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UPOV

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

GENEVA

DRAFT

TEA

UPOV code: CMLIA_SIN

Camellia sinensis (L.) O. Kuntze and closely related species in *Camellia* (L.) Sect. *Thea* (L.) Dyer. *

GUIDELINES

FOR THE CONDUCT OF TESTS

FOR DISTINCTNESS, UNIFORMITY AND STABILITY

prepared by an expert from China

to be considered by the
Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops
at its thirty-sixth session, to be held in Budapest, Hungary, from May 28 to June 1, 2007

Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees,
at its fortieth session, to be held in Kunming, China, from July 2 to 6, 2007

Alternative Names:*

Botanical name	*English*	*French*	*German*	*Spanish*
Camellia sinensis (L.) O. Kuntze	Tea	Théier	Tee, Teestrauch	Té

The purpose of these guidelines ("Test Guidelines") is to elaborate the principles contained in the General Introduction (document TG/1/3), and its associated TGP documents, into detailed practical guidance for the harmonized examination of distinctness, uniformity and stability (DUS) and, in particular, to identify appropriate characteristics for the examination of DUS and production of harmonized variety descriptions.

ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS
These Test Guidelines should be read in conjunction with the General Introduction and its associated TGP documents.

* These names were correct at the time of the introduction of these Test Guidelines but may be revised or updated. [Readers are advised to consult the UPOV Code, which can be found on the UPOV Website (www.upov.int), for the latest information.]

TABLE OF CONTENTS PAGE

1. Subject of these Test Guidelines

These Test Guidelines apply to all varieties of *Camellia sinensis* (L.) O. Kuntze and its closely related species in *Camellia* (L.) Sect. *Thea* (L.) Dyer.

2. Material Required

2.1 The competent authorities decide on the quantity and quality of the plant material required for testing the variety and when and where it is to be delivered. Applicants submitting material from a State other than that in which the testing takes place must ensure that all customs formalities and phytosanitary requirements are complied with.

2.2 The material is to be supplied in the form of one-year-old rooted cuttings.

2.3 The minimum quantity of plant material, to be supplied by the applicant, should be:

20 rooted cuttings.

2.4 The plant material supplied should be visibly healthy, not lacking in vigor, nor affected by any important pest or disease.

2.5 The plant material should not have undergone any treatment which would affect the expression of the characteristics of the variety, unless the competent authorities allow or request such treatment. If it has been treated, full details of the treatment must be given.

3. Method of Examination

3.1 Number of Growing Cycles

The minimum duration of tests should normally be a single growing cycle.

3.2 Testing Place

Tests are normally conducted at one place. In the case of tests conducted at more than one place, guidance is provided in TGP/9 “Examining Distinctness”.

3.3 Conditions for Conducting the Examination

3.3.1 The tests should be carried out under conditions ensuring satisfactory growth for the expression of the relevant characteristics of the variety and for the conduct of the examination. Observations should be made on plants which are at least two years after being planted.

3.3.2 The recommended method of observing the characteristic is indicated by the following key in the second column of the Table of Characteristics in Chapter 7:

MG: single measurement of a group of plants or parts of plants
MS: measurement of a number of individual plants or parts of plants
VG: visual assessment by a single observation of a group of plants or parts of plants
VS: visual assessment by observation of individual plants or parts of plants

3.4 Test Design

3.4.1 Each test should be designed to result in a total of at least 10 plants.

3.4.2 The design of the tests should be such that plants or parts of plants may be removed for measurement or counting without prejudice to the observations which must be made up to the end of the growing cycle.

3.5 Number of Plants / Parts of Plants to be Examined

Unless otherwise indicated, all observations should be made on 10 plants or parts taken from each of 10 plants.

3.6 Additional Tests

Additional tests, for examining relevant characteristics, may be established.

4. Assessment of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability

4.1 Distinctness

4.1.1 General Recommendations

It is of particular importance for users of these Test Guidelines to consult the General Introduction prior to making decisions regarding distinctness. However, the following points are provided for elaboration or emphasis in these Test Guidelines.

4.1.2 Consistent Differences

The differences observed between varieties may be so clear that more than one growing cycle is not necessary. In addition, in some circumstances, the influence of the environment is not such that more than a single growing cycle is required to provide assurance that the differences observed between varieties are sufficiently consistent. One means of ensuring that a difference in a characteristic, observed in a growing trial, is sufficiently consistent is to examine the characteristic in at least two independent growing cycles.

4.1.3 Clear Differences

Determining whether a difference between two varieties is clear depends on many factors, and should consider, in particular, the type of expression of the characteristic being examined, i.e. whether it is expressed in a qualitative, quantitative, or pseudo-qualitative

manner. Therefore, it is important that users of these Test Guidelines are familiar with the recommendations contained in the General Introduction prior to making decisions regarding distinctness.

4.2 Uniformity

4.2.1 It is of particular importance for users of these Test Guidelines to consult the General Introduction prior to making decisions regarding uniformity. However, the following points are provided for elaboration or emphasis in these Test Guidelines:

4.2.2 For the assessment of uniformity a population standard of 1% and an acceptance probability of at least 95% should be applied. In the case of a sample size of 10 plants, 1 off-type is allowed.

4.3 Stability

4.3.1 In practice, it is not usual to perform tests of stability that produce results as certain as those of the testing of distinctness and uniformity. However, experience has demonstrated that, for many types of variety, when a variety has been shown to be uniform, it can also be considered to be stable.

4.3.2 Where appropriate, or in cases of doubt, stability may be tested, either by growing a further generation, or by testing a new plant stock to ensure that it exhibits the same characteristics as those shown by the previous material supplied.

5. Grouping of Varieties and Organization of the Growing Trial

5.1 The selection of varieties of common knowledge to be grown in the trial with the candidate varieties and the way in which these varieties are divided into groups to facilitate the assessment of distinctness are aided by the use of grouping characteristics.

5.2 Grouping characteristics are those in which the documented states of expression, even where produced at different locations, can be used, either individually or in combination with other such characteristics: (a) to select varieties of common knowledge that can be excluded from the growing trial used for examination of distinctness; and (b) to organize the growing trial so that similar varieties are grouped together.

5.3 It is recommended that the competent authorities use the following characteristics for grouping varieties:

(a) Plant: stem type (characteristic 2)
(b) Plant: growth habit (characteristic 3)
(c) Leaf blade: length (characteristic 13)
(d) Flower: diameter (characteristic 27)

5.4 Guidance for the use of grouping characteristics, in the process of examining distinctness, is provided through the General Introduction.

6. Introduction to the Table of Characteristics

6.1 Categories of Characteristics

6.1.1 Standard Test Guidelines Characteristics

Standard Test Guidelines characteristics are those which are approved by UPOV for examination of DUS and from which members of the Union can select those suitable for their particular circumstances.

6.1.2 Asterisked Characteristics

Asterisked characteristics (denoted by *) are those included in the Test Guidelines which are important for the international harmonization of variety descriptions and should always be examined for DUS and included in the variety description by all members of the Union, except when the state of expression of a preceding characteristic or regional environmental conditions render this inappropriate.

6.2 States of Expression and Corresponding Notes

States of expression are given for each characteristic to define the characteristic and to harmonize descriptions. Each state of expression is allocated a corresponding numerical note for ease of recording of data and for the production and exchange of the description.

6.3 Types of Expression

An explanation of the types of expression of characteristics (qualitative, quantitative and pseudo-qualitative) is provided in the General Introduction.

6.4 Example Varieties

Where appropriate, example varieties are provided to clarify the states of expression of each characteristic.

6.5 Legend

(*) Asterisked characteristic – see Chapter 6.1.2

QL: Qualitative characteristic – see Chapter 6.3
QN: Quantitative characteristic – see Chapter 6.3
PQ: Pseudo-qualitative characteristic – see Chapter 6.3

MG: single measurement of a group of plants or parts of plants – see Chapter 3.3.2
MS: measurement of a number of individual plants or parts of plants – see Chapter 3.3.2
VG: visual assessment by a single observation of a group of plants or parts of plants – Chapter 3.3.2
VS: visual assessment by observation of individual plants or parts of plants – see Chapter 3.3.2

(a) – (e) See Explanations on the Table of Characteristics in Chapter 8.1

(+) See Explanations on the Table of Characteristics in Chapter 8.2

7. Table of Characteristics/Tableau des caractères/Merkmalstabelle/Tabla de caracteres

		English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties/ Exemples/ Beispielssorten/ Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
1. **(*)** **(+)**	**VG**	**Plant: vigor**					
QN		weak				Longjing Guazi	3
		medium				Longjing 43	5
		strong				Yunkang 10	7
2. **(*)** **(+)**	**VG**	**Plant: stem type**					
QN		shrub				Longjing 43	1
		semi-arbor				Qiamei 419	3
		arbor				Yunkang 10	5
3. **(*)** **(+)**	**VG**	**Plant: growth habit**					
QN		erect				Biyun	1
		semi-erect				Hanlv	3
		spreading				Yinghong 1	5
4.	**VG**	**Plant: density of branches**					
QN		sparse				Yunkang 10	3
		medium				Biyun	5
		dense				Tengcha	7
5. **(*)** **(+)**	**VG**	**Branch: zigzaging**					
QL		absent					1
		present					9

		English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties/ Exemples/ Beispielssorten/ Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
6. (*)	**VG/ MS**	**Young shoot: time of beginning of 'one and a bud' stage**					
QN	**(a) (b)**	early				Longjing 43	3
		medium				Biyun	5
		late				Qianmei 419	7
7. (+)	**VG**	**Young shoot: color of the second leaf at 'two and a bud' stage**					
PQ	**(a) (b)**	whitish					1
		yellow green					2
		light green					3
		medium green					4
		purple green					5
8. (*) (+)	**VG**	**Young shoot: bud pubescence**					
QL	**(a) (b)**	absent					1
		present					9
9.	**VG**	**Young shoot: density of bud pubescence**					
QN	**(a) (b)**	weak				Longjing 43	3
		medium				Biyun	5
		strong				Yunkang 10	7

		English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties/ Exemples/ Beispielssorten/ Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
10. (*) (+)	**VG**	**Young shoot: anthocyanin coloration at base of the petiole**					
QL	**(a) (b)**	absent					1
		present					9
11. (*)	**VG/ MS**	**Young shoot: length of 'three and a bud'**					
QN	**(a) (b)**	short				Xicha 11	3
		medium				Longjing 43	5
		long				Qianmei 419	7
12. (*) (+)	**VG MS**	**Leaf: attitude**					
QN	**(c)**	upwards					1
		outwards					3
		downwards					5
13. (*)	**VG/ MS**	**Leaf blade: length**					
QN	**(c)**	very short				Longjing Guazi	1
		short				Biyun	3
		medium				Qianmei 419	5
		long				Yinghong 1	7
		very long					9
14. (*)	**VG/ MS**	**Leaf blade: width**					
QN	**(c)**	narrow				Tengcha	3
		medium				Qianmei 419	5
		broad				Yunkang 10	7

		English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties/ Exemples/ Beispielssorten/ Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
15.	**VG**	**Leaf blade: shape**					
(+)							
QN	**(c)**	very narrow elliptic					1
		narrow elliptic					2
		medium elliptic					3
		broad elliptic					4
16.	**VG**	**Leaf blade: color**					
(+)							
QN	**(c)**	very light green					1
		light green					2
		medium green					3
		dark green					4
17.	**VG**	**Leaf blade: cross section**					
(+)							
QN	**(c)**	incurved					1
		flat					2
		recured					3
18.	**VG**	**Leaf blade: texture of upper surface**					
QN	**(c)**	smooth or weakly rugose				Hanlv	1
		moderately rugose				Tengcha	2
		strongly rugose				Qianmei 419	3

		English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties/ Exemples/ Beispielssorten/ Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
19. (+)	**VG**	**Leaf blade: length of acuminate tip**					
QN	**(c)**	absent or short					1
		medium					2
		long					3
20. (+)	**VG**	**Leaf blade: undulation of margin**					
QN	**(c)**	absent or weak					1
		medium					2
		strong					3
21. (+)	**VG**	**Leaf blade: serration of margin**					
QN	**(c)**	weak					3
		medium					5
		strong					7
22. (+)	**VG**	**Leaf blade: base shape**					
PQ	**(c)**	acute					1
		obtuse					2
		rounded					3
23. (+)	**MG**	**Flower: time of full flowering**					
QN		early				Longjing 43	3
		medium				Yinghong 1	5
		late				Qianmei 419	7

		English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties/ Exemples/ Beispielssorten/ Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
24.	**VG/ MS**	**Flower: length of pedicel**					
QN	**(d) (e)**	short					3
		medium				Biyun	5
		long				Yangshulin 783	7
25. (*)	**VG**	**Flower: pubescence on sepal on outer side**					
QL	**(d) (e)**	absent				Longjing 43	1
		present				Qianmei 419	9
26. (*)	**VG**	**Flower: anthocyanin coloration on sepal on outer side**					
QL	**(d,e)**	absent				Longjing 43	1
		present				Biyun	9
27. (*)	**VG/ MS**	**Flower: diameter**					
QN	**(d) (e)**	small				Yangshulin 783	3
		medium				Xicha 11	5
		large				Yunkang 10	7
28.	**VG**	**Flower: color of inner petals**					
PQ	**(d) (e)**	white					1
		greenish					2
		pink					3

		English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties/ Exemples/ Beispielssorten/ Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
29. (*)	**VG**	**Flower: ovary pubescence**					
QL	**(d) (e)**	absent					1
		present					9
30.	**VG**	**Flower: density of ovary pubescence**					
QN	**(d) (e)**	weak					3
		medium				Longjing 43	5
		strong				Qianmei 419	7
31.	**VG**	**Flower: length of style**					
QN	**(d) (e)**	short				Yangshulin 783	3
		medium				Biyun	5
		long				Xicha 11	7
32. (+)	**VG**	**Flower: position of style splitting**					
QN	**(d) (e)**	low					3
		medium					5
		high					7
33. (*) (+)	**VG**	**Flower: position of stigma relative to stamens**					
QN	**(d) (e)**	below				Yunkang 10	1
		same level				Qianmei 419	3
		above				Xicha 11	5

		English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties/ Exemples/ Beispielssorten/ Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
34.	**MG**	**Fermentation ability**					
(+)							
QN		weak				Longjing 43	3
		medium				Qianmei 419	5
		strong				Yunkang 10	7
35.	**MG**	**Caffeine content**					
(+)							
QN		absent or very low					1
		low					2
		medium					3
		high					4
		very high					5

8. Explanations on the Table of Characteristics

8.1 Explanations covering several characteristics

Characteristics containing the following key in the second column of the Table of Characteristics should be examined as indicated below

(a) Observations on the young shoot should be made in the first flush of the year.

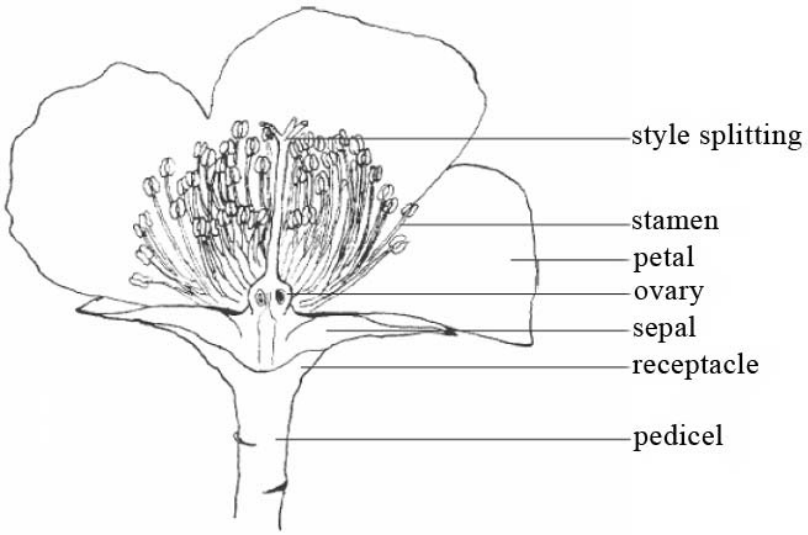
(b) Young shoot: diagram

'one and a bud' 'two and a bud' 'three and a bud'

(c) Observations on the leaf blade should be made in summer or autumn on fully developed leaves from the middle of a well-developed previous season shoot.

(d) All observations on the flower should be made on fully developed flowers at the blooming stage.

(e) Flower: diagram



8.2 Explanations for individual characteristics

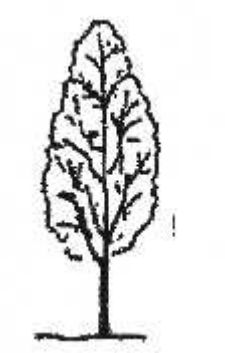
Ad. 1: Plant: vigor

The vigor of the plant should be considered as the overall abundance of vegetative growth.

Ad. 2: Plant: stem type

1
shrub

3
semi-arbor

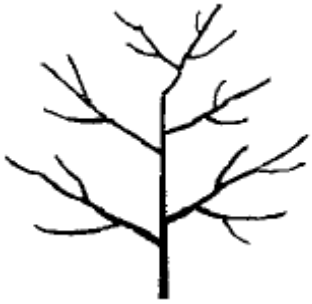


5
arbor

Ad. 3: Plant: growth habit

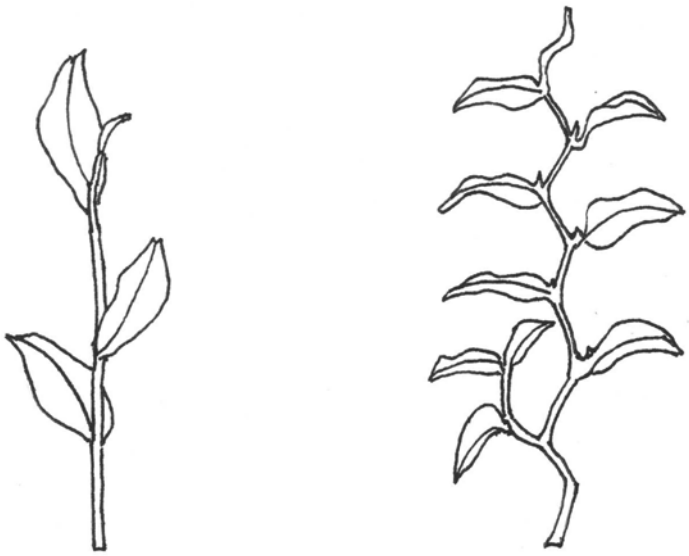
1
erect

3
semi-erect



5
spreading

Ad. 5: Branch: zigzagging



1
absent

9
present

Ad. 7: Young shoot: color of the second leaf at ‘two and a bud’ stage

1
whitish

2
yellow green

3
light green

4
medium green

5
purple green

Ad. 8: Young shoot: bud pubescence

1
absent

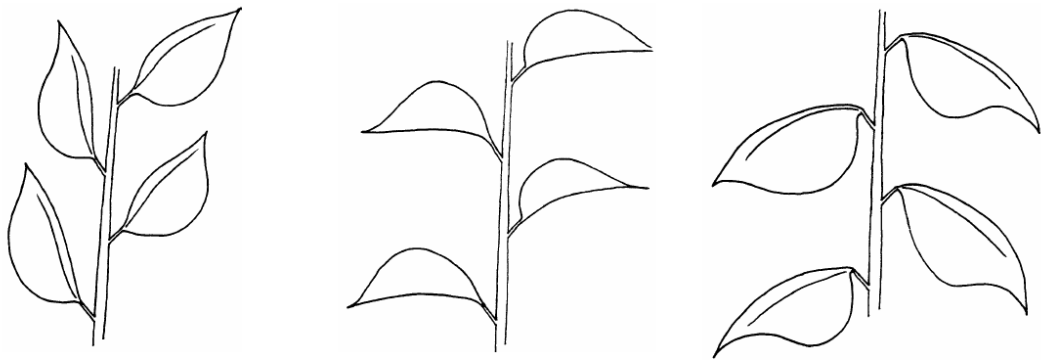
9
present

Ad. 10: Young shoot: anthocyanin coloration in the base of petiole

1
absent

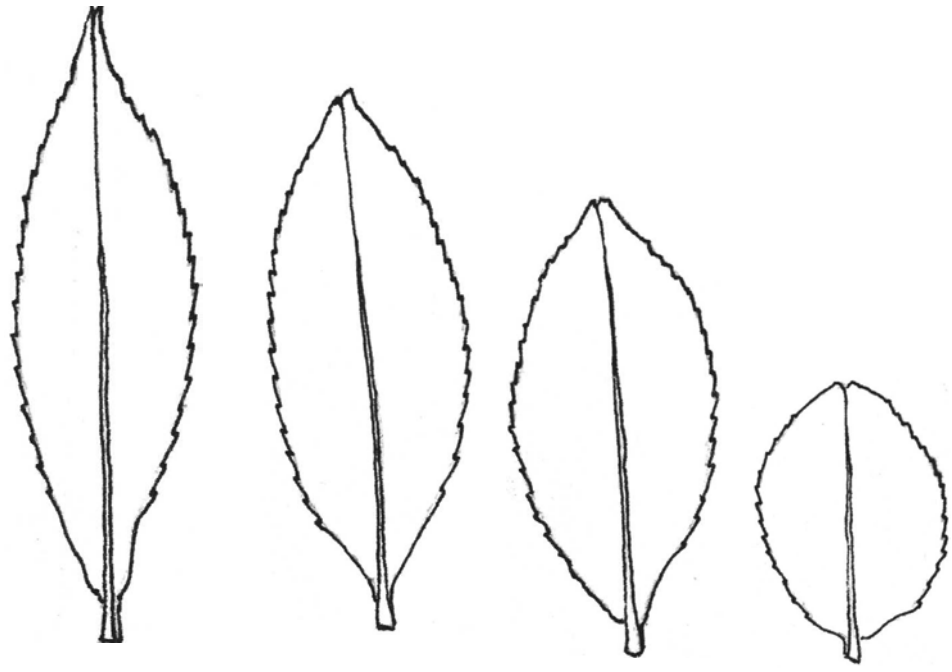
9
present

Ad. 12: Leaf: attitude



1	3	5
upwards	outwards	downwards

Ad. 15: Leaf blade: shape



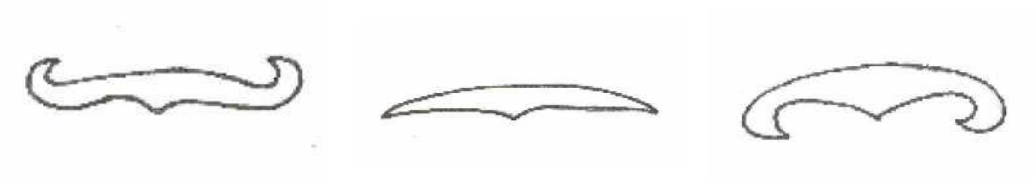
1	2	3	4
very narrow elliptic	narrow elliptic	medium elliptic	broad elliptic

state 1	very narrow elliptic	length/width ratio	>3.0
state 2	narrow elliptic		2.6-3.0
state 3	medium elliptic		2.0-2.5
state 4	broad elliptic		<2.0

Ad. 16: Leaf blade: color

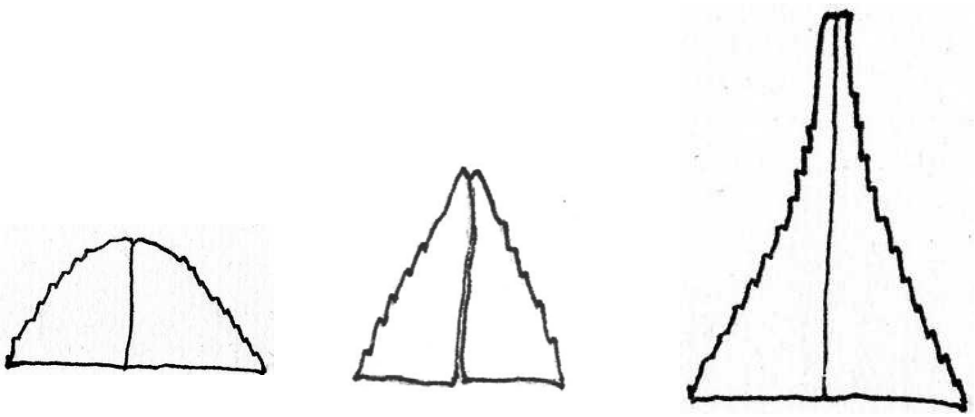
1	2	3	4
very light green	light green	medium green	dark green

Ad. 17: Leaf blade: cross section



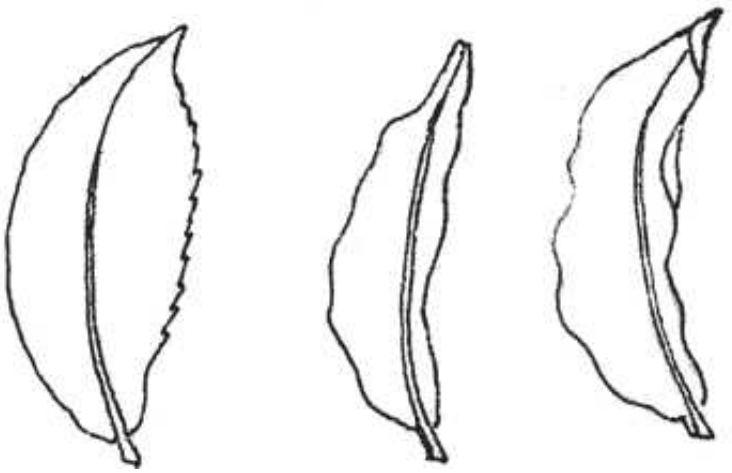
1	2	3
incurved	flat	recurved

Ad. 19: Leaf blade: length of acuminate tip



1	2	3
absent or short	medium	long

Ad. 20: Leaf blade: undulation of margin

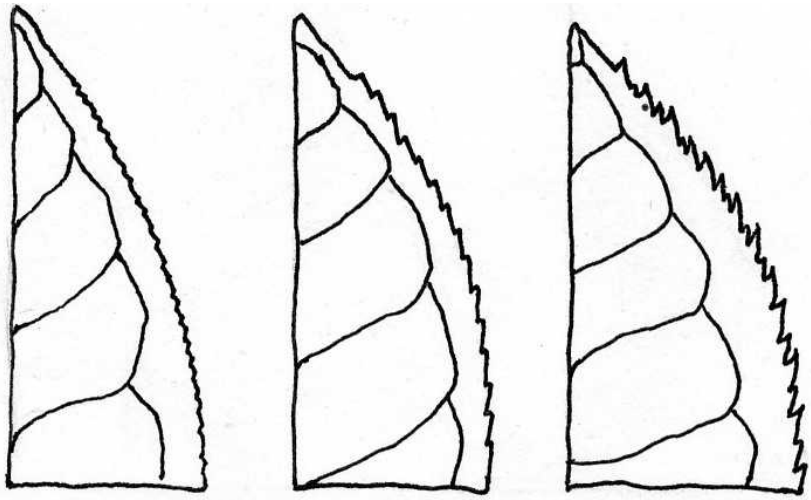


1
absent or weak

2
medium

3
strong

Ad. 21: Leaf blade: serration of margin

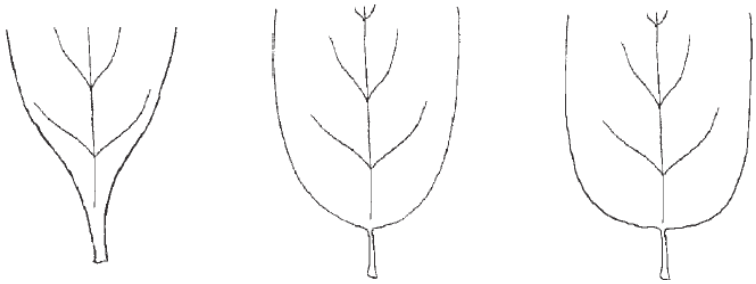


3
weak

5
intermediate

7
strong

Ad. 22: Leaf blade: base shape



1
acute

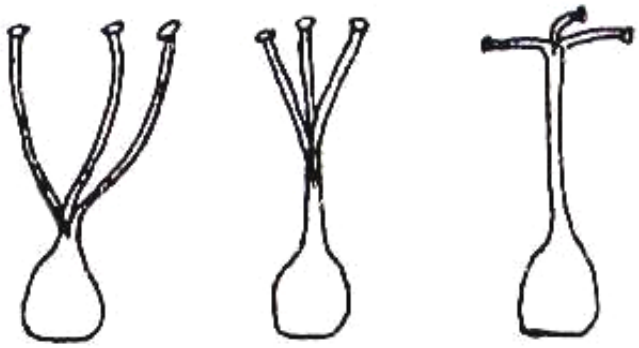
2
obtuse

3
rounded

Ad. 23: Flower: time of full flowering

The full flowering time is the time of about 50 percent flowers in blooming.

Ad. 32: Flower: position of style splitting



3
low

5
medium

7
high

Ad. 33: Flower: position of stigma relative to stamens

1
below

3
same level

5
above

Ad. 34: Fermentation ability

Determined by chloroform test. Inserting the 'two and a bud' young shoots onto a plate in an airtight container containing 1.5-2.0 cm depth chloroform, and then record the time of the shoots turning brown.

Ad. 35: Caffeine content

The measurement of caffeine content should be made using the "two and a bud" samples harvested from the first flush of the year. After harvesting, the shoots should be dried immediately by 120-125 C hot air and storage at room temperature till they are analyzed. Method ISO 10727:1995 'Tea and instant tea in solid form -- Determination of caffeine content -- Method using high-performance liquid chromatography' should be used.

absent or very low	<0.5%
low	0.6-2.0%
medium	2.1-3.5%
high	3.6-5.0%
very high	>5.0%

9. Literature

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Ming, T.L.: 1992 "A revision of *Camellia* Sect. *Thea*", Acta Botanica Yunanica, 14(2):115-132

10. Technical Questionnaire

TECHNICAL QUESTIONNAIRE	Page {x} of {y}	Reference Number:
		Application date: (not to be filled in by the applicant)

TECHNICAL QUESTIONNAIRE
to be completed in connection with an application for plant breeders' rights

1. Subject of the Technical Questionnaire

1.1.1 Botanical name	*Camellia sinensis* (L.) O. Kuntze	[ ]
1.1.2 Common name	Tea	
1.2.1 Other	(please state)	[ ]

2. Applicant

Name	
Address	
Telephone No.	
Fax No.	
E-mail address	
Breeder (if different from applicant)	

3. Proposed denomination and breeder's reference

Proposed denomination (if available)	
Breeder's reference	

TECHNICAL QUESTIONNAIRE	Page {x} of {y}	Reference Number:

[#]4. Information on the breeding scheme and propagation of the variety

4.1 Breeding scheme

Variety resulting from:

4.1.1 Crossing

(a) controlled cross [ ]
(please state parent varieties)

(b) partially known cross [ ]
(please state known parent variety(ies))

(c) unknown cross [ ]

4.1.2 Mutation [ ]
(please state parent variety)

4.1.3 Discovery and development [ ]
(please state where and when discovered and how developed)

4.1.4 Other [ ]
(please provide details)

4.2 Method of propagating the variety

(a) cuttings [ ]

(b) *in vitro* propagation [ ]

(c) other (state method) [ ]

[#] Authorities may allow certain of this information to be provided in a confidential section of the Technical Questionnaire.

TECHNICAL QUESTIONNAIRE	Page {x} of {y}	Reference Number:

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

	Characteristics	Example Varieties	Note
5.1 (2)	**Plant: stem type**		
	shrub	Longjing 43	1 [ ]
	semi-arbor	Qiamei 419	3 [ ]
	arbor	Yunkang 10	5 [ ]
5.2 (3)	**Plant: growth habit**		
	erect	Biyun	1 [ ]
	semi-erect	Hanlv	3 [ ]
	spreading	Yinghong 1	5 [ ]
5.3 (13)	**Leaf blade: length**		
	very short	Longjing Guazi	1 [ ]
	short	Biyun	3 [ ]
	medium	Qianmei 419	5 [ ]
	long	Yinghong 1	7 [ ]
	very long		9 [ ]
5.4 (27)	**Flower: diameter**		
	small	Yangshulin 783	3 [ ]
	medium	Xicha 11	5 [ ]
	large	Yunkang 10	7 [ ]

TECHNICAL QUESTIONNAIRE	Page {x} of {y}	Reference Number:

6. Similar varieties and differences from these varieties

Please use the following table and box for comments to provide information on how your candidate variety differs from the variety (or varieties) which, to the best of your knowledge, is (or are) most similar. This information may help the examination authority to conduct its examination of distinctness in a more efficient way.

Denomination(s) of variety(ies) similar to your candidate variety	Characteristic(s) in which your candidate variety differs from the similar variety(ies)	Describe the expression of the characteristic(s) for the **similar** variety(ies)	Describe the expression of the characteristic(s) for **your** candidate variety
Example	Leaf: attitude	*upwards*	*downwards*

Comments:

TECHNICAL QUESTIONNAIRE	Page {x} of {y}	Reference Number:

[#]7. Additional information which may help in the examination of the variety

7.1 In addition to the information provided in sections 5 and 6, are there any additional characteristics which may help to distinguish the variety?

Yes [ ] No [ ]

(If yes, please provide details)

7.2 Are there any special conditions for growing the variety or conducting the examination?

Yes [ ] No [ ]

(If yes, please provide details)

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 (b) is yes, please attach a copy of the authorization.

[#] Authorities may allow certain of this information to be provided in a confidential section of the Technical Questionnaire.

TECHNICAL QUESTIONNAIRE	Page {x} of {y}	Reference Number:

9. Information on plant material to be examined or submitted for examination.

9.1 The expression of a characteristic or several characteristics of a variety may be affected by factors, such as pests and disease, chemical treatment (e.g. growth retardants or pesticides), effects of tissue culture, different rootstocks, scions taken from different growth phases of a tree, etc.

9.2 The plant material should not have undergone any treatment which would affect the expression of the characteristics of the variety, unless the competent authorities allow or request such treatment. If the plant material has undergone such treatment, full details of the treatment must be given. In this respect, please indicate below, to the best of your knowledge, if the plant material to be examined has been subjected to:

(a) Microorganisms (e.g. virus, bacteria, phytoplasma) Yes [ ] No [ ]

(b) Chemical treatment (e.g. growth retardant, pesticide) Yes [ ] No [ ]

(c) Tissue culture Yes [ ] No [ ]

(d) Other factors Yes [ ] No [ ]

Please provide details for where you have indicated “yes”.

……

9.3 Has the plant material to be examined been tested for the presence of virus or other pathogens?

Yes [ ]

(please provide details as specified by the Authority)

No [ ]

10. I hereby declare that, to the best of my knowledge, the information provided in this form is correct:

Applicant’s name

Signature Date

[End of document]