAA\_MAY\_**GPO** | *Zea mays* L. subsp. *mays* Popcorn Group | *Zea mays* L. var. *everta* (Praecox) Sturt.;  *Zea mays* L. convar. *microsperma* Koern. | Addition of new synonym previously under ZEAAA\_MAY\_MIC |
| ZEAAA\_MAY\_MIC | *Zea mays* L. convar. *microsperma* Koern. | n.a. | [to delete] | n.a. | n.a. | Principal botanical name added as other botanical name under *Z. mays* L. subsp. *mays* Popcorn Group |
| ZEAAA\_MAY\_SAC | *Zea mays* L. *saccharata* Koern. | n.a. | ZEAAA\_MAY\_**GSW** | *Zea mays* L. subsp. *mays* Sweet Corn Group | *Zea mays* var. *saccharata* (Sturtev.) L. H. Bailey;  *Zea mays* L. *saccharata* Koern. |  |
| ZEAAA\_MAY\_MAY | *Zea mays* L. subsp. *mays* | *Zea mays* var *ceratina* L.;  *Zea mays* var. *indentata* (Sturtev.) L. H. Bailey;  *Zea mays* var. *indurata* (Sturtev.) L. H. Bailey;  *Zea mays* var. *saccharata* (Sturtev.) L. H. Bailey | ZEAAA\_MAY\_**GMA** | *Zea mays* L. subsp. *mays* Maize Group | *Zea mays* var *ceratina* L.;  *Zea mays* var. *indentata* (Sturtev.) L. H. Bailey;  *Zea mays* var. *indurata* (Sturtev.) L. H. Bailey;  *~~Zea mays~~* ~~var.~~ *~~saccharata~~* ~~(Sturtev.) L. H. Bailey;~~  *~~Zea mays~~* ~~L.~~ *~~saccharata~~* ~~Koern.;~~  *~~Zea mays~~* ~~L. var.~~ *~~everta~~* ~~(Praecox) Sturt.;~~  *~~Zea mays~~* ~~L. convar.~~ *~~microsperma~~* ~~Koern.~~ | Reduction of scope to delete Sweet Corn and Popcorn |

The TC agreed to invite the Office of the Union to consult contributors to the PLUTO database using UPOV code ZEAAA\_MAY\_MAY whether to allocate existing entries to *Zea mays* ssp. *mays* Group Maize.

#### Proposed amendments to Upov codes considered by the TWO in 2023

The TC agreed to delete and amend the UPOV Codes CLEOM\_HAS, CLEOM\_SPI, EPIPH\_ANG, CALAT\_CRO, CALAT\_LOE, CALAT\_ROS, CALAT\_WAR, CALAT\_LRO, OSTEO\_ECK, OSTEO\_FRU, OSTEO\_ECC, CASTL\_TRA BERBE\_AQU, BERBE\_EUR, BERBE\_NIT, BERBE\_PUM, BERBE\_REP, DESCH\_FLE, UNCIN, UNCIN\_DIV, UNCIN\_EGM, UNCIN\_RUB and UNCIN\_UNC, as set out in document SESSIONS/2023/3, paragraphs 34 to 57.

### Matters for information

The TC noted the matters provided for information in document SESSIONS/2023/3.

## Measures to enhance cooperation in examination

The TC noted the developments reported in document SESSIONS/2023/4, including the survey of members of the Union for information on policies or legal barriers that could prevent international cooperation in DUS examination. The TC noted that the CAJ would be invited to consider the document and possible measures to increase opportunities for international cooperation in DUS examination at its eightieth session.

The TC agreed to support the exchange of information from UPOV members on practices in DUS examination, including events to discuss the environmental effect in the expression of characteristics and variety collections.

The TC agreed there was an opportunity to increase the exchange of information, including the possibility to organize events to discuss arrangements for testing at breeders’ premises, criteria for independence and avoiding conflict of interests.

## Increasing participation of new members of the Union in work of the TC and restructuring the work of the TWPs

The TC considered document TC/59/5.

### Recommendations on the proposals in document TC/58/18 “Survey on the needs of members and observers in relation to TWPs”

The TC agreed with the recommendations in document TC/59/5, paragraphs 11 to 54, subject to the following amendments:

[12] to read: It is **recommended** [12] that matters for information be made available online on the UPOV website as documents or pre‑recorded videos and presented during the session as agreed by the chairperson.

[17] to read: It is **recommended** [17] that seminars on testing methods and techniques and other developments in DUS examination might be organized along with meetings of the Technical Committee as a means to increase awareness of developments.

[18] to read: It is **recommended** [18] that exhibitions of research with poster sessions might be considered along with the seminars held in conjunction with the Technical Committee meetings as a means of increasing awareness of developments. Information from the poster sessions should also be made available to experts not physically present at the TC sessions.

Performance indicator to read: “Percentage of PVP applications in UPOV members covered by UPOV Test Guidelines”

The TC considered recommendations [22] and [23] on Test Guidelines subgroups and agreed to add a new recommendation on developing guidance on the role of leading experts.

The TC agreed that the efficiency of the performance indicators should be reviewed periodically along with the implementation of the recommendations in this document.

### Possible implementing measures

The TC agreed that recommendations in document TC/59/5 could be grouped by affinity and implemented through similar measures. The TC agreed the following implementing measures:

1. Already implemented: [40]
2. No action required: [2]; [3]; [8]; [9] ; [19]; [20]; [42]
3. UPOV Office will implement: [4]; [12]; [33]; [34]
4. UPOV Office will implement with TWP host and document “guidance for hosts of TWPs”: [5]; [6]; [7]; [10]; [11]; [13]; [14]; [15];
5. UPOV Office will implement with TC and TWP chairpersons: [16]; [17]; [18]; [35]; [36]; [37]
6. UPOV Office to provide reports to TC on annual basis starting in 2024: [43]
7. UPOV Office to invite TC to consider on annual basis starting in 2024: [44]; [45]
8. UPOV Office to develop proposals for TC in 2024: [27]; [29]; [30]; [31]; [32]; [38]; [39]; [41]
9. Test Guidelines: [21]; [22]; [23]; [24]; [25]; [26]; [28]

The TC agreed that recommendations on Test Guidelines ([21]; [22]; [23]; [24]; [25]; [26] and [28]) encompassed a range of aspects, including the nature and structure of the online tool for drafting Test Guidelines (web-based TG template) and the structure of the Test Guidelines themselves. The TC agreed to establish a subgroup as follows:

1. The purpose of the subgroup is to develop options for consideration by the Technical Committee, at its sixtieth session, to address recommendations on Test Guidelines presented in document TC/59/5, including options on the online tool for drafting Test Guidelines (web-based TG template) (recommendations [21]; [22]; [23]; [24]; [25]; [26] and [28]).
2. The subgroup should identify needs and develop options on the following main areas and should clarify their interrelation:

* improvement of the UPOV Test Guidelines structure
* specific requirements of Technical Questionnaires for use in UPOV PRISMA.
* creation of national test guidelines, including the use of machine translation;

1. The options developed should facilitate the work of drafters and the Office of the Union. Any modification of the TG structure should facilitate understanding and clarity of the final document for technical experts and plant breeders.
2. The following aspects should be considered:

* Issues related to UPOV Test Guidelines and the TG-Template, such as:
  + Develop TG format that would enable easier drafting and downloading in a range of formats used by UPOV members, including electronic equipment
  + Review possibilities to improve explanations on methods and assessments with references (links) to guidance in TGP documents
  + Improve links to ensure coherence of information applicable to different sections of the TG (e.g. materials, methods, assessment of characteristics and technical questionnaire)
  + Improve possibilities to include images, tables and elements other than text
  + Minimize the need of UPOV Office staff intervention to format and correct documents generated from the tool
  + Facilitate translating Test Guidelines into the four official UPOV languages, e.g. in relation to format barriers including quadrilingual tables
  + Facilitate machine translation of UPOV TGs into languages of UPOV members
* Developing national test guidelines
  + Facilitate converting UPOV Test Guidelines into national test guidelines, including any changes and adjustments required
  + Enable drafting national test guidelines using the UPOV TG template for crops with no UPOV Test Guidelines

1. Other aspects could be proposed by the subgroup for consideration.
2. The subgroup should meet by physical and/or virtual means at a time and frequency to address its mandate as required. The subgroup should present draft options for consideration by the Technical Working Parties, at their sessions in 2024. The outcome of discussions should be presented for consideration by the TC, at its sixtieth session.
3. The subgroup should be coordinated by a leading expert from the United Kingdom, Ms. Margaret Wallace, and will be composed by experts from AR, AU, BR, BY, CA, CL, CN, DE, EU, FR, GH, JP, KE, NL, NZ, TZ, US, ZA and ISF and will be open to members and observers.

### TWV and TWF 2023 hybrid meetings participants’ satisfaction survey

The TC noted the satisfaction survey conducted with participants at the hybrid meetings of the TWV and TWF in 2023, as presented in document TC/59/5, Annex III.

## Preparatory workshops

The TC considered document TC/59/6.

The TC agreed to organize preparatory workshops in 2024 as a series of webinars, at suitable dates according to the schedule of TWP sessions, in conjunction with workshops with physical participation, where requested, as set out in document TC/59/6, paragraphs 17 to 20.

The TC noted that the detailed arrangements concerning the webinars would be finalized by the Office of the Union in coordination with the chairpersons of the TC and TWPs.

The TC agreed to rename the agenda item to read “TWP workshops and webinars”.

## Molecular techniques

The TC considered document SESSIONS/2023/5.

### Confidentiality & ownership of molecular information

The TC noted the policies reported and discussions on confidentiality of molecular information at the TWP sessions in 2023.

The TC agreed to repeat the invitation for members and observers to report existing policies on confidentiality of molecular information at the TWPs, at their sessions in 2024.

### Discussion on molecular techniques in DUS examination

The TC received the following presentations on molecular techniques in DUS examination:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Molecular Techniques in DUS examination -  Argentine position | Argentina (Ms. Ana Laura Vicario) |
| Enhancement of Characterization and Variety Identification Technology in the Plant Variety Protection System - Assessment of type of bearing for Strawberry Varieties by using DNA marker | Japan (Mr. Yoshiyuki Ohno) |
| Delivering PBR for the future | United Kingdom (Mr. Sigurd Ramans-Harborough) |

## Matters for information

The TC noted that the following document were posted as documents for information on the TC/59 webpage:

(a) List of genera and species for which authorities have practical experience in the examination of distinctness, uniformity and stability (document TC/59/4)

(b) Meetings on Electronic Applications (EAM) (document SESSIONS/2023/6)

(c) Variety description databases (document TC/59/7)

(d) Web-based TG template (document TC/59/5)

The TC received a presentation from the Office of the Union on developments in UPOV E-PVP, a copy of which is provided in document SESSIONS/2023/6.

## Test Guidelines

The TC considered document TC/59/2.

### Additional characteristics / states of expression

The TC noted that no additional states of expression or characteristics had been notified to the Office of the Union since the fifty-eighth session of the TC.

The TC agreed to post on the TG Drafters’ webpage of the UPOV website the additional characteristic notified by the European Union for the Test Guidelines for Lettuce (“Resistance to *Bremia lactucae* (Bl) Isolate PT2036”), as set out in document TC/59/2, Annex I.

### Test Guidelines for Broccoli (document TG/151/5)

The TC agreed with the proposal from the TWV to revise characteristic “male sterility” in the Test Guidelines for Broccoli (document TG/151/5) along with the revision of all other *Brassica oleracea* species.

### 

### Test Guidelines for adoption

On the basis of the recommendations of the TC-EDC, as set out in Annex II of this document, the TC agreed to adopt the following Test Guidelines:

|  | TWP | Document No.  No. du document  Dokument-Nr.  No del documento | English | Français | Deutsch | Español | Botanical name |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| NEW TEST GUIDELINES / NOUVEAUX PRINCIPES DIRECTEURS D’EXAMEN / NEUE PRÜFUNGSRICHTILINIEN / NUEVAS DIRECTRICES DE EXAMEN | | | | | | | |
| JP | TWO | |  | | --- | | TG/OXYPE\_CAE (proj.3) | | |  | | --- | | Oxypetalum | | Oxypetalum | Oxypetalum | Oxipetalum | |  | | --- | | Oxypetalum coeruleum (D. Don) Decne. | |
| REVISIONS OF ADOPTED TEST GUIDELINES / RÉVISIONS DE PRINCIPES DIRECTEURS D’EXAMEN ADOPTÉS /  REVISIONEN ANGENOMMENER PRÜFUNGSRICHTLINIEN / REVISIONES DE DIRECTRICES DE EXAMEN ADOPTADAS | | | | | | | |
| |  | | --- | | DE | | |  | | --- | | TWF | | |  | | --- | | TG/14/10(proj.8) | | |  | | --- | | Apple | | |  | | --- | | Pommier | | |  | | --- | | Apfel | | |  | | --- | | Manzano | | |  | | --- | | Malus domestica (Suckow) Borkh. | |
| |  | | --- | | GB | | |  | | --- | | TWA | | |  | | --- | | TG/36/7(proj.5) | | |  | | --- | | Oilseed Rape | | |  | | --- | | Colza | | |  | | --- | | Raps | | |  | | --- | | Colza | | |  | | --- | | Brassica napus L. ssp.   nappus | |
| |  | | --- | | DE | | |  | | --- | | TWF | | |  | | --- | | TG/43/8(proj.4) | | |  | | --- | | Raspberry; Black Raspberry | | |  | | --- | | Framboisier | | |  | | --- | | Himbeere | | |  | | --- | | Frambueso | | |  | | --- | | Rubus occidentalis L.,  Rubus idaeus L. | |
| |  | | --- | | JP | | |  | | --- | | TWV | | |  | | --- | | TG/90/7(proj.6) | | |  | | --- | | Kale | | |  | | --- | | Chou kale | | |  | | --- | | Kale | | |  | | --- | | Kale | | |  | | --- | | Brassica oleracea L. var. medullosa  Thell., Brassica oleracea L. var. viridis L.,  Brassica oleracea L. var. costata DC.,  rassica oleracea L. var.  sabellica L., Brassica oleracea L. var. palmifolia DC. | |
| |  | | --- | | DE | | |  | | --- | | TWA | | |  | | --- | | TG/134/4(proj.2) | | |  | | --- | | Safflower | | |  | | --- | | Carthame | | |  | | --- | | Saflor | | |  | | --- | | Cártamo | | |  | | --- | | Carthamus tinctorius L. | |
| PARTIAL REVISIONS OF ADOPTED TEST GUIDELINES / RÉVISIONS PARTIELLES DE PRINCIPES DIRECTEURS D’EXAMEN ADOPTÉS / TEILREVISIONEN ANGENOMMENER PRÜFUNGSRICHTLINIEN / REVISIONES PARCIALES DE DIRECTRICES DE EXAMEN ADOPTADAS | | | | | | | |
| NL | TWV | TC/59/9,  TG/151/5 | Broccoli | Brocoli | Brokkoli | Brócoli | *Brassica oleracea* L. var. *italica* Plenck) |
| NL | TWV | TC/59/10,  TG/54/7 Rev. | Brussels Sprouts | Chou de Bruxelles | Rosenkohl | Col de Bruselas | *Brassica oleracea* L. var. *gemmifera* DC. |
| NL | TWV | TC/59/11,  TG/48/7 Rev. | Cabbage | Chou pommé | Wirsing | Col repollo | *Brassica oleracea* L.: *Brassica* (White Cabbage Group); *Brassica* (Savoy Cabbage Group); *Brassica* (Red Cabbage Group) |
|  | TWV | TC/59/12,  TG/49/8 Corr. | Carrot | Carotte | Möhre | Zanahoria | *Daucus carota* L. |
| NL | TWV | TC/59/13,  TG/45/7 Rev. | Cauliflower | Chou-fleur | Blumenkohl | Coliflor | *Brassica oleracea* L. convar *botrytis* (L.) Alef. var. *botrytis* L. |
| NL | TWV | TC/59/14,  TG/75/7 | Cornsalad | Mâche | Feldsalat | Hierba de los canónigos | *Valerianella locusta* L.; *Valerianella eriocarpa* Desv. |
|  | TWV | TC/59/15,  TG/61/7 Rev. 2 Corr. 2 | Cucumber, Gherkin | Concombre, Cornichon | Gurke | Pepino, Pepinillo | *Cucumis sativus* L. |
| NL | TWV | TC/59/17,  TG/65/4 Rev. | Kohlrabi | Chou-rave | Kohlrabi | Colinabo | *Brassica oleracea* L. convar. *acephala* (DC.) Alef. var. *gongylodes* L. (*Brassica oleracea* L. *Gongylodes* Group) |
| QZ | TWV/ TWA | TC/59/19,  TG/2/7 | Maize | Maïs | Mais | Maíz | *Zea mays* L. |
| FR | TWV | TC/59/21,  TG/63/7-TG/64/7 Rev. Corr. | Radish; Black Radish | Radis rave, Radis de tous les mois | Rettich, Radieschen | Rábano de invierno, Rábano negro, Rabanito, Rábano | *Raphanus sativus* L. var *sativus*; *Raphanus sativus* L. var. *niger* (Mill.) S. Kerner |
| NL | TWV | TC/59/23,  TG/89/6 Rev. | Swede, Rutabaga | Rutabaga, Chou-navet | Kohlrübe | Colinabo L. var. napobrassica (L.) Rchb. | *Brassica napus* L. var. *napobrassica* (L.) Rchb. |
| NL | TWV | TC/59/25,  TG/142/5 Rev. | Watermelon | Pastèque | Wassermelone | Sandía | *Citrullus lanatus* (Thunb.) Matsum. et Naka |
| NL | TWO | TC/59/26,  TG/283/1 Rev. | Oncidium; xOncidesa; xIonocidium, xZelenkocidium | Oncidium; xOncidesa; xIonocidium, xZelenkocidium | Oncidium; xOncidesa; xIonocidium, xZelenkocidium | Oncidium; xOncidesa; xIonocidium, xZelenkocidium | *Oncidium* Sw.; ×*Oncidesa* Hort.; ×*Ionocidium* Hort.; ×*Zelenkocidium* J.M.H.Shaw. |
|  | TWV | TC/59/27,  TG/294/1 Corr. Rev. 4 | Tomato Rootstocks | Porte-greffe de tomate | Tomatenunter- | Portainjertos de tomate | *Solanum habrochaites S. Knapp & D.M. Spooner; Solanum lycopersicum L. x Solanum habrochaites S. Knapp & D.M. Spooner; Solanum lycopersicum L. x  Solanum peruvianum (L.) Mill.; Solanum pimpinellifolium L. x Solanum habrochaites S. Knapp & D.M. Spooner* |

UPOV has adopted 338 Test Guidelines, which are freely available on the UPOV website (<http://www.upov.int/test_guidelines/en/>).

On the basis of the recommendations of the TC-EDC, as set out in Annex II of this document, the TC agreed there were editorial clarifications required from the leading experts for the draft Test Guidelines for Weigela and partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Industrial Chicory.

The TC noted that the following draft Test Guidelines had not been considered by the TC-EDC, at its meeting on October 17, 18 and 23, 2023, and would be considered at its subsequent meeting:

|  | TWP | Document No.  No. du document  Dokument-Nr.  No del documento | English | Français | Deutsch | Español | Botanical name |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| NEW TEST GUIDELINES / NOUVEAUX PRINCIPES DIRECTEURS D’EXAMEN / NEUE PRÜFUNGSRICHTILINIEN / NUEVAS DIRECTRICES DE EXAMEN | | | | | | | |
| JP | TWF | TG/MORUS(proj.6) | Mulberry |  |  |  | *Morus* L. |
| REVISIONS OF ADOPTED TEST GUIDELINES / RÉVISIONS DE PRINCIPES DIRECTEURS D’EXAMEN ADOPTÉS /  REVISIONEN ANGENOMMENER PRÜFUNGSRICHTLINIEN / REVISIONES DE DIRECTRICES DE EXAMEN ADOPTADAS | | | | | | | |
| |  | | --- | | FR | | |  | | --- | | TWF | | |  | | --- | | TG/35/8(proj.5) | | |  | | --- | | Sweet Cherry | | |  | | --- | | Cerisier doux | | |  | | --- | | Süsskirsche | | |  | | --- | | Cerezo dulce | | |  | | --- | | Prunus avium (L.) L. | |
| |  | | --- | | NL | | |  | | --- | | TWV | | |  | | --- | | TG/44/12(proj.4) | | |  | | --- | | Tomato | | |  | | --- | | Tomate | | |  | | --- | | Tomate | | |  | | --- | | Tomate | | |  | | --- | | Solanum lycopersicum L. x Solanum pimpinellifolium L., *Solanum lycopersicum* L. x *Solanum cheesmaniae* (L. Ridley) Fosberg, Solanum lycopersicum L. | |
| |  | | --- | | IT | | |  | | --- | | TWF | | |  | | --- | | TG/50/10(proj.7) | | |  | | --- | | Grapevine | | |  | | --- | | Vigne | | |  | | --- | | Rebe | | |  | | --- | | Vid | | |  | | --- | | Vitis L. | |
| |  | | --- | | NL | | |  | | --- | | TWV | | |  | | --- | | TG/76/9(proj.6) | | |  | | --- | | Sweet Pepper,  Hot Pepper,  Paprika, Chili | | |  | | --- | | Piment, Poivron | | |  | | --- | | Paprika | | |  | | --- | | Aji, Chile,  Pimiento | | |  | | --- | | Capsicum annuum L. | |
| |  | | --- | | KR | | |  | | --- | | TWV | | |  | | --- | | TG/105/5(proj.4) | | |  | | --- | | Chinese Cabbage | | |  | | --- | | Chou chinois | | |  | | --- | | Chinakohl | | |  | | --- | | Repollo chino | | |  | | --- | | hybrids between Brassica rapa L. Emend. Metzg. ssp. pekinensis  (Lour.) Hanelt and Brassica rapa L. Emend. Metzg. ssp. chinensis (L.) Hanelt, hybrids between Brassica rapa L. Emend. Metzg. ssp. pekinensis  (Lour.) Hanelt and Brassica rapa L. var. rapa (L.) Thell., Brassica rapa L. subsp. pekinensis  (Lour.) Kitam., Brassica × turicensis O. E. Schulz & Thell. | |
| |  | | --- | | NL | | |  | | --- | | TWO | | |  | | --- | | TG/181/4(proj.4) | | |  | | --- | | Amaryllis | | |  | | --- | | Amaryllis | | |  | | --- | | Amaryllis | | |  | | --- | | Amarilis | | |  | | --- | | Hippeastrum Herb. | |
| |  | | --- | | QZ | | |  | | --- | | TWO | | |  | | --- | | TG/194/2(proj.4) | | |  | | --- | | Lavandula/ Lavender | | |  | | --- | | Lavande vraie, Lavandins | | |  | | --- | | Echter Lavendel, Lavendel | | |  | | --- | | Lavándula, Lavenda | | |  | | --- | | *Lavandula* L. | |
| |  | | --- | | HU | | |  | | --- | | TWF | | |  | | --- | | TG/230/2(proj.4) | | |  | | --- | | Sour Cherry; Duke Cherry | | |  | | --- | | Griotte, Cerisier acide | | |  | | --- | | Sauerkirsche | | |  | | --- | | Cerezo ácido, Guindo; Cerezo Duke | | |  | | --- | | Prunus ×gondouinii (Poit. & Turpin) Rehder, Prunus cerasus L. | |
| PARTIAL REVISIONS OF ADOPTED TEST GUIDELINES / RÉVISIONS PARTIELLES DE PRINCIPES DIRECTEURS D’EXAMEN ADOPTÉS / TEILREVISIONEN ANGENOMMENER PRÜFUNGSRICHTLINIEN / REVISIONES PARCIALES DE DIRECTRICES DE EXAMEN ADOPTADAS | | | | | | | |
| NL | TWV | TC/59/18,  TG/13/11 Rev. 2 | Lettuce | Laitue | Salat | Lechuga | *Lactuca sativa* L. |
| FR | TWV | TC/59/20,  TG/104/5 Rev. 2 | Melon | Melon | Melone | Melón | *Cucumis melo* L. |
| NL | TWV | TC/59/22,  TG/55/7 Rev. 6 | Spinach | Épinard | Spinat | Espinaca | *Spinacia oleracea* L. |
| FR | TWV | TC/59/24,  TG/119/4 Corr. 2 | Vegetable Marrow, Squash | Courgette | Zucchini | Calabacín | *Cucurbita pepo* L. |

### Test Guidelines adopted by correspondence in 2023

The TC noted that 4 revised Test Guidelines for the Conduct of Tests for Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability, as listed in the table below, had been adopted by correspondence on the basis of the amendments specified in Annex II to this document and the linguistic changes recommended by the TC-EDC:

|  | TWP | Document No.  No. du document  Dokument-Nr.  No del documento | English | Français | Deutsch | Español | Botanical name |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| REVISIONS OF ADOPTED TEST GUIDELINES / RÉVISIONS DE PRINCIPES DIRECTEURS D’EXAMEN ADOPTÉS /  REVISIONEN ANGENOMMENER PRÜFUNGSRICHTLINIEN / REVISIONES DE DIRECTRICES DE EXAMEN ADOPTADAS | | | | | | | |
| DE | TWF | TG/22/11 | Strawberry | Fraisier | Erdbeere | Fresa, Frutilla | *Fragaria* L. |
| HU | TWA | TG/81/7 | Sunflower | Tournesol | Sonnenblume | Girasol | *Helianthus annuus* L. |
| DE | TWO | TG/94/7 | Ling, Scots Heather | Callune | Besenheide | Calluna | *Calluna vulgaris* (L.) Hull |
| NL | TWA | TG/168/4 | Statice | Statice | Statice | Limonium | *Limonium* Mill.; *Goniolimon* Boiss.; P*sylliostachys* (Jaub. & Spach) Nevski |

### Corrections to Test Guidelines

The TC noted the corrections to be made to the adopted Test Guidelines for Wheat and Leaf Chicory:

(a) TG/3/12 Wheat

The correction concerns the following item only in the French version of the Test Guidelines:

* Technical questionnaire: Characteristic 5.7 (17): to add missing state of expression (3) “awns present”.

(b) TG/154/4 Rev. Leaf Chicory

The correction concerns the following item:

* Table 1: to use same number for the states of expression as in characteristic 24; and “circular to oblate” to read “oblate to circular”

### Draft Test Guidelines discussed by the TWPs in 2023

The TC noted the draft Test Guidelines discussed by the TWPs, at their sessions in 2023, as listed in document TC/59/2, Annex IV.

### Draft Test Guidelines to be discussed by the TWPs in 2024

The TC agreed with the program for the development of new Test Guidelines and for the revision of adopted Test Guidelines, as set out in document TC/59/2, Annex V.

### Status of existing Test Guidelines or draft Test Guidelines

The TC noted the list of existing Test Guidelines, as presented on the UPOV website (see: <https://www.upov.int/test_guidelines/en/list.jsp>).

The TC noted that the superseded versions of Test Guidelines are available on the “Superseded Test Guidelines” page of the UPOV website (<https://www.upov.int/test_guidelines/en/list_supersede.jsp>).

### Program of work for the Enlarged Editorial Committee (TC-EDC) in 2024

The TC agreed to propose to the Council that the TC-EDC should meet from 2024 at the following dates:

* Week 3 [January 15, 2024, at 9 p.m. Geneva time and January 17, at 11 a.m. Geneva time (via electronic means)]
* Week 12 [March 19 and 20, 2024, meeting time to be defined (via electronic means)]
* During UPOV sessions [October 21, 2024 (evening) (hybrid meeting)]

## Matters for information

The TC noted that the following documents have been posted as documents for information on the TC/59 webpage:

(a) List of genera and species for which authorities have practical experience in the examination of distinctness, uniformity and stability (document TC/59/4)

(b) Meetings on Electronic Applications (EAM) (document SESSIONS/2023/6)

(c) Variety description databases (document TC/59/7)

(d) Web-based TG template (document TC/59/5)

## Program for the sixtieth session

The TC considered the organization of an open discussion session at its sixtieth session and agreed to invite presentation on disease resistance characteristics in DUS examination. The TC agreed that the structure of open discussion session and outline of the topics be prepared in consultation with the chairpersons of the TC and TWPs, Argentina, Australia, China, France, Japan, Netherlands, European Union, United Kingdom, United States of America, CropLife, CIOPORA, Euroseeds and ISF.

The TC agreed the following program for its sixtieth session to be held on October 21 and 22, 2024:

1. Opening of the session
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Report by the Vice Secretary-General on developments in UPOV
4. Progress reports on the work of the Technical Working Parties
5. Matters arising from the Technical Working Parties
6. Development of guidance and documents proposed for adoption by the Council
7. Measures to enhance cooperation in examination
8. Measures to improve support provided for DUS examination
9. Molecular techniques
10. UPOV information databases
11. TWP workshops and webinars
12. Discussion on: Disease resistance characteristics in DUS examination
13. Matters for information:
    1. Meetings on Electronic Applications (EAM)
    2. List of genera and species for which authorities have practical experience in the examination of distinctness, uniformity and stability
14. Test Guidelines
15. Program for the sixty-first session
16. Adoption of the report (if time permits)
17. Closing of the session

The TC adopted this report at the close of its session on October 24, 2023.

[Annex I follows]

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Kees VAN ETTEKOVEN (Mr.), Technical Expert

[Annex II follows]

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT TEST GUIDELINES

General

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Several documents | to put CMS in full the first time it appears in an explanation to read “Cytoplasmic male sterility (CMS)” |

Test Guidelines adopted at the fifty-ninth session of the Technical Committee

### Partial revisions

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **TC/59/9** | **Partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Broccoli** |

The TC-EDC, at its meeting on October 17, 18 and 23, 2023, considered document TC/59/9 and made the recommendations presented in the table below.

The TC-EDC agreed that the partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Broccoli be submitted to the TC for adoption.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Ad. 24 | paragraph on field trial to read “Check for the presence of pollen on the stamens: if pollen is present on the stamens; then, male sterility is absent; if pollen is absent on the stamens; then, male sterility is present.” |
| Ad. 24 | first paragraph on DNA marker test to read “… If the CMS marker is present, …” |
| Ad. 24 | second paragraph on DNA marker test to read “In cases where the DNA marker test result…” |

|  |  |
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| **TC/59/10** | **Partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Brussels Sprouts** |

The TC-EDC, at its meeting on October 17, 18 and 23, 2023, considered document TC/59/10 and made the recommendations presented in the table below.

The TC-EDC agreed that the partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Brussels Sprouts be submitted to the TC for adoption.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Ad. 21 | paragraph on field trial to read “Check for the presence of pollen on the stamens: if pollen is present on the stamens; then, male sterility is absent; if pollen is absent on the stamens; then, male sterility is present.” |
| Ad. 21 | first paragraph on DNA marker test to read “… If the CMS marker is present, …” |
| Ad. 21 | second paragraph on DNA marker test to read “In cases where the DNA marker test result…” |

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| **TC/59/11** | **Partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Cabbage** |

The TC-EDC, at its meeting on October 17, 18 and 23, 2023, considered document TC/59/11 and made the recommendations presented in the table below.

The TC-EDC agreed that the partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Cabbage be submitted to the TC for adoption.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Ad. 35 | paragraph on field trial to read “Check for the presence of pollen on the stamens: if pollen is present on the stamens; then, male sterility is absent; if pollen is absent on the stamens; then, male sterility is present.” |
| Ad. 35 | first paragraph on DNA marker test to read “… If the CMS marker is present, …” |
| Ad. 35 | second paragraph on DNA marker test to read “In cases where the DNA marker test result…” |

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| **TC/59/12** | **Partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Carrot** |

The TC-EDC, at its meeting on October 17, 18 and 23, 2023, considered document TC/59/12 and agreed that the partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Carrot be submitted to the TC for adoption.

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| --- | --- |
| **TC/59/13** | **Partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Cauliflower** |

The TC-EDC, at its meeting on October 17, 18 and 23, 2023, considered document TC/59/13 and made the recommendations presented in the table below.

The TC-EDC agreed that the partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Cauliflower be submitted to the TC for adoption.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Ad. 25 | field trial, first sentence: to replace “de” with “the” |
| Ad. 25 | DNA marker test, last sentence of first paragraph to read “The markers corresponding with the functional or nonfunctional gene are based on 3 SNP markers located at position ~1296bp in the gene (Han et al. 2019). |
| Ad. 25 | DNA marker test, second paragraph to read “The marker test can be performed in multiplexwith the marker test for male sterility (Ad. 28). |
| Ad. 25, 8. | White (1) to read “…the variety has white flowers.  Both probes are present (heterozygous), the variety has white flowers.” |
| Ad. 25, 8. | Yellow (2), last paragraph to read “In cases where the DNA marker test…” |
| Ad. 25, Annex | sentence below table “Specific aspects” to be deleted |
| Ad. 28 | DNA marker test and/or field trial, third paragraph: “In cases where only a DNA marker test is allowed (state 1 and state 3 seed-propagated varieties) and the CMS marker appears to be absent… In cases where the DNA marker test does not…” |
| Ad. 28 | last sentence to read “The marker test can be performed in multiplex with the marker test for flower color (Ad. 25).” |

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| **TC/59/14** | **Partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Cornsalad** |

The TC-EDC, at its meeting on October 17, 18 and 23, 2023, considered document TC/59/14 and agreed that the partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Cornsalad be submitted to the TC for adoption.

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| **TC/59/15** | **Partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Cucumber, Gherkin** |

The TC-EDC, at its meeting on October 17, 18 and 23, 2023, considered document TC/59/15 and agreed that the partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Cucumber, Gherkin be submitted to the TC for adoption.

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| **TC/59/16** | **Partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Industrial Chicory** |

The TC-EDC, at its meeting on October 17, 18 and 23, 2023, considered document TC/59/16 and made the recommendations presented in the table below.

The TC-EDC agreed there were editorial clarifications required from the leading expert on the partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Industrial Chicory (indicated below by “#”) and agreed to reconsider the draft Test Guidelines at its meeting proposed to be held in January 2024.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Char. 1 | to be indicated MS/MG/VG | |
| #Ad. 1 | - to read “Observations should be made by standard cytological methods such as …”  - to add explanation for polyploid (see e.g. revision of TG Fodder Beet (TG/150/4(proj.1)) | |
| **TC/59/17** | | **Partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Kohlrabi** | |

The TC-EDC, at its meeting on October 17, 18 and 23, 2023, considered document TC/59/17 and made the recommendations presented in the table below.

The TC-EDC agreed that the partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Kohlrabi be submitted to the TC for adoption.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Ad. 24 | paragraph on field trial to read “Check for the presence of pollen on the stamens: if pollen is present on the stamens; then, male sterility is absent; if pollen is absent on the stamens; then, male sterility is present.” |
| Ad. 24 | first paragraph on DNA marker test to read “… If the CMS marker is present, …” |
| Ad. 24 | second paragraph on DNA marker test to read “In cases where the DNA marker test result…” |

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| --- | --- |
| **TC/59/19** | **Partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Maize** |

The TC-EDC, at its meeting on October 17, 18 and 23, 2023, considered document TC/59/19 and made the recommendations presented in the table below.

The TC-EDC agreed that the partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Maize be submitted to the TC for adoption.

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| 5.13 (32) | Only varieties with ear type of grain: sweet or waxy: Ear: number of colors (delete extra space here) of grains |

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| **TC/59/21** | **Partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Radish; Black Radish** |

The TC-EDC, at its meeting on October 17, 18 and 23, 2023, considered document TC/59/21 and made the recommendations presented in the table below.

The TC-EDC agreed that the partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Radish; Black Radish be submitted to the TC for adoption.

|  |  |
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| Char. 1 | - to be indicated MS/MG/VG  - to delete “C” |
| Ad. 1 | To read: Observations should be made by standard cytological methods such as …” |

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| --- | --- |
| **TC/59/23** | **Partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Swede, Rutabaga** |

The TC-EDC, at its meeting on October 17, 18 and 23, 2023, considered document TC/59/23 and made the recommendations presented in the table below.

The TC-EDC agreed that the partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Swede, Rutabaga be submitted to the TC for adoption.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Char. 23 | to add type of expression and similar footnotes as in TG Kohlrabi (as type of expression and method of observation not yet included in the TG; based on old template) |
| Char. 23 | to read “Male sterility” |
| Ad. 23 | paragraph on field trial to read “Observations should be made…” |
| Ad. 23 | first paragraph on DNA marker test to read “… If the CMS marker is present, …” |
| Ad. 23 | second paragraph on DNA marker test to read “In cases where the DNA marker test result…” |

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| --- | --- |
| **TC/59/25** | **Partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Watermelon** |

The TC-EDC, at its meeting on October 17, 18 and 23, 2023, considered document TC/59/25 and made the recommendations presented in the table below.

The TC-EDC agreed that the partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Watermelon be submitted to the TC for adoption.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Char. 1 | to be indicate MS/MG/VG |
| Ad. 1 | - to read “Observations should be made by standard cytological methods such as …” and delete “by” from a. to c. |

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| --- | --- |
| **TC/59/26** | **Partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Oncidium** |

The TC-EDC, at its meeting on October 17, 18 and 23, 2023, considered document TC/59/26 and agreed that the partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Oncidium be submitted to the TC for adoption.

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| **TC/59/27** | **Partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Tomato Rootstocks** |

The TC-EDC, at its meeting on October 17, 18 and 23, 2023, considered document TC/59/27 and agreed that the partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Tomato Rootstocks be submitted to the TC for adoption.

### New Test Guidelines

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Oxypetalum (*Oxypetalum coeruleum* (D. Don) Decne.) | TG/OXYPE\_CAE(proj.3) | Mr. Naoki Eguchi (JP) | TWO | \* |
| No. of chars.: 28 No. of (\*) chars.: 11 | (Interested experts: NL, QZ, CIOPORA) |

The TC-EDC, at its meeting on October 17, 18 and 23, 2023, considered document TG/OXYPE\_CAE(proj.3) and made the recommendations presented in the following table.

The TC-EDC agreed that the draft Test Guidelines for Oxypetalum be submitted to the TC for adoption.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| General | to spell “seed-propagated varieties” (with hyphen) throughout the TG |
| 4.2.3 | to delete “self-pollinated” |
| Char. 10 | to delete “density of” |
| 8.1 (a) | to read “Observations should be made when about 50 % of flowers on the first inflorescence are open.” |
| 8.1 (b) | to read “Observations should be made at…” |
| 8.1 (c) | to delete “typical” |
| 8.1 (d) | to read “Observations should be made on the longest branch when the flowers on the fourth node from the bottom of the inflorescence are fully open.” |
| 8.1 (e) | to read “Observations should be made on fully open flowers.” |
| 8.1 (f) | to read “For varieties with semi-double or double flowers, observations should be made on the outermost corolla lobes.” |

### Revisions

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Apple  (*Malus domestica* (Suckow) Borkh.) | TG/14/10(proj.8) | Mr. Erik Schulte (DE) | TWF | \* |
| No. of chars.: 51 No. of (\*) chars.: 34 | (Interested experts: AU, BR, CA, CL, CN, CZ, FR, HU, JP, KR, MX, NL, NZ, PL, QZ, RU, ZA, CIOPORA) |

The TC-EDC, at its meeting on October 17, 18 and 23, 2023, considered document TG/14/10(proj.8) and made the recommendations presented in the following table.

The TC-EDC agreed that the draft Test Guidelines for Apple be submitted to the TC for adoption.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2.3 | to read “5 trees, budsticks or shoots for grafting” and “10 trees, budsticks or shoots for grafting” |
| 4.1.4 | to delete second paragraph |
| Char. 1 | growth stage to be indicated as 00 or 39 |
| Char. 2-5 | growth stage to be indicated as 00 |
| Char. 13 | State 3 does not match the wording in Ad. 13. One says “reflexed” and the other is “raised”. |
| Char. 49, 50, 51 | to delete growth stages (covered by (+)) |
| 8.1 (a) | to read “Observations should be made after at least one satisfactory crop of fruit.” |
| 8.1.(b) | to read “Observations should be made in the middle third of lateral dormant shoots in winter, after at least one satisfactory crop of fruit.” |
| 8.1 (c) | to delete “(growth stage 39)” |
| Ad. 1 | first sentence to read “…, after at least one satisfactory crop of fruit.” |
| Ad. 3 | to delete sentence |
| Ad. 4 | to read “Observations should be made…” |
| Ad. 5 | to read “Observations should be made by counting in a defined area [e.g. an area of 1 cm²]…” (as in Ad. 38) |
| Ad. 13 | to adjust states according to the wording in the table of characteristics |
| Ad. 26 | Update the “conical” states to read “conic” which would match the states in the characteristic. |
| Ad. 35 | to read “The russet is a dull brown rough finish on the skin.” |
| Ad. 45 | The main color is the color with the largest surface area. The secondary color is the color with the second largest surface area. In cases where the areas of the main and secondary color are too similar to reliably decide which color has the largest area, the darker color is considered to be the main color. |
| Ad. 46 | to read “See Ad. 45” |
| Ad. 47 | to read “See Ad. 45” |
| Ad. 50 | to replace “degression” with “regression” |
| Ad 51 | Remove “of” in the sentence “… has reached its optimum of flavour and aroma…” |
| p. 8.3 | - to have illustrations below table of growth stages, using only illustrations for stages used in the TG (as in the draft of TG Sweet Cherry)  - to add missing stage 55 to the table |
| 8.4 | - to add “Tenroy” and “synonym Royal Gala”  - to be moved to chapter 6.4 |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Oilseed Rape  (*Brassica napus* L. ssp. *napus*) | TG/36/7(proj.5) | Ms. Margaret Wallace (GB) | TWA | \* |
| No. of chars.: 24 No. of (\*) chars.: 9 | (Interested experts: AR, AU, BR, CA, CN, CZ, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, IT, JP, KR, NZ, PL, QZ, SK, UY, CLI, Euroseeds, ISF) |

The TC-EDC, at its meeting on October 17, 18 and 23, 2023, considered document TG/36/7(proj.5) and made the recommendations presented in the following table.

The TC-EDC agreed that the draft Test Guidelines for Oilseed Rape be submitted to the TC for adoption.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Alternative names | to add French name “Canola” |
| Char. 13 | to remove hyphen in state 4 to read “orange yellow” |
| Char. 11 | to read “Leaf: incisions of margin” |
| Ad. 11 | to add missing sentence as in proj.4 to read “Observations should be made on the upper third of the leaf.” |
| Ad. 18 | - to read: “To measure the length, all side branches should be raised to a vertical orientation…”  - to check illustration (not visible) |
| 8.1 (c) | to replace “midpart” with “middle” |
| TQ 7.3.3 | to spell out GMS and CMS (“Genetic Male Sterility” and “Cytoplasmic Male Sterility”) |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Raspberry  (*Rubus idaeus* L.;  *Rubus occidentalis* L.) | TG/43/8(proj.4) | Mr. Erik Schulte (DE) | TWF | \* |
| No. of chars.: 41 No. of (\*) chars.: 23 | (Interested experts: AU, CA, CN, CZ, HU, IT, JP, KE, KR, MX, NZ, PL, QZ, CIOPORA) |

The TC-EDC, at its meeting on October 17, 18 and 23, 2023, considered document TG/43/8(proj.4) and made the recommendations presented in the following table.

The TC-EDC agreed that the draft Test Guidelines for Raspberry be submitted to the TC for adoption.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Botanical names | Correct FR to Framboisier noir and Framboisier de Virginie |
| 1. | to delete “and their hybrids” and add UPOV code for the hybrids (coherence with TQ 1) |
| 2.3 | to delete “.” after 10 plants |
| 3.3.2 | to be deleted |
| Char. 2 | to delete (a) |
| Char. 3 | to move “during rapid growth” to chapter 8.2 |
| Chars. 10 to 14 | to replace “spines” with “prickles” |
| Char. 22, 23 | to read “… laterals” |
| Char. 35 | state 4 to read “reddish orange” |
| 8.1 (a) | to read “Observations should be made on fully developed current season’s cane.” |
| 8.1 (b) | to be deleted (covered by (a)) and add (a) to characteristics indicated as (b) (characteristics 5 to 9) |
| 8.1 (c) | to read “Observations should be made in the middle third on fully developed current season’s canes.” |
| 8.1 (d) | to read “Observations should be made on fully developed leaves from the middle third of current season’s canes.” |
| 8.1 (f) | to read “… on fruits picked …” |
| Ad. 2 | to read “If the bark peels away from the canes, an unpeeled bark area should be observed.” |
| Ad. 4, 21 | to read “Observations should be made…” |
| Ad. 5 | Correct to “vegetative period” (throughout the TG) |
| Ad. 13 | to add the word “Base” below the arrow |
| Ad. 21 | to read “The folding along / between lateral veins should be observed.” |
| Ad. 27 | to read “Observations should be made with petals pressed into the horizontal position.” |
| Ad. 38 | to read “Time of beginning of flowering is reached when 10% of the flowers are open.” |
| Ad. 40 | to read “Time of beginning of fruit ripening is reached when the fruit can easily be removed from the torus.” |
| 9. | 2nd reference “Monographie CTIFL” |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Kale | TG/90/7(proj.6) | Mr. Toshiya Kobayashi (JP) | TWV | \* |
| No. of chars.: 28 No. of (\*) chars.: 9 | (Interested experts: AU, CN, DE, ES, FR, GB, IT, JP, KE, KR, NL, QZ, CLI, Euroseeds, ISF) |

The TC-EDC, at its meeting on October 17, 18 and 23, 2023, considered document TG/90/7(proj.6) and made the recommendations presented in the following table.

The TC-EDC agreed that the draft Test Guidelines for Kale be submitted to the TC for adoption.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| General | to spell “seed-propagated varieties” (with hyphen) throughout the TG |
| 1.2 | to replace “inter-variant” with “interspecific” |
| 2.3 | to read “30 young plants” for vegetatively propagated varieties |
| Char. 22 | to read “Leaf blade: twisting” |
| 8.1 (c) | to read “The leaf blade does not....” |
| 8.2 | to lighten or remove background in illustrations and harmonize amongst all illustrations.  (Ad. 1, 14, 18, 20, 21, 23, 25) |
| Ad. 3 | to read “Observations of the growing point position should be made in relation to the top of the plant.” |
| Ad. 7 | to read “Observations should be made after bolting but before flowering. It should be assessed as number of branching nodes along the main stem.” |
| Ad. 13 | 2. to read “Their length is most equivalent …” |
| Ad. 17, 18 | to read “Observations should be made on the upper third of the unfolded leaf blade.” |
| Ad. 28 | paragraph on field trial to read “Check for the presence of pollen on the stamens: if pollen is present on the stamens; then, male sterility is absent; if pollen is absent on the stamens; then, male sterility is present.” |
| Ad. 28 | first paragraph on DNA marker test to read “If the CMS marker is absent,…” and “… If the CMS marker is present, …” |
| Ad. 28 | second paragraph on DNA marker test to read “In cases where the DNA marker test result…” |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Safflower (*Carthamus tinctorius* L.) | TG/134/4(proj.2) | Ms. Beate Rücker (DE) | TWA | \* |
| No. of chars.: 21 No. of (\*) chars.: 11 | (Interested experts: CZ, ES, FR, JP, QZ, Euroseeds) |

The TC-EDC, at its meeting on October 17, 18 and 23, 2023, considered document TG/134/4(proj.2) and made the recommendations presented in the following table.

The TC-EDC agreed that the draft Test Guidelines for Safflower be submitted to the TC for adoption.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 3. | to add ASW 4 (a) |
| Char. 5 | to read “First leaf: incisions” |
| Char. 16 | to read “Leaf: incisions” |
| 8.1 (a) | to add “of the main stem” at the end of the sentence |
| 8.1 (b) | to read “Observations should be made on inner bracts.” |
| Ad 6. | to read “…have at least one open flower head.” |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Weigela (*Weigela* Thunb.) | TG/148/3(proj.4) | Ms. Stéphanie Christien (FR) | TWO | \* |
| No. of chars.: 44 No. of (\*) chars.: 21 | (Interested experts: CA, DE, GB, HU, QZ, CIOPORA) |

The TC-EDC, at its meeting on October 17, 18 and 23, 2023, considered document TG/148/3(proj.4) and made the recommendations presented in the following table.

The TC-EDC agreed there were editorial clarifications required from the leading expert on the draft Test Guidelines for Weigela (indicated below by “#”) and agreed to reconsider the draft Test Guidelines at its meeting proposed to be held in January and March 2024.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2.2 | to read “The material is to be supplied in the form of two-year-old plants on their own roots.” |
| Char. 6 | to delete “slightly” from state 2 |
| Char. 10 | to add illustrations from TGP/14:   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  |  |  | | 1 | 2 | 3 | | ovate | elliptic | obovate | |
| #Char. 28 | to read “Plant: different colored flowers” (and update in subsequent chars in underlined part) |
| Chars. 29 to 39 | to delete “presence of” |
| #Char. 34 to 39 | - to replace “predominantly present” with “most frequent”  - to replace “second predominantly” with “second most frequent”  - to replace “third predominantly” with “third most frequent” |
| Char. 40 | to add hyphen to “semi-erect” |
| Ad. 8 and 9 | To be combined. |
| Ad. 18 | to delete column for state 4 |
| Ad. 28 | to add  “Absent: all flowers have the same color.  Present: different colored flowers occur on the same plant” |
| Ad. 42 | The text from Ad. 41 has been duplicated into Ad. 42 and needs deleting |
| #TQ 5.4, 5.16 | to check whether to delete “other (please specify)” (usually only applicable for RHS characteristics) |

Test Guidelines adopted by correspondence

### Revisions

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| **TG/168/4(PROJ.4) Statice** |

The TC-EDC, at its meeting held in Geneva on March 21, 2023, considered document TG/168/4(PROJ.4) and made the recommendations presented in the table below.

The TC-EDC agreed that, subject to agreement by the Leading Expert on the recommendations provided, the draft Test Guidelines for Statice be circulated to the TC for adoption by correspondence.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Cover page | to add “Limonium” as French name (it is already written in the French title) |
| Char. 2 | - to add (b)  - to be moved after char. 12 |
| Char. 3 | to add VG |
| Char. 4 | to add VG |
| Char. 8 | to read “Leaf: density of hairs on upper side” |
| Char. 9 | to read “Leaf: density of hairs on margin” |
| Char. 11 | to read “Leaf: lobing” |
| Char. 13 | - to read “Peduncle: length”  - to add VG |
| Char. 14 | - to read “Peduncle: thickness”  - to add VG |
| Char. 15 | - to read “Peduncle: density of hairs”  - to reduce scale to 5 notes (to confirm states of example varieties with Leading Expert) |
| Char. 16 | to read “Peduncle width of wing” |
| Char. 17 | to read “Peduncle: undulation of margin of wing” |
| Char. 20 | - to read “Inflorescence: degree of ramification”  - to correct spelling of example variety for note 3 “Zastosella”  - to add the following illustrations |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |
| 3 | 5 | 7 |
| weak | medium | strong |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Char. 23 | to add VG |
| Char. 24 | - to add VG  - to reduce scale to 5 notes (to confirm states of example varieties with Leading Expert) |
| Char. 27 | to read “Calyx: color of ribs” |
| Char. 29 | - state 1 to read “similar or shorter”  - state 6 “not clearly visible” to become state 1 |
| Char. 30 | to add VG |
| Char. 32 | to read “Corolla: incision of the apex of lobes” |
| 8.1 (a), (b) | to read “Observations should be made …” |
| 8.1 (a) | to read “Observations should be made on fully developed leaves from the middle third of the rosette.” |
| 8.1 (b) | to read “Observations should be made on the plant at its maximum height (the first inflorescences often are shorter than the later ones)”. |
| Ad. 1 | to read “Observations should be made from the base of the plant to the top of the inflorescence. The tallest stems should be ignored and the average stem height observed. Note: the first inflorescence can be shorter than the inflorescences formed later.” |
| Ad. 4 | - to read “Observations should be made at the broadest part of the leaf, at a right angle to the mid-vein.”  - to remove illustration repeated from Ad. 3 with “See Ad. 3” |
| Ad. 14 | to delete “, using a caliper” |
| Ad. 16 | to read “Observations should be made in the middle third of the peduncle.” |
| Ad. 18 | to read “Observations should be made on the first branch from the base of the largest stipule to its tip.” |
| Ad. 19 | - Type II: to correct spelling of “branchlets”  - Type IV: to read: “... short to long peduncle.” |
| Ad. 23 | to delete wording and add illustration from Ad. 24 |
| Ad. 24 | to delete wording and illustration and add “See Ad 23” |
| Ad. 28 | to try to improve quality of photo for state 2 |
| 9. | to review format (see document TGP/7) and add countries (as per TWO report) |

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| **TC-EDC/Mar23/3 Matters to be resolved concerning Test Guidelines put forward for adoption by the Technical Committee: Strawberry** |

The TC-EDC, at its meeting held in Geneva on March 21, 2023, considered documents TG/22/11(PROJ.5) and TC-EDC/Mar23/3 and made the recommendations presented in the table below.

The TC-EDC agreed that, subject to agreement by the Leading Expert on the recommendations provided, the draft Test Guidelines for Strawberry be circulated to the TC for adoption by correspondence.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Table of Chars. | to correct names of example varieties as follows:   |  |  | | --- | --- | | Aramella | Aromella | | Rinia | Rina | | CF 4402 | CIR 104 | |
| Char. 2 | to reduce scale to 5 notes (see illustration for state 3 in Ad. 2 looks very sparse) |
| Char. 5 | state 2 to read “very few to few” |
| Char. 11 | state 3 to read “slightly longer than broad” |
| Char. 14 | to read “…incisions of margin” |
| Char. 15 | to read “Leaf: profile in cross-section” |
| Char. 18 | to be indicated as (a) (delete (b)) |
| Chars. 19 to 25 | to be indicated as (b) (delete (c)) |
| Char. 26 | - to read “Fruit: length in relation to width”  - to have states from “very short” to “very long” |
| Char. 28 | state 2 to read “conic” (see TGP/14) |
| Char. 29 | - to read “Fruit: position of maximum width”  - to add (d) |
| Char. 30 | to reverse order so that acute is the first state (see TGP/14) |
| Char. 35 | to add (d) |
| 8.1 (a) | to read “Observations should be made shortly before …” |
| 8.1 (b) | to read “Observations should be made at full flower. Observations on the flower …” |
| 8.1 (c) | to read “Observations should be made after the end of bearing of the non-remontant varieties.” |
| #8.1 (d) | to check whether to read “Observations should be made at picking ripeness, excluding the terminal fruits of the infructescences.” (“one-year-old plants” are inconsistent with 3.1.2; to clarify how to observe fruits in the second year from a single planting)  *Leading Expert: agreed with proposed new wording* |
| Ad. 7 | to replace current illustration with the following on:  C:\Users\oertel\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Word\strawberry_leaf size.jpg |
| Ad.14 | to replace current illustration with improved one below:  N:\OrgUPOV\Shared\Document\TC_EDC\TC_EDC_22_Oct_Mtg\Comments_on_documents_and_tgs\comments_received\strawberry_le_reply_to_comments\EDB_Blattrand_TiefeRandeinschnitte_neu.jpg |
| Ad. 16 | to move illustration in same direction as in Ad. 7 |
| Ad. 17 | to replace current illustrations with improved ones below:  C:\Users\oertel\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Word\UPOV-Blattstiel-Haarstellung_EDB.png |
| Ad. 23 | to replace current illustrations with improved ones below (to be presented as individual illustrations with line at the same level:  **C:\Users\oertel\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Word\EDB_BlütenblForm_4APS_mL.png** |
| Ad. 35 | to read “Observations should be made on the side of the fruit which is exposed to the sun.” |
| Ad. 36 | to read “Observations should be made on the central part of the fruit by counting in a defined area [e.g. a 1 cm square] or by visual assessment.” |
| TQ 4.2.2 | to read “Seeds” (see GN 31, example 2) |
| Ad. 42 | to read “… plants have at least one open flower” |
| Ad. 43 | to read “… plants have at least one fully colored fruit.” |

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| **TC-EDC/Mar23/4 Matters to be resolved concerning Test Guidelines put forward for adoption by the Technical Committee: Sunflower** |

The TC-EDC, at its meeting held in Geneva on March 21, 2023, considered documents TG/81/7(PROJ.5) and TC-EDC/Mar23/4 and made the recommendations presented in the table below.

The TC-EDC agreed that, subject to agreement by the Leading Expert on the recommendations provided, the draft Test Guidelines for Sunflower be circulated to the TC for adoption by correspondence.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| General | - to replace “grains” by “seeds” throughout the TG  - to correct spelling of “disc floret” (instead of “disk” throughout the TG) |
| 2.3 | to read “… 1 kg of seed for hybrid and open-pollinated varieties…” |
| 3.1.2 | to be deleted as it is an annual crop |
| Char. 5 | to read “Leaf: profile in cross-section” |
| #Char. 6 | to be reviewed (states of expression do not relate to the title of the char.)  *Leading Expert: the characteristic title should read “Leaf: shape”. Ad.6 clarifies what should be observed.*  *TC-EDC: state 1 to read “elliptic”; state 2 to read “very narrow triangular; state 6 to read “triangular to rounded”* |
| Char. 7 | to read “Leaf: lobes” |
| Char. 8 | - to read “Leaf: parenchyma at base of lateral veins”  - to have states (1) none or very weak, (2) weak, (3) strong |
| Char. 12 | - state 1 to read “erect”  - state 2 to read “semi-erect” |
| Char. 13 | - to read “Ray floret: profile”  - to have states (1) flat, (2) rolled, (3) twisted, (4) strongly recurved |
| Char. 16 | to delete “moderately” from states 2 and 3 |
| #Char. 20 | to check whether to have same explanation as characteristic 21  *Leading Expert: agreed* |
| Char. 26 | to replace “embracing” with “adpressed” in all states |
| Char. 30 | to read “… position of branching” |
| #Char. 34 | - to read “Head: diameter”  - to add in the explanation that for branching varieties the central head should be observed  *Leading Expert: agreed* |
| Char. 42 | to check whether to have order of colors according to document TGP/14 (brown before grey) |
| Char. 40 | - to read “Seed: stripes on margins”  - to have states (1) none or very weak, (2) weak, (3) strong |
| Char. 41 | to have states (1) none or very weak, (2) weak, (3) strong |

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| --- | --- |
| #Ad. 6 | - to read “Observations should be made on the upper two-thirds of the leaf.”  *Leading Expert: to delete sentence or to read “Observation should be made on the distal part of the leaf”*  - to add drawings illustrating the shapes  *Leading Expert: provided illustrations* |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| elliptic | very narrow triangular | narrow triangular | medium triangular |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |
| 5 | 6 | 7 |
| broad triangular | triangular to rounded | rounded |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Ad. 17 | to check whether to read “The ray floret color is the color with the largest surface area. In cases where the areas of the color are too similar to reliably decide which color has the largest area, the darker color is to be observed.” |
| Ad. 18 | to read “…inner third of the disc.” |
| Ad. 23 | to read “To be observed excluding the differentiated tip.” |
| Ad. 24 | to delete arrow |
| Ad. 30 | state 3 to read “throughout” |
| 9. | to adjust format of literature references (see TGP/7, GN 30) |
| TQ 5.6, 5.7 | to delete “the variety is not …” |
| TQ 7.3 (2) | to replace “precise” with “specify” in (a) and (b) |
| ANNEX, Part III, Procedure, 5.4 | - to remove additional space between “de-ionised water”  - to remove additional space before “fixed in 40% ethanol solution” |

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| **TC-EDC/Mar23/5 Matters to be resolved concerning Test Guidelines put forward for adoption by the Technical Committee: Ling, Scots Heather** |

The TC-EDC, at its meeting held in Geneva on March 21, 2023, considered documents TG/94/7(PROJ.3) and TC-EDC/Mar23/5 and made the recommendations presented in the table below.

The TC-EDC agreed that, subject to agreement by the Leading Expert on the recommendations provided, the draft Test Guidelines for Sunflower be circulated to the TC for adoption by correspondence.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Cover page | to add “Bruyère commune” and “Bruyère callune” as French alternative names |
| 2.2 | to delete “well-rooted” |
| #Table of chars. | to check whether to reduce “Only varieties with…” exclusions from the char. title and find a better approach (possible explanations in Chapter 8.1)  *Leading Expert agreed and proposes the following changes:*  *- to delete exclusion “Only varieties with … “ in characteristics 19 to 23*  *- to merge char. 19 and 22 as follows: characteristic 19 to read “Flower: main color of outer side of sepal at beginning of flowering” and to delete characteristic 22 “*  *- characteristic 21 to read “Flower: color of outer side of petal at end of flowering”*  *- to move characteristic 23 before characteristic 20 and to read “Flower: main color of outer side of sepal at end of flowering”* |
| Char. 4 | to add MS |
| Char. 5 | to read “Shoot: color” |
| Char. 6 | to read “… Shoot apex: leaf color” |
| Char. 7 | to read “… Shoot apex: leaf color on sunny side in winter” |
| Chars. 7, 11 | to replace “black purple” with “blackish purple” |
| Chars. 8 to 11 | to replace “main color” by “color” |
| Chars. 9 to 11 | *Leading Expert: to underline the observation period (“…in summer”, “in autumn”, “in winter”)* |
| Char. 10 | to replace “black green” with “blackish green” |
| Char. 12 | state 3 to read “on lateral shoots” |
| Char. 12 | to be split in two QL char.:  - “Inflorescence: branching” with states (1) absent, (9) present  - “Only varieties with Inflorescence: branching: absent: Inflorescence: arrangement of flowers” with states (1) solitary and (2) whorl  - both to be indicated as VG, (\*), (a), combined (+) (See Ad. …)  *Leading Expert: to merge state 1 and 2, to delete “Only varieties with …” and to read*  *“Inflorescence: branching” (1) absent with example varieties Angie, Lisbeth, (2) present with example variety “Sabella”*  *Ad. 12:*   |  |  | | --- | --- | |  |  | | *1* | *9* | | *absent* | *present* | |
| 8.1 (a) | to read “… middle third of the shoots” |
| 8.1 (b) | to read “… on the shaded part of the plant.” |
| 8.1 (c) | to read “…after a few days with minimum temperatures below zero degrees Celsius.” |
| 8.1 (e) | to read “Observations should be made when 10 % of the plants have at least 10 senescent flowers.” |

[End of Annex II and document]