



TWA/29/5

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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS
GENEVA

**TECHNICAL WORKING PARTY
FOR
AGRICULTURAL CROPS**

**Twenty-Ninth Session
Uppsala, Sweden, June 27 to 30, 2000**

**DRAFT REPORT OF THE SUBGROUP MEETING ON TOBACCO
HELD IN BERGERAC, FRANCE, APRIL 17 AND 18, 2000**

Opening of the meeting

1. The subgroup meeting on Tobacco was held in the *Institut du Tabac de Bergerac*, Bergerac, France, from 2 p.m. on April 17 to 4 p.m. on April 18, 2000. The participants were welcomed by Mr. F. Galimard, Director of the Institute. Ms. Françoise Blouet, Chairman of the Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops, opened the meeting. The list of participants appears in Annex I to this report.

Discussion on the Test Guidelines for Tobacco

2. Discussions were based on document TWA/28/11, on comments received from the expert from Poland and also on the document *Principes directeurs pour la conduite de l'examen des caractères distinctifs, de l'homogénéité et de la stabilité, Tabac*, prepared by experts from France. The subgroup made the following main changes in the document TWA/28/11:

(a) Material Required:

3. Paragraph 1, fourth sentence should be reworded as follows: “The seed should at least meet the minimum requirements for germination capacity, moisture content and purity for marketing seed in the country in which the application is made.”

(b) Conduct of Tests:

4. Paragraph 1 should be reworded as follows: “The minimum duration of tests should normally be two independent growing periods.”

5. Paragraph 3, last sentence, should be “40 plants” instead of “50 plants.”

6. Paragraph 4 should be “Additional tests may be established, especially with respect of the type of tobacco.”

(c) Methods and Observations:

7. Paragraph 1 should be reworded as follows : “All observations for the assessment of distinctness and stability should be made on a plot as a whole. For the assessment of measured characteristics, observation should be made on a total of 20 plants or parts taken from each of 20 plants.”

8. Paragraph 2, the following changes were made: “1%” instead of “2%”, “40 plants” instead of “50 plants”, the number of off-types allowed should be 2 instead of 3.

9. Paragraph 3 should be reworded as follows: “All observations on leaves should be made after the beginning of flowering on the largest fully developed leaf in the middle third of the stem, excluding the inflorescence.”

10. Paragraph 4 should be reworded as follows: “All observations on flowers should be made on the main inflorescence on fully open flowers at flowering time.”

11. Add new paragraph after paragraph 4 with the following text: “All observations on the inflorescence should be made on the main inflorescence at full flowering time.”

(d) Table of Characteristics:

12. The subgroup decided to add a column for the Stage of Observation, and make the following changes in the characteristics:

1 To delete the state of expression “double conical” and to add the state of expression “inverted conical”. To be observed at stage “when the leaves of the middle third of the stem are fully expanded after beginning of flowering.”

2 To be reworded “Plant: height of the main stem (including inflorescence)”. To be observed at the same stage as characteristic 1

- 4 To be reworded as follows: “Plant: tendency to produce suckers”, with the states of expression “absent or very weak (note 1); weak (note 3); medium (note 5); strong (note 7) and very strong (note 9)”. To be observed as characteristic 1
- 5 To be deleted
- 6 Notes to be changed “3, 5 and 7” instead of “1, 2 and 3.”
- New Add a new characteristic after characteristic 6 as follows: “Leaf shape in profile”, with the states of expression “straight (note 1); slightly recurved (3); moderately recurved (5); strongly recurved (note 7).”
- 7 To be reworded as follows: “Leaf: length of blade (without auricles)” and to add asterisk
- 9 To be reworded as follows: “Leaf blade: ratio length/width”, with states of expression “low (note 3); medium (note 5); high (note 7)”
- 10 To be reworded as follows: “Leaf: shape of blade” with states of expression “lanceolate (note 1); narrow elliptic (note 2); broad elliptic (note 3); ovate (note 4); obovate (note 5); cordate (note 6); rounded (note 7)”
- 11 To be split into two characteristics as follows:
- 11.(a) “Leaf: color of the blade”, with states of expression “yellow green (note 1); green (note 2)” and to add asterisk
- 11.(b) “Leaf: intensity of green color”, with states of expression “light (note 3); medium (note 5); dark (note 7)” and to add asterisk
- 13 To invert the order of the states of expression, starting from “obtuse (note 1)” till “very strongly pointed (note 9)”
- 15 To be reworded as follows: “Leaf: undulations of margin” with the states of expression “absent or very weak (note 1); weak (note 3); medium (note 5); strong (note 7)”
- 17 To be moved after characteristic 6 with the states of expression “concave (note 1); straight (note 2); convex (state 3)”
- 18 To be reworded as follows: “Leaf: thickness of veins excluding midrib”, with the state “medium” instead of “medium thin” (note 5)
- 19 To be reworded as follows: “Leaf: type” with the following states of expression “sessile (note 1); petiolate (note 2)” and to be moved after characteristic 6
- 20 To be reworded as follows: “Leaf: width of blade at basis (sessile types only) and to replace the states of expression “large” by “broad (note 7)” and “very large” by “very broad (note 9)”
- 21 To be reworded as follows: “Time of flowering (50% of plants with at least one corolla open)”

- 22 To be reworded as follows: “Flower: length (excluding peduncle)”
- 23 To be deleted
- 24 To be reworded as follows: “Flower: diameter of tube (just above the calyx)”
- 25 To be deleted
- 27 To be reworded as follows: “Flower: size of corolla”
- 30 To be reworded as follows: “Flower: development of statements” with states of expression “none or rudimentarily developed (note 1)”; “fully developed (note 2)”
- 31 To be reworded as follows: “Flower: length of pistil relative to stamens (for varieties with fully developed stamens only), and the notes to be changed to 1, 2 and 3 instead to 3, 5 and 7 respectively
- 32 To be recorded at full flowering time and the state of expression “elliptic” to be changed to “flattened spherical (note 2)”
- 33 To be recorded at full flowering time and to be reworded as follows: “Inflorescence: position relative to upper leaves” with states of expression “above (note 1)” and “among (note 2)”
- 34 To be recorded at full flowering time and to be reworded as follows: “Inflorescence: compactness”
- 35 This characteristic was kept, but the subgroup noted that it is only useful for the tobacco types cultivated in Greece

(e) Explanations on the Table of Characteristics

13. The subgroup decided to make the following changes in the explanations of the following characteristics:

Add. 1: to include a drawing for the state of expression “inverted conical”

Add. 10: to have a drawing for the states of expression “narrow elliptic”; “broad elliptic”; to include a drawing for the state of expression “cordate” and to have only one drawing for the other states of expression

Add. 13, 17, 19 and 20 to be amended according to the rewording of the characteristics

Add 22: to include the corresponding drawing

Add. 28: to provide better drawings

Add: 32: to be amended according to the rewording of the characteristic.

(f) Technical Questionnaire

14. Item 4.2, include the word “line” at the end of the last sentence.

15. Item 5, to include the following characteristic:

Group of tobacco

Virginia	[]
Burley	[]
Oriental	[]
Sun cured	[]
Fire cured	[]
Other	[]

16. Item 7, to delete item 7.1.

[Annex I follows]

ANNEX I

PARTICIPATION LIST

I. MEMBER STATES

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