



TWA/35/7

ORIGINAL: English only

DATE: May 29, 2006

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS
GENEVA

TECHNICAL WORKING PARTY FOR AGRICULTURAL CROPS

Thirty-Fifth Session
Beijing, July 3 to 7, 2006

DRAFTERS' KIT FOR TEST GUIDELINES

Document prepared by the Office of the Union

1. At their sessions in 2005, the Technical Working Parties for Agricultural Crops (TWA), Fruit Crops (TWF), Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees (TWO) and Vegetables (TWV) received a presentation from the Office on the use of the TG drafters' kit, as published on the first-restricted area of the UPOV website:

http://www.upov.int/restrict/en/index_drafters_kit.htm.

The presentation explained, in particular, the use of the electronic template and the "Collection of approved characteristics" (TGP/7 Annex 4).

2. The following items were raised:

(a) it was clarified at the TWA, that characteristics which were contained in adopted UPOV Test Guidelines could be omitted from the "Collection of approved characteristics" (document TGP/7, Annex 4) where considered appropriate by the Enlarged Editorial Committee;

(b) with regard to the collection of approved characteristics, the TWV agreed that if any element of a characteristic was changed after copying from the collection, the translations into French, German and Spanish should be deleted;

(c) the TWA agreed that the user notes for the collection of approved characteristics should explain that the indication of the characteristic number, the method of observation, type of characteristic and the indications of (+) and (*) had been retained from the Table of Characteristics from which the characteristic had originated, but should clarify that that information might not be appropriate for other Test Guidelines;

(d) the TWV agreed that it would be useful to consider incorporating characteristics which were used in most Test Guidelines (e.g. Leaf: length) into the electronic template;

(e) the TWV agreed that it would also be useful for the Office to consider developing electronic templates for variety types (e.g. seed-propagated vegetables) which would incorporate more standard characteristics for the varieties concerned;

(f) in response to a concern raised by the representative of the International Seed Federation (ISF) at the TWV, it was clarified that wording beyond that in the standard TG template would only be used where appropriate for the Test Guidelines concerned. Thus, for example, ASW 16 which would require a representative color photograph of the variety to accompany the Technical Questionnaire and GN 32 which would seek information on the method of propagation of hybrid varieties would only be included in Test Guidelines where it was appropriate.

3. The matters raised in sub-paragraphs (b) and (c) will be addressed in a revision of the User Notes for TGP/7 Annex 4.

4. The matters raised in sub-paragraphs (d) to (f) would require the development of customized templates for different TWPs and/or different types of varieties. At present, the electronic template (in Word) for drafters of Test Guidelines:

http://www.upov.int/restrict/en/tgp/TG_drafters_template_e.doc

contains the standard wording for all Test Guidelines (TGP/7/1: Annex 1 “TG Template”) plus the additional standard wording (TGP/7/1: Annex 2: Additional Standard Wording (ASW) for the TG Template). Drafters are required to delete the ASW not relevant for the Test Guidelines under development. At present the Table of Characteristics is left blank.

5. The TWA is invited to suggest improvements to the current electronic template, in particular with respect to whether it would be appropriate to seek to develop a customized electronic template for the TWA and/or to develop customized templates for specific types of varieties (e.g. hybrids, seed-propagated, vegetatively propagated etc.). Such customized templates could, for example, omit inappropriate additional standard wording and/or could incorporate standard characteristics in the Table of Characteristics.

[End of document]