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GENEVA

**TECHNICAL WORKING PARTY
FOR
AGRICULTURAL CROPS**

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**UNIFORMITY TOLERANCES IN THE TEST GUIDELINES FOR RAPE SEED
(REVISION OF CHAPTER IV OF TG/36/6)**

Document prepared by experts from France

UNIFORMITY TOLERANCES IN THE TEST GUIDELINES FOR RAPE SEED (Revision of Chapter IV of TG/36/6)

During the TWA meeting held in Sweden in 2000, it was decided to revise the paragraph 4 of Chapter IV of the Test Guidelines which concerns the uniformity tolerances.

The above-mentioned chapter reads:

“ ...

3. *For the assessment of uniformity of characteristics on the plot as a whole (visual assessment by a single observation of a group of plants or parts of plants), the number of aberrant plants or parts of plants should be counted on the total of 200 plants.*

4. *For the assessment of uniformity of inbred lines a population standard of 0.5% with an acceptance probability of at least 95% should be applied. In the case of hybrids, the population standard should be 5% with the same acceptance probability of at least 95%. For those countries which foresee difficulties with too large a change to adjust their system to the newly adopted rules, a possible interim period of five years from the adoption of the Test Guidelines would be acceptable before they change to the new rules. During that period a population standard of 2% for inbred lines and 10% for hybrids would be acceptable. For other types of varieties, the general rules for the testing of uniformity apply as stated in the General Introduction to the Test Guidelines.*

5. *In case progenies of unthreshed plants are observed, the tolerance for uniformity in the progeny rows should be four off-type rows in 40. ...”*

As the interim period will end in 2002, it is necessary to confirm or to amend the recommendations concerning the level of uniformity for lines and hybrids in terms of off-types. In order to prepare the discussion at the 2001 TWA meeting in Mexico, a questionnaire was issued for completion by contracting countries interested in rapeseed.

ANSWERS RECEIVED :

Responses were received from 9 countries : ARGENTINA, CANADA, DENMARK (DK), FRANCE (F), GERMANY (DE), POLAND (PL), SPAIN (ES), SWEDEN (SE), and UNITED KINGDOM (UK).

ARGENTINA and CANADA did not provide tolerances. The other answers are summarized in the following tables:

- **Table 1: lines and open-pollinated varieties** (present tolerances applied in the different countries)
- **Table 2 : hybrids** (present tolerances applied)
- **Table 3 : comments and proposals of tolerances to amend paragraph 4 of Chapter IV.**

| Table 1- Lines and open-pollinated varieties (present tolerances applied in the different countries) | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|------------------------------------|
| Type of variety | Type of lay-out | Tolerance applied | Number of plants usually observed in the trials | Maximum number of plants tolerated |
| | SE: Plots | 0.5% | 2200 | 14 |
| | PL: Plots | 0.5% | 400 | 5 |
| | | | 300 | 4 |
| | UK: Spaced plants | 2% | 200 | 7 |
| | DK: Plots | 0,5% qualitative characteristics COY.U for quantitative | 1440 | 15 |
| LINES | ES: Plots | 2% | 300 | 10 |
| and | DE: | | | |
| OPEN POLLINATED | Spaced plants | 1% (visually assessed characteristics) | 300 | 6 |
| VARIETIES | | 2% (pollen production) | | 10 (pollen) |
| | | COY.U for measured characteristics | | |
| | rows | | 400 | 8 |
| | | | | 13 (pollen) |
| | F: Plants rows (progenies of plants) | 5% | 40 | 4 |
| | | | | |
| | Plots | 1% | 1000 | 15 |
| | | plus 1% for waxless plants | | 15 |
| | | plus 1% for male sterile plants | | 15 |
| | | within the isogenic maintainer line and vice-versa | | |
| Remarks: all tolerances are applied with an acceptance probability of 95% | | | | |
| | | | | |

Table 2- HYBRIDS (present tolerances applied)

| (Tolerances presently applied by contracting parties) | | | | |
|--|-------------------|--|---|------------------------------------|
| Type of variety | Type of lay-out | Tolerance applied | Number of plants usually observed in the trials | Maximum number of plants tolerated |
| | SE: Plots | 10% | ≈ 2200 | 240 |
| | | | 400 | 27 |
| | PL: Plots | 5% | | 50 (pollen) |
| | | 10% for production of pollen | 300 | 21 |
| | | | | 39 (pollen) |
| | UK: Spaced plants | 10% | 200 | 27 |
| | DK: Plots | 5% qualitative characteristics | 1440 | 96 |
| | | COY.U for quantitative | | |
| HYBRID | ES: Plots | 5% | 300 | 21 |
| | DE: | | | |
| | Spaced plants | 5% (visually assessed characteristics) | 300 | 21 |
| | | 10% (pollen production) | | 39 (pollen) |
| | | COY.U for measured characteristics | | |
| | rows | | 400 | 27 |
| | | | | 50 (pollen) |
| | | | | |
| | F: Plots | 10% | 1000 | 116 |
| | | plus 1% for waxless plants | | plus 15 waxless plants |
| Remarks: all tolerances are applied with an acceptance probability of 95% | | | | |

| Table 3: Comments and proposals of tolerances to amend paragraph 4 of Chapter IV. | | |
|--|---|--|
| Type of varieties | Lines and open pollinated varieties | Hybrids |
| Countries | | |
| UK | 2% (Strongly opposed to 0,5%) | 10% (strongly opposed to 5%) |
| D | 1% | 5% an extra tolerance for pollen production is not necessary any longer |
| F | 1% plus 1% for waxless plants | 10% plus 1% for waxless plants |
| | plus 1% for male sterile plants | |
| | within the isogenic maintainer and vice-versa | |
| Other contributions will be made during the meeting. | | |

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