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GENEVA

**TECHNICAL WORKING PARTY  
FOR  
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**WORKING PAPER ON TEST GUIDELINES FOR COCKSFOOT**  
*(Dactylis glomerata L).*

*Document prepared by experts from France*

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I. Subject of these Guidelines

These Test Guidelines apply to all varieties of *Dactylis glomerata L.*

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 in which the testing takes place must make sure that all customs formalities are complied with. The minimum quantity of seed to be supplied by the applicant in one or several samples should be:

1.5 Kg.

The seed should at least meet the minimum requirements for germination capacity, moisture content and purity for marketing certified seed in the country in which the application is made. Especially for storage, which requires a higher standard, the applicant should state the actual germination capacity which should be as high as possible.

2. 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. The minimum duration of tests should normally be two similar growing periods.

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

3. The field tests should be carried out under conditions ensuring normal growth. The size of the plots should be such that plants or parts of plants may be removed for measuring and counting without prejudice to the observations which must be made up to the end of the growing period. Each test should include at least a total of 60 spaced plants and 10 meters of row. Separate plots for observation and for measuring can only be used if they have been subject to similar environmental conditions.

4. Plots with spaced plants. Each test should consist of 60 single spaced plants for varieties arranged in 3 or more replicates.

5. Row plots. Each test should consist of at least 10 meters of row arranged in 2 or 3 replicates. The density of sowing should be such that about 200 plants per meter can be expected.

6. Additional tests for special purposes may be established.

#### IV. Methods and observations

1. Unless otherwise stated, all observations on spaced plants should be made on 60 plants or parts taken from each of 60 plants.
2. Observations on rows should be made on each plot as a whole.
3. Where observations are also made in row plots, it is likely that the expression of the characteristic and its method of recording be different from the single spaced plants, as plants cannot be examined as discrete units.
4. Interpretation of results should be made according to the rules as stated in the general introduction to the Test Guidelines.

#### 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 are fairly evenly distributed throughout the collection.
2. It is recommended that the competent authorities use the following characteristics for grouping varieties:

Ploidy: (characteristic 1)

Plant: time of inflorescence emergence (in 2<sup>nd</sup> year), (characteristic 5)

Stem: length of longest stem (inflorescence included, when fully expanded)  
(characteristic 9)

#### VI. Characteristics and Symbols

1. To assess distinctness, uniformity and stability, the characteristics and their states as given in the Table of Characteristics should be used.
2. Notes (numbers), for the purposes of electronic data processing, are given opposite the states of the different characteristics. For each characteristic it is indicated whether 'spaced plants' (A) or 'row plots' (B) or 'special tests' (C) should be used.



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

	Plot <sup>1)</sup> Parcelle <sup>1)</sup> Parzelle <sup>1)</sup> Parcela <sup>1)</sup>	English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielssorten Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
<b>1.</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Ploidy</b>					
		Diploid				Konrad	2
		Tetraploid				Athos	4
<b>2.</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>Leaf: color (autumn of year of sowing)</b>					
		light green				Mobite	3
		medium green				Athos	5
		dark green					7
<b>3.</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>Foliage: fineness (autumn of year of sowing)</b>					
		fine				Medly	3
		medium				Athos	5
		coarse				Saborto	7
<b>4.</b> (+)	<b>A</b>	<b>Tendency to form inflorescences in year of sowing</b>					
	<b>B</b>	absent or very weak					1
		weak				Kid	3
		medium				Porthos	5
		strong					7
		very strong					9

Plot <sup>1)</sup> Parcelle <sup>1)</sup> Parzelle <sup>1)</sup> Parcela <sup>1)</sup>	English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielssorten Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
<b>5.</b> (* (+)	<b>A</b>	<b>Plant: time of inflorescence emergence (in 2<sup>nd</sup> year)</b>				
		very early				1
		early			Floréal	3
		medium			Lude	5
		late			Athos	7
		very late			Mobite	9
<b>6.</b> (+)	<b>A</b>	<b>Plant: growth habit at inflorescence emergence</b>				
		erect			Porthos	1
		semi-erect			Medly	3
		medium			Cambria	5
		semi-prostrate				7
		prostrate				9
<b>7.</b> (*	<b>A</b>	<b>Flag leaf: length (flag leaf on representative stem, within 2 weeks after inflorescence emergence)</b>				
		short			Lucifer	3
		medium			Saborto	5
		long			Porthos	7

	Plot <sup>1)</sup> Parcelle <sup>1)</sup> Parzelle <sup>1)</sup> Parcela <sup>1)</sup>	English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielssorten Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
<b>8.</b> (*)	<b>A</b>	<b>Flag leaf: width (same flag leaf as that used for 7)</b>					
		Narrow					3
		medium				Athos	5
		medium to wide				Saborto	7
<b>9.</b> (*)	<b>A</b>	<b>Stem: length of longest stem (inflorescence included; when fully expanded)</b>					
		short					
		medium				Lucifer	3
		long				Athos	5
						Lude	7
<b>10.</b> (*)	<b>A</b>	<b>Stem: length of upper internode</b>					
		short				Porthos	3
		medium				Athos	5
		medium				Lude	7
<b>11.</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Inflorescence: length (when fully expanded)</b>					
		short					
		medium				Athos	3
		medium				Lude	5
		medium				Porthos	7



## VIII. Explanations and Methods

### Ad 4: Plant: tendency to form inflorescences in the year of sowing

The number of plants showing at least three inflorescences should be recorded for each variety. To be assessed on one occasion on the whole trial when the varieties are judged to have reached their full expression of this characteristic.

### Ad 5: Plant: time of inflorescence emergence (in 2nd year)

#### A. Plots with spaced plants

The date of inflorescence emergence of each single plant should be assessed. A single plant is considered to have headed when the tip of three inflorescences can be seen protruding from the flag leaf sheath. From the single plant data a mean date per plot and a mean date per variety is obtained.

#### B. Row plots

At each observation date the average plot stage should be expressed in one of the following growth stages:

- 1) Boot swollen
- 2) Tip of inflorescence just visible
- 3) 1/4 of inflorescence emerged
- 4) 1/2 of inflorescence emerged

The date of inflorescence emergence is the date at which the average plot stage 2 has been reached. This date should - if necessary - be obtained by interpolation.

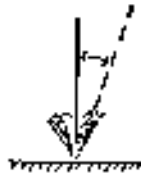
Ad 6: Plant: growth habit

The growth habit should be assessed visually from the attitude of the leaves of the plant as a whole. The angle formed by the imaginary line through the region of greatest leaf density and the vertical should be used.



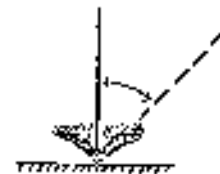
1

erect



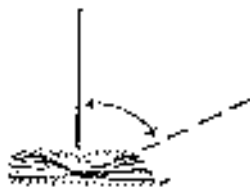
3

semi-erect



5

medium



7

semi-prostrate



9

prostrate

Ad 10: Stem: length of upper internode

The length should be measured, when the internode is fully expanded. The longest upper internode of each plant should be measured as the distance between the upper node and the basis of the inflorescence.

IX. Literature

No specific literature.

X. Technical Questionnaire

	Reference Number (not to be filled in by the applicant)
<p><b>TECHNICAL QUESTIONNAIRE</b> to be completed in connection with an application for plant breeders' rights</p>	
1. Species	<p><i>Dactylis glomerata L.</i>  COCKSFOOT</p>
2. Applicant (Name and address)	

3. Proposed denomination or breeder's reference

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

4.1 Genetic origin and breeding method

4.2 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
<b>5.1 Plant: time of inflorescence emergence (in 2<sup>nd</sup> year)</b> <b>(5)</b>		
very early		1[ ]
early	Floréal	3[ ]
medium	Lude	5[ ]
late	Athos	7[ ]
very late	Mobite	9[ ]
<b>5.2 Stem: length of longest stem (inflorescence included; when fully expanded)</b> <b>(9)</b>		
short	Lucifer	3[ ]
medium	Athos	5[ ]
long	Lude	7[ ]

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
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<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 pest and diseases

7.2 Special conditions for the examination of the variety

7.3 Other information

A representative color photo of the variety should be added to the Technical Questionnaire.

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.

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