



TWA/43/14

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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

Geneva

TECHNICAL WORKING PARTY FOR AGRICULTURAL CROPS**Forty-Third Session****Mar del Plata, Argentina, November 17 to 21, 2014****DRAFTER'S KIT FOR TEST GUIDELINES***Document prepared by the Office of the Union**Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance*

1. The purpose of this document is to present a proposal for a revision of document TGP/7 "Development of Test Guidelines" to reflect the introduction of the web-based TG Template in 2014.

2. The following abbreviations are used in this document:

CAJ:	Administrative and Legal Committee
TC:	Technical Committee
TC-EDC:	Enlarged Editorial Committee
TWA:	Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops
TWC:	Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs
TWF:	Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops
TWO:	Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees
TWV:	Technical Working Party for Vegetables
TWPs:	Technical Working Parties

BACKGROUND

3. The TC, at its fiftieth session, held in Geneva, from April 7 to 9, 2014, agreed that document TGP/7 Section 4.3: "Drafter's Kit for Test Guidelines" and Annex 4 "Collection of Approved Characteristics" should be revised, subject to the introduction of the web-based TG Template in 2014 (see document TC/50/36 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 70).

4. The TC noted that the Office would request all Leading Experts to participate in the testing of Version 1 of the web-based TG Template in May and June 2014. The TC also noted that the Leading and Interested Experts would be requested to use the web-based TG Template for the preparation of draft Test Guidelines for the forty-third session of the Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops (TWA), to be held in Mar del Plata, Argentina, from November 17 to 21, 2014. The TC approved the plans for the implementation of the web-based TG Template, including the exclusive use of the web-based TG Template for the development of all Test Guidelines from 2015, as set out in document TC/50/10, paragraphs 56 to 58, reproduced as follows (see document TC/50/36 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraph 15):

“Implementation

“56. The timetable for the preparation of Test Guidelines for the Technical Working Party sessions in 2014 is as follows:

Technical Working Party for:	Subgroup draft	Interested Experts' comments	Technical Working Party draft	Technical Working Party session
Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees (TWO)	February 8	March 8	April 5	May 19-23
Fruit Crops (TWF)	February 14	March 14	April 11	May 26-30
Vegetables (TWV)	March 14	April 11	May 9	June 23-27
Agricultural Crops (TWA)	August 8	September 15	October 3	November 17-21

“57. A mock-up of Version 1 of the web-based TG Template was developed and tested at the end of 2013, in conjunction with experts from Australia and the Netherlands, and the fully-functioning software will be tested by the same experts in March 2014. The Office of the Union will inform all Leading Experts of the development of the web-based TG Template and invite volunteers to test it for the development of Test Guidelines in 2014. In the case of the Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops (TWA), the web-based TG Template can be used to prepare the Subgroup drafts.

“58. In order to achieve the benefits of the web-based TG Template, it will be necessary for all Leading Experts and Interested Experts to use the web-based TG Template exclusively for the preparation of Test Guidelines for the Technical Working Parties. Therefore, the use of the web-based TG Template will be required for the preparation of all Test Guidelines from 2015. Training on the use of the web-based TG Template will initially be provided at the Technical Working Party sessions in 2014 and by means of e-workshops (see document TC/50/3 “Matters arising from the Technical Working Parties”).”

PROPOSAL

5. It is proposed to revise the wording of the following sections of document TGP/7 to reflect the introduction of the web-based TG Template:

- Section 1.3 “Structure of TGP/7”, paragraphs 3.1 to 3.3 on “Guidance for Drafting Test Guidelines”;
- Section 2.2 “Procedure for the Introduction of Test Guidelines”, Subsections 2.2.4.4 “Preparation of the Draft(s) by the Leading Expert with the Subgroup”, 2.2.5.3 “Requirements for draft Test Guidelines to be considered by the Technical Working Parties” and 2.2.6 “Submission of Draft Test Guidelines by the Technical Working Party”;
- Section 3 “Guidance for Drafting Test Guidelines”;
- Section 4.3 “Drafter’s Kit for the Test Guidelines”;
- Annex I “TG Template”.

6. It is also proposed to review the content of the TG Drafter’s webpage for consistency with the web-based TG Template.

7. Detailed proposals for a revision of document TGP/7 will be presented to the TC at its fifty-first session, to be held in Geneva, from March 23 to 25, 2015.

8. The TWA is invited to note the plans for a revision of document TGP/7 and the TG Drafter’s webpage for consistency with the introduction of the web-based TG Template in 2014, as set out in paragraphs 6 to 8.

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