

Enlarged Editorial Committee

TC-EDC/Jan25/2

Virtual meeting, January 13 and 15, 2025

Original: English
Date: November 1, 2024

PARTIAL REVISION OF THE TEST GUIDELINES FOR ASPARAGUS

Document prepared by an expert from Japan

Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance

1. The purpose of this document is to present a proposal for a partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Asparagus (document TG/130/4).
2. The Technical Working Party for Vegetables (TWV), at its fifty-eighth session¹, considered a proposal for a partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Asparagus (*Asparagus officinalis* L.) on the basis of documents TG/130/4 and TWV/58/5 “Partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Asparagus” and proposed the following changes (see document TWV/58/11 “Report”, paragraph 65):
- (a) Revision of Characteristic 16 “Type of flowering”
 - (b) Revision of Ad.16 “Type of flowering”
3. The proposed new wording is presented below. The proposed changes are presented in highlight and underline (insertion) and ~~striketrough~~ (deletion) in the Annex to this document (in English only).

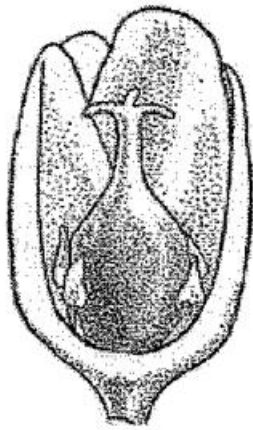
Revision of Characteristic 16 “Type of flowering”

	English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties/ Exemples/ Beispielssorten/ Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
16. (+) (*)	VG Type of flowering	Type de floraison	Blühtyp	Tipo de floración		
QL	only plants with male flowers without style rudiments	seulement plantes avec des fleurs mâles sans rudiments de style	nur Pflanzen mit männlichen Blüten ohne Griffelrudimente	solo plantas con flores masculinas sin estilo	Cumulus	1
	plants with male flowers and plants with female flowers	plantes avec des fleurs mâles et plantes avec des fleurs femelles	Pflanzen mit männlichen Blüten und Pflanzen mit weiblichen Blüten	plantas con flores masculinas y plantas con flores femeninas	Argenteuil, Desto	2
	plants with male flowers with style rudiments	plantes avec des fleurs mâles avec rudiments de style	Pflanzen mit männlichen Blüten mit Griffelrudimenten	plantas con flores masculinas con estilo	Backlim, Gijnlim	3
	only plants with female flowers	seulement des plantes avec des fleurs femelles	nur Pflanzen mit weiblichen Blüten	solo plantas con flores femeninas	L324	4

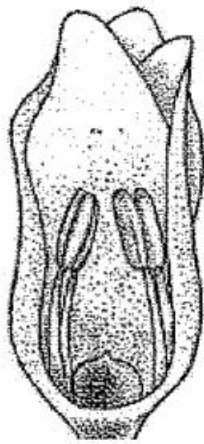
4. Changes agreed to characteristics in the table of characteristics would also be reflected in Chapter 10 “Technical Questionnaire”, Section 5 “Characteristics of the variety to be indicated”.

¹ held by electronic means, from April 22 to 25, 2024.

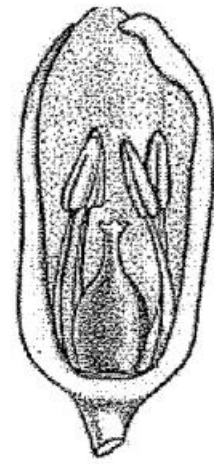
Revision of Ad. 16 "Type of flowering"



Female flower

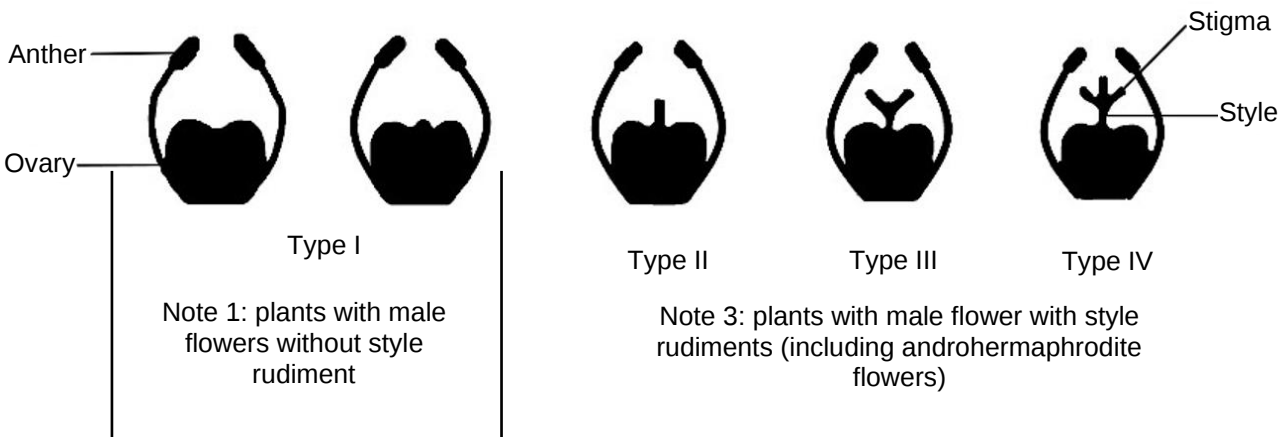


Male flower
(without style rudiment)



Male flower
(with style rudiment including
androhermaphrodite)

Type of male flowers



Type of male flowers: the flowers always have fully developed anthers; the style can be from absent to fully developed (Type I to IV), but the stigmas are always rudimentary or absent. Even when two of the three stigmas are present, the flower is considered to be male. The male flower will not produce seeds.

The androhermaphrodite flower (Type IV) has three stigmas and anthers which produce pollen. The flower has the possibility, when self-pollinated, to produce a berry with some seeds. These berries are always smaller and with less seeds than on female plants and in much smaller quantities.

Varieties with note 3 (plants with male flower with style rudiments) can also have plants with androhermaphrodite flowers. Within these varieties the ratio between male flowers with style rudiments (type II and III) and androhermaphrodite flowers (type IV) can vary, leading to a smaller or larger percentage of male plants with small berries.

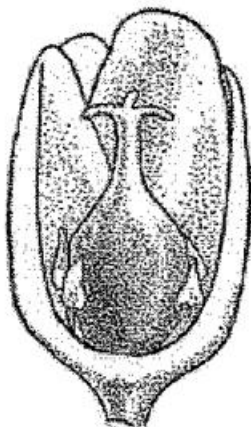
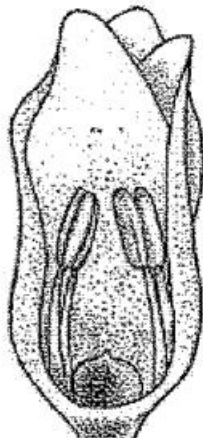
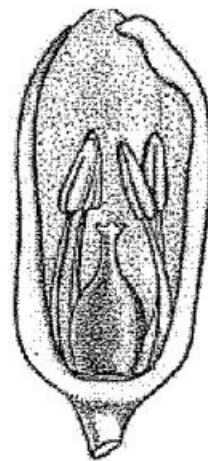
[Annex follows]

ANNEX

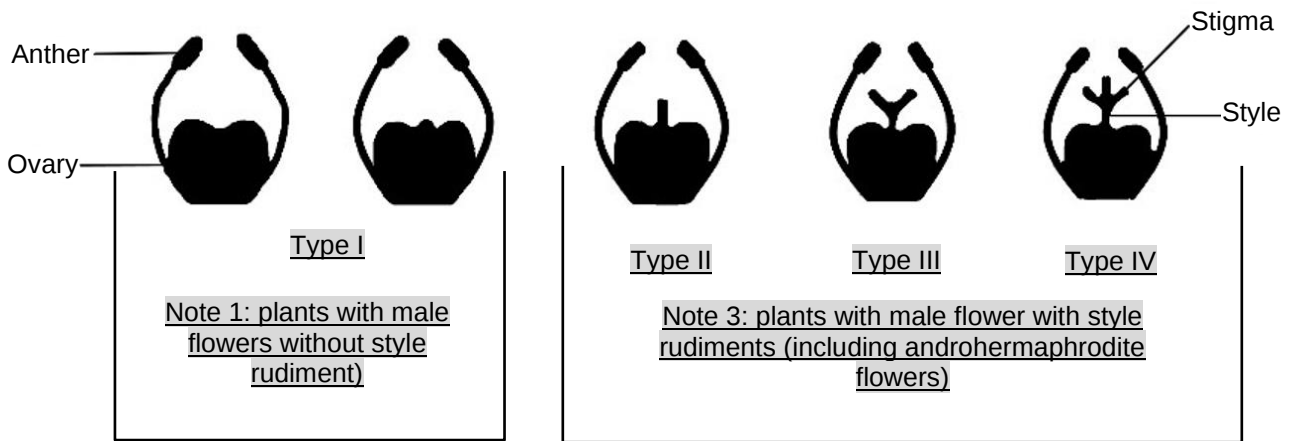
PROPOSED CHANGES PRESENTED IN HIGHLIGHT
(in English only)Revision of Characteristic 16 “Type of flowering”

	English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties/ Exemples/ Beispielssorten/ Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
16. (+) (*)	VG Type of flowering	Type de floraison	Blühtyp	Tipo de floración		
QL	<u>only</u> plants with male flowers <u>without style rudiments</u> and plants with female flowers	<u>seulement</u> plantes avec des fleurs mâles <u>sans rudiments de style</u> et plantes avec des fleurs femelles	nur Pflanzen mit männlichen Blüten <u>ohne Griffelrudimente</u> und Pflanzen mit weiblichen Blüten	<u>solo</u> plantas con flores masculinas sin <u>estilo</u> y plantas con flores femeninas	<u>Andreas</u> , <u>Cumulus</u>	1
	plants with male <u>flowers</u> and <u>plants with</u> female flowers	plantes avec des fleurs mâles et <u>plantes avec</u> des fleurs femelles	Pflanzen mit männlichen <u>Blüten</u> und <u>Pflanzen mit</u> weiblichen Blüten	plantas con flores masculinas y <u>plantas con flores</u> femeninas	Argenteuil, Desto	2
	plants with androhermaphrodite flowers and plants with male flowers with style rudiments	plantes avec <u>des fleurs androhermaphrodites</u> et <u>plantes avec</u> des fleurs mâles avec rudiments de style	Pflanzen mit <u>männlich-zwittrigen Blüten</u> und <u>Pflanzen mit</u> männlichen Blüten mit Griffelrudimenten	plantas con <u>flores hermafroditas masculinas</u> y <u>plantas con flores masculinas</u> con estilo	Backlim, Gijnlim	3
	<u>only plants with female flowers</u>	<u>seulement des plantes avec des fleurs femelles</u>	<u>nur Pflanzen mit weiblichen Blüten</u>	<u>solo plantas con flores femeninas</u>	<u>L324</u>	<u>4</u>

5. Changes agreed to characteristics in the table of characteristics would also be reflected in Chapter 10 “Technical Questionnaire”, Section 5 “Characteristics of the variety to be indicated”.

Revision of Ad.16: Type of floweringFemaleFemale flowermalemale flower
(without style rudiment)androhermaphroditemale flower
(with style rudiment including
androhermaphrodite)

Type of male flowers



Type of male flowers: the flowers always have fully developed anthers; the style can be from absent to fully developed (Type I to IV), but the stigmas are always rudimentary or absent. Even when two of the three stigmas are present, the flower is considered to be male. The male flower will not produce seeds.

The androhermaphrodite flower (Type IV) has three stigmas and anthers which produce pollen. The flower has the possibility, when self-pollinated, to produce a berry with some seeds. These berries are always smaller and with less seeds than on female plants and in much smaller quantities.

Varieties with note 3 (plants with male flower with style rudiments) can also have plants with androhermaphrodite flowers. Within these varieties the ratio between male flowers with style rudiments (type II and III) and androhermaphrodite flowers (type IV) can vary, leading to a smaller or larger percentage of male plants with small berries.

[End of Annex and of document]