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COMMENTS FOR THE REVISED VERSION OF TEST GUIDELINES FOR RICE

*Document prepared by experts from China*

## COMMENTS FOR THE REVISED VERSION OF TG FOR RICE

In general, the revised version of test guidelines for rice is better than TG/16/4, and is more suitable for the testing of new cultivated rice variety. Nevertheless, there are problems for testing of new sterile line and hybrid rice varieties.

1. As said in the rules of Conduct of Tests, “the minimum duration of tests should normally be two similar periods”, but in the Material Required, there are no requirement for applicant to offer information and material of the parents of a hybrid variety, therefore, the testing authority can not prepare the seed for next growing season. We suggest to add here such information: “ If requested, offer the breeding method for hybrid or sterile line rice, include the sowing time, duration and seed of parents, or offer the fresh seed of sterile line or hybrid rice variety.”
2. In the rules of Conduct Tests, there are no requirements for testing authority to establish an isolated environment for testing hybrid and sterile line rice, it can not guarantee to get pure seed, as result, it will affect the evaluation of the uniformity and stability. Therefore, we suggest adding the following: “To avoid pollen pollution from other rice varieties, some method or apparatus is needed during producing the seed for next test.”
3. Lack characteristics of sterile line, B-line, restoring line and hybrid rice, we suggest to add following characteristics in the table of characteristics:
  - a. lemma: opening maximum angle,
  - b. lemma: opening times,
  - c. flower: first opening time,
  - d. flower: last closing time,
  - e. anther: shape,
  - f. anther: color,
  - g. stigma: color
4. Suggesting to add the characteristic of ligula shape  
Penultimate leaf: shape of ligula  
Recommend grade: no, sharp, split, even
5. We think, using amylase content to distinguish the endosperm type (Number 33) is inappropriate. In general, the grade of endosperm type, as indicate in TG/16/4, is enough for distinguishing the endosperm type.
6. Rice is main agricultural product and staple food in Asia, but there is no rice variety from Asia to be listed as “ example variety”.

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