



TWA/35/11

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**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**

**COMMENTS ON DRAFT TEST GUIDELINES FOR MAIZE AND PEA  
BY THE TECHNICAL WORKING PARTY FOR VEGETABLES (TWV)**

*Document prepared by the Office of the Union*

1. This document presents comments made by the Technical Working Party for Vegetables (TWV), at its fortieth session, held in Guanajuato, Guanajuato State, Mexico, from June 12 to 16, 2006 on the draft Test Guidelines for Maize and the draft Test Guidelines for Pea, which are to be considered by the Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops (TWA) at its thirty-fifth session, to be held in Beijing, China, from July 3 to 7, 2006.
2. The TWV agreed, at its fortieth session, that it would be useful to hold a joint meeting of the TWA and TWV subgroups to discuss the draft Test Guidelines for Maize and for Pea. It was suggested that the TWA meeting in 2007 might be the most appropriate occasion for those meetings.
3. The following comments were made by the TWV at its fortieth session:

*Maize (Revision)*

4. The subgroup discussed documents TWV/40/9 and TG/2/7(proj.1). In the absence of the leading expert and because important matters such as electrophoresis and parent lines still had to be considered by the TWA, an expert from France proposed to defer a full discussion of the Test Guidelines until after the TWA session. For that reason, the TWV restricted its comments to the characteristics specifically concerning sweetcorn varieties on the basis of the comments in the end notes in document TG/2/7(proj.1). The subgroup proposed the following in that regard:

- 4.1 to indicate that, for sweetcorn F1 hybrid varieties, the DUS examination should be undertaken on the hybrid and not on the parent lines using the hybrid formula approach
- Char. 24 (a) to be deleted
- Chars. 24(b), 28, 28(a), 29 to be included as a characteristic for sweetcorn varieties only, or if such a division is not possible, to be included as a non-asterisked characteristic
- Char. 29 to read “Only sweetcorn varieties: Ear: number of grain colors”
- Char. 29(b) to retain with an indication to be observed at growth stage 75
- Char. 29(c) to check the discriminating power of the characteristic
- Char. 29(d) to retain with an explanation to observe in the middle part of the ear
- Char. 29(e) to check if this characteristic could be used to clearly identify sweetcorn varieties
- Chars. 31, 32 to be indicated as “Only non-sweetcorn varieties: ...”

*Pea (Revision)*

5. The subgroup discussed document TG/7/10(proj.3), as presented by Mr. Niall Green (United Kingdom), and agreed the following:

Cover page	to add <i>Pisum arvense</i> L. as an alternative botanical name
Table of Chars.	translations to be reviewed
Char. 2	to be deleted
Char. 3	(*) to be deleted
Char. 4	(*) to be added and to be indicated as MG/MS
Char. 11	to be deleted
Char. 12	“average” to be deleted
Char. 16	(+) to be added with an explanation that distance refers to the absolute distance
Char. 18	to be deleted
Char. 21	to add “(surface area)”
Char. 23	to be deleted
Char. 24	to read “Stipule: lobe below axil” and to add state 1: absent or very short. To be indicated as MS/VG
Chars. 25, 26	“(on the whole plant)” to be deleted
Char. 34	state 1 to be deleted. Example variety “Picar” to be deleted from state 2
Char. 37	spelling of “acuminate” to be corrected
Char. 41	to be indicated as MS and to have the states: absent or few (1); medium (2); many (3). (+) to be added with an explanation of how the characteristic is calculated on the basis of averages across plants
Char. 45	to read “Only varieties without entire parchment: Pod: thickened wall“
Char. 47	to be deleted
Char. 49	to be deleted
Char. 50	to be replaced by a characteristic for type of curvature, similar to that used for bean
Char. 54	to be deleted
Char. 55	to be deleted
Char. 56	to be indicated as growth stage 226. (+) to be added with an explanation that the characteristic concerns the number of ovules and not the number of seeds.
Char. 58	(+) to be added with illustrations
Char. 60	explanation to provide illustrations of different types of dimples and wrinkles
Char. 61	to delete underlined section. To check example varieties “Adagio”

- and “Zorba”
- Char. 66 to have the states: not colored (1); colored (2)
- Ad. 3 to read “The expression of fasciation is more clearly expressed in longer daylengths.” and to provide an illustration
- Ad. 19, 20, 22, 23, 24 to be amended according to changes to the Table of Characteristics and, in particular, to explain that Char. 19 refers to the maximum length and to indicate that Char. 24 refers to the length of the lobe as measured perpendicular to the axis set by Char. 19.
- Ad. 25, 26 to read “Assessment should be made on the main stem only. The presence of flecking on any stipule on the main stem means that flecking is present. It should be ensured that the foliage at the lowest nodes has not senesced before assessment. The plant should have at least eight nodes, since flecking in some varieties may not be expressed at lower nodes.”
- Ad. 27, 28 illustration to be amended to have a straight petiole
- Ad. 48 to add titles for blunt and pointed illustrations
- Ad. 58 second paragraph to be deleted
- Ad. 62 to read “Record on dry, mature seed. Appears as irregular shallow dimpling of the cotyledon and is accompanied by a slight ‘rippling’ of the testa surface which should not be confused with wrinkling. The appearance of very fine dimpling, similar to that of a golf ball, should be ignored.”

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