



TWA/31/11

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**INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS**  
GENEVA

**TECHNICAL WORKING PARTY  
FOR  
AGRICULTURAL CROPS**

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WORKING PAPER ON DRAFT TEST GUIDELINES FOR COFFEE

*Document prepared by experts from Brazil*

## I. Subject of these Guidelines

These Test Guidelines apply to all varieties of *Coffea arabica*, *Coffea canephora* and their interspecific hybrids.

## II. Material Required

1. The competent authorities decide when, where and in what quantity and quality the plant material required for testing the variety is to be delivered. Applicants submitting material from a State other than that where the testing takes place must make sure that all customs formalities are complied with. The following quantity of plant material is recommended as a minimum:

- (a) *Coffea arabica* : 10 seedling plants;
- (b) *Coffea canephora* : (i) 5 plants for varieties with vegetative propagation;  
(ii) 10 plants for seed propagated varieties;
- (c) Interspecific hybrids: (i) 5 plants for varieties with vegetative propagation;  
(ii) 10 plants for seed propagated varieties.

2. The plant material supplied should be virus free and visibly healthy, not lacking in vigor or affected by any important pest or disease.

3. The plant material must not have undergone any treatment unless the competent authorities allow or request such treatment. If it has been treated, full details of the treatment must be given.

## III. Conduct of Tests

1. To assess distinctness the plants should be observed for at least two growth cycles.

2. The tests should normally be conducted at one place. If any important characteristic of the variety cannot be seen at that place, the variety may be tested at an additional place.

3. The tests should be carried out under conditions ensuring normal growth. The size of plots should be so that plants or parts of plants may be removed for evaluation and measurement without prejudice to the observations which must be made up to the end of the growth cycle. Each plot should include 5 or 10 plants according to the variety or their reproductive system. A minimum of 4 plants should be evaluated. Separate plots for observation and measuring can only be used if they have been subject to similar environmental conditions.

4. Additional tests for special purposes may be established.

#### IV. Methods and Observations

1. Unless otherwise stated, all observations should be made on 5 plants or part taken from each of 5 plants in the case of varieties resulting from crossing, and on 10 plants or part taken from each of 10 plants in the case of mutants. m
2. For assessment of uniformity a population standard of 1% with confidence interval of at least 95% should be applied for varieties resulting from crossing, and a population standard of 2% with the same confidence interval for mutants. In the case of a sample size of 5 plants no off-types should be allowed as for 10 plants the maximum number of off-types allowed would be 1.
3. Unless otherwise stated, all observations on the tree and on the one-year-old shoot should be made during winter on trees that have fruited at least once. The length of the internodes should be observed in the middle of the shoot.
4. Unless otherwise stated, all observations on the flower should be made on fully developed flowers at the beginning of anther dehiscence.
5. Unless otherwise stated, all observations on the leaf should be made in summer on fully developed leaves from the middle third of a well-developed current season's shoot.
6. All observations on fruits should be made at the time of harvest with ripen fruits unless otherwise stated.

#### V. Grouping of Varieties

1. The collection of varieties to be grown should be divided into groups to facilitate the assessment of distinctness. Characteristics which are suitable for grouping purposes are those which are known from experience not to vary, or to vary only slightly, within a variety. Their various states of expression should be fairly evenly distributed throughout the collection.

#### VI. Characteristics and Symbols

1. To assess distinctness, uniformity and stability the characteristics and their states should be used as given in the Table of Characteristics.
2. (+) See "Explanations and Illustrations".

VII. Table of Characteristics/Tableau des caractères/Merkmalstabelle/Tablă de caractere

English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielssorten Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
<b>1. Plant:shape</b>					
(+)					
cylindrical				Catuaí, Mundo Novo	1
conical				Vila Lobos	2
cylindrical-conical				Acaiá	3
inverted conical					4
<b>2. Plant:height</b>					
(+)					
very short				Vila Lobos	1
short				IAPAR 59	3
medium				Catuaí, Rubi, Topázio	5
tall				Acaiá	7
very tall				Mundo Novo	9
<b>3. Plant:canopy diameter</b>					
(+)					
very small				Vila Lobos	1
small				IAPAR 59	3
medium				Catuaí, Rubi, Topázio	5
large				Acaiá	7
very large				Mundo Novo	9
<b>4. Stem(main and lateral):internodes length</b>					
short				IAPAR 59	3
medium				Catuaí, Rubi, Topázio	5
long				Mundo Novo	7

English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielssorten Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
<b>5. Plagiotropic branch: position relativo to orthotropic branch</b>					
erect					1
semi-erect					2
horizontal				Catuaí, Mundo Novo	3
semi-drooping					4
<b>6. Leaf: length</b>					
short				Bourbon	3
medium				Mundo Novo	5
long				Obatã	7
<b>7. Leaf: width</b>					
narrow				Bourbon	3
medium				Mundo Novo	5
wide				Obatã	7
<b>8. Leaf: shape (+)</b>					
elliptic					1
ovate					2
lanceolate					3
<b>9. Leaf: young leaf color</b>					
green				Catuaí	1
bronze				Rubi, Topázio	2
green and bronze					3
purple					4

English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielssorten Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
<b>10. Leaf:matureleaf color</b>					
light-green					1
dark-green				Obatã	2
purple					3
<b>11. Leaf:bordercurling</b>					
absent				Laurina	1
present				Mundo Novo	9
<b>12. Leaf:intensityof borderundulation</b>					
slight					3
medium				Mundo Novo,Catuaí	5
strong					7
<b>13. Leaf:depthof secondaryvein</b>					
shallow					3
medium					5
deep					7
<b>14. Leaf:domatia</b>					
absent					1
partiallydeveloped					2
developed					3
<b>15. Leaf:domatia pilosity</b>					
absent					1
present					9

English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielssorten Variedadesejemplo	Note/ Nota
<b>16. Inflorescence: numberperaxil</b>					
low				Típica	3
medium				Bourbon	5
high				Catuaí,Rubi,Topázio	7
<b>17. Flower:numberper inflorescence</b>					
low				Típica	3
medium				Bourbon	5
high				Catuaí,Rubi,Topázio	7
<b>18. Flower:polen</b>					
fertile					1
sterile					2
<b>19. Flower:crossing compatibility</b>					
self-compatible					1
partiallycompatible					2
self-incompatible					3
<b>20. Fruit:size</b>					
verysmall				Mokka	1
small				Borbon Amarelo	3
medium				Mundo Novo	5
large				Acaiá	7
verylarge				Maragogipe	9
<b>21. Fruit:shape</b>					
(+)					
roundish				Mokka	1
elliptic					2
oblong				MundoNovo	3

English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielssorten Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
<b>22. Fruit:color( ripe)</b>					
yellow				Bourbon,Topázio	1
orange-red					2
lightred				Mundo Novo,Rubi	3
darkred					4
<b>23. Fruit:sepal</b>					
absent				Bourbon Amarelo	1
present					2
<b>24. Fruit:levelof branchjunction</b>					
low					3
medium				Mundo Novo	5
high					7
<b>25. Seed:length</b>					
(+)					
short				Catuaí	3
medium				Mundo Novo	5
long				Acaiá	7
<b>26. Seed:width</b>					
(+)					
narrow				Acaiá	3
medium				Mundo Novo	5
wide				Catuaí	7
<b>27. Seed:thickness</b>					
(+)					
thin				Mokka,Ibairi	3
medium				Mundo Novo	5
thick				Maragogipe	7



English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielssorten Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
<b>28. Seed: endosperm colour</b>					
yellow					1
green					2
<b>29. Seed: shade of cover cuticle</b>					
light					1
dark					2
<b>30. Seed: level of cuticle adherence</b>					
weak					3
medium					5
strong					7
<b>31. Complete maturation cycle (more than 50% of mature fruits)</b>					
very early					1
early				Bourbon	3
medium				Mundo Novo, Rubí	5
late				Catuaí	7
very late					9
<b>32. Time period until first production after planting</b>					
early				Catuaí, Rubí, Topázio	3
medium				Bourbon	5
late				Mundo Novo	7

English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielssorten Variedadesejemplo	Note/ Nota
<b>33. Branch: number of plagiotropic ramification</b>					
low				Acaiá	3
medium				Mundo Novo	5
high				Catuaí, Rubí, Topázio	7
<b>34. Orthotropic branch: number</b>					
low					3
medium					5
high					7
<b>35. Orthotropic branch: flexibility</b>					
low					3
medium				Mundo Novo	5
high					7
<b>36. Fruit: juiciness of the mesocarp (mature fruit) (only for Coffea canephora)</b>					
dry					3
medium					5
juicy					7
<b>37. Fruit: caffeine content</b>					
low				Laurina	3
medium				Mundo Novo, Catuaí	5
high					7

English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielssorten Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
<b>38. Seed:weightof100 seeds(11% (+) moisture)</b>					
low				Ibairi	3
medium				Catuaí	5
high				Acaíá	7

VIII. ExplanationsontheTableofCharacteristics

Ad. 1,2,3:Plant:shape,heightandcanopydiameter

Mustbeevaluatedafterthesecondyieldfromthethirdharveston.

Ad.3:Plant:canopydiameter

Themeasurementmustcorrespondtothemaximumdiameter.

Ad.8:Leaf:shape



1  
elliptic

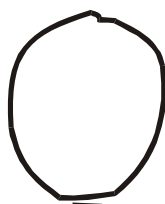


2  
ovate

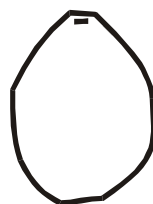


3  
lanceolate

Ad.21:Fruit:shape



1  
roundish



2  
elliptic



3  
oblong

Ad.25,26and27:

Mustbemeasuredfromasampleof20seeds.

Ad.26:

Themeasurementmustbetakenonflat -typeseeds.

Ad.38:

Onlyflat -typeseedsshouldbeusedforthisevaluation.

IX. Literature

X. Technical Questionnaire

	Reference Number (not to be filled in by the applicant)
<b>TECHNICAL QUESTIONNAIRE</b> to be completed in connection with an application for plant breeders' rights	
1. Species	<i>Coffea arabica</i> , <i>Coffea canephora</i> and their interspecific hybrids  COFFEE
2. Applicant (Name and address)	
3. Proposed denomination or breeder's reference	

4. Information on origin, maintenance and reproduction of the variety

4.1 Variety type

4.2 Genetic origin and breeding method

4.3 Other information

5. Characteristics of the variety to be indicated (the number in brackets refers to the corresponding characteristic in Test Guidelines; please mark the state of expression which best corresponds).

Characteristics	Example Varieties	Note

6. Similar varieties and differences from these varieties

Denomination of similar variety	Characteristic in which the similar variety is different <sup>o)</sup>	State of expression of similar variety	State of expression of candidate variety

<sup>o)</sup> In the case of identical states of expressions of both varieties, please indicate the size of the difference.

7. Additional information which may help to distinguish the variety

7.1 Resistance to pests and diseases

7.2 Special conditions for the examination of the variety

7.3 Other information

8. Authorization for release

(a) Does the variety require prior authorization for release under legislation concerning the protection of the environment, human and animal health?

Yes  No

(b) Has such authorization been obtained?

Yes  No

If the answer to that question is yes, please attach a copy of such an authorization.

[Annex follows]



## ANNEX

## SIMILAR VARIETIES AND THEIR DIFFERENCES TO THE SUBMITTED VARIETY

1. More than one variety may be used for comparison purposes since observed the following principles: (i) denomination of the variety must be clearly evident; (ii) characteristics of distinctness should be identified and (iii) differences on chosen characteristic must be clearly evident.
2. Characteristics for distinctness should be preferably taken from the Table of Characteristics.
3. Characteristics other than those mentioned at the Table of Characteristics should be identified whether they are physiological, phenological, biochemical or other. Differences to the submitted variety should be clearly expressed.

## SIMILAR VARIETIES AND THEIR DIFFERENCES TO THE SUBMITTED VARIETY

Denomination of similar varieties	Characteristic in which the similar variety is different	State of expression on similar variety	State of expression on submitted variety

Notes:

- (i) The similar varieties indicated above should preferably be protected otherwise they should at least be included in the Plant Varieties Register at the origin country.
- (ii) If the expression of a characteristic is similar among cultivars but there is an evident degree of distinctness among them there should be made an indication on the magnitude of such difference.

[End of Annex and of document]