

**Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops****TWA/49/2****Forty-Ninth Session  
Saskatoon, Canada, June 22 to 26, 2020****Original:** English  
**Date:** June 23, 2020

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**REPORT ON DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN UPOV***Document prepared by the Office of the Union**Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance*

The annex to this document contains a copy of a presentation on “Reports on Developments within UPOV” made by the Office of the Union at the forty-ninth session of the Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops (TWA).

[Annex follows]

Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops  
Forty-Ninth Session

REPORT ON DEVELOPMENTS IN UPOV

Office of the Union

*Hosted by Canada, June 22 to 26, 2020*

**UPOV**

International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants

## Preview

- COVID-19 measures
- Membership & statistics
- Report on regular activities of UPOV
- Communicating the benefits of UPOV
- UPOV PRISMA

**UPOV**

## COVID-19 measures

UPOV services continuing; remote work prioritized

- Remote **working arrangements** for the majority of the staff of the Office of the Union
- All **official travel** of the staff of the Office of the Union in March, April and May was cancelled.
- **Events and meetings** organized or co-organized by UPOV in Geneva
  - All events and meetings organized or co-organized by UPOV in Geneva during March, April and May took place by electronic means, or were postponed or cancelled. Participants have been notified accordingly.

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## COVID-19 measures

- **Events and meetings** organized or co-organized by UPOV **outside Geneva**
  - The Office of the Union will monitor the situation on a case by case basis, including in particular with each host of Technical Working Parties (TWPs), the TWP Chairpersons and the TC Chairperson. Further information will be provided in due course on any necessary measures and/or alternative arrangements for the meetings.
  - UPOV will continue to monitor the evolving situation and take all measures to ensure we align our activities with recommendations from local, regional and international authorities.

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## COVID-19 measures

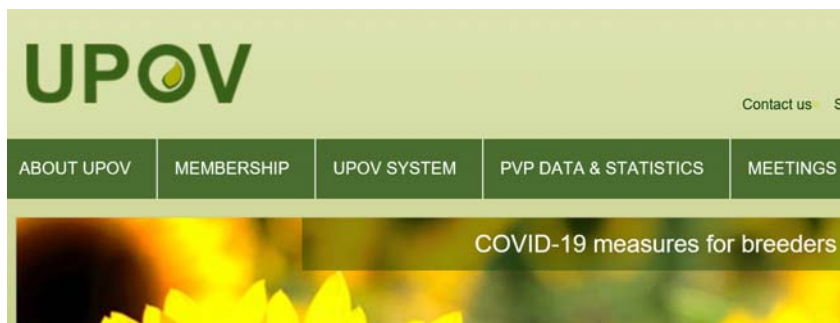
### DATES OF MEETINGS IN 2020

MARCH	Tuesday, 24 and Wednesday, 25	<a href="#">Enlarged Editorial Committee</a>	Geneva, Switzerland
	Thursday, 26 (afternoon)	<a href="#">Meeting on the Development of an Electronic Application Form</a>	Geneva, Switzerland
MAY	Monday, 11 to Friday, 15	<a href="#">Technical Working Party for Vegetables (TWV)</a>	Organized by electronic means
JUNE	Monday, 8 to Friday, 12	<a href="#">Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees (TWO)</a>	
	Monday, 22 to Friday, 26	<a href="#">Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops (TWA)</a>	
JULY	Monday, 6 to Friday, 10	<a href="#">Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops (TWF)</a>	
SEPTEMBER	Monday, 21 to Friday, 25	Joint session of the <a href="#">Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs (TWC)</a> and the <a href="#">Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA-Profiling in Particular (BMT)</a>	Alexandria, United States of America
OCTOBER	Sunday, 25 and Monday, 26 (evening)	<a href="#">Enlarged Editorial Committee</a>	Geneva, Switzerland
	Monday, 26 and Tuesday, 27	<a href="#">Technical Committee</a>	Geneva, Switzerland
	Monday, 26 (evening)	<a href="#">Meeting on the Development of an Electronic Application Form</a>	Geneva, Switzerland
	Wednesday, 28	<a href="#">Administrative and Legal Committee</a>	Geneva, Switzerland
	Thursday, 29	<a href="#">Consultative Committee</a>	Geneva, Switzerland
	Friday, 30	<a href="#">Council</a>	Geneva, Switzerland

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## COVID-19 measures

- Measures for Breeders ->dedicated webpage on the UPOV Website

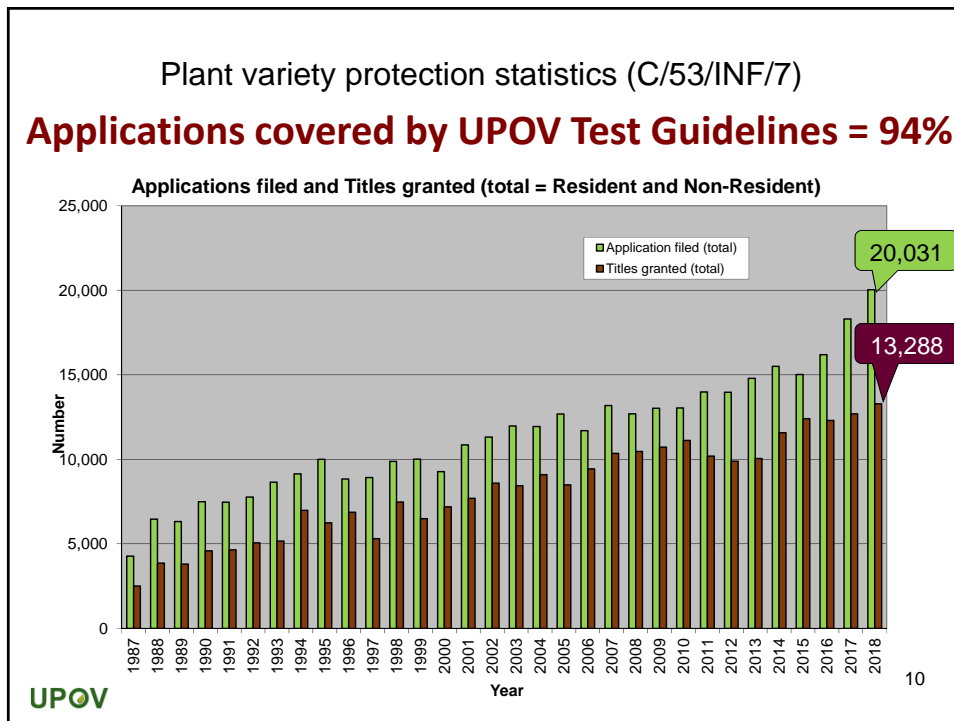
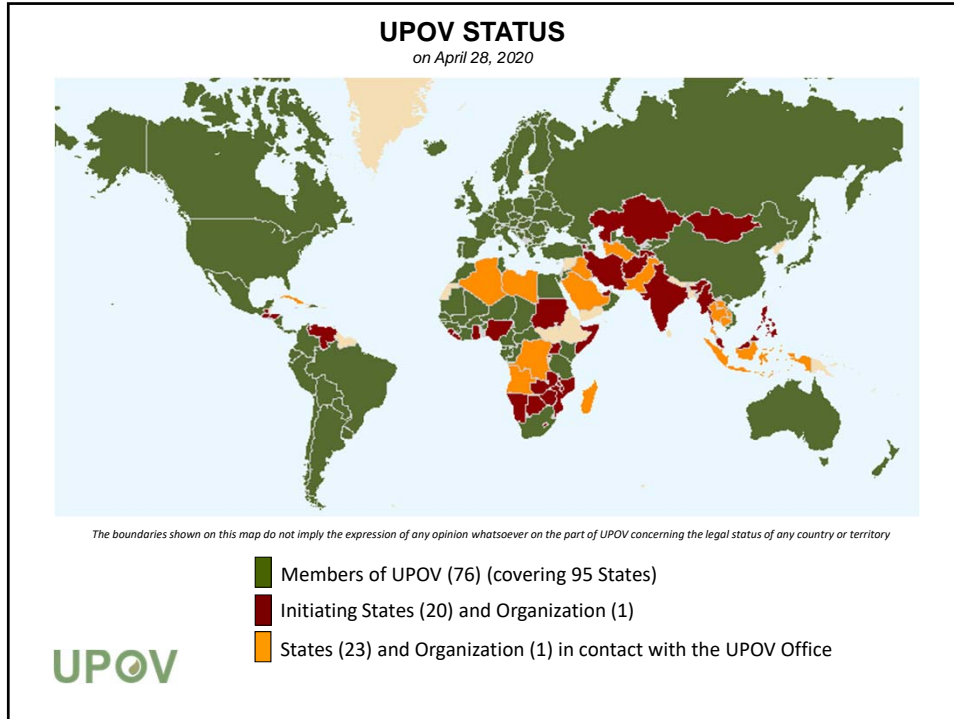


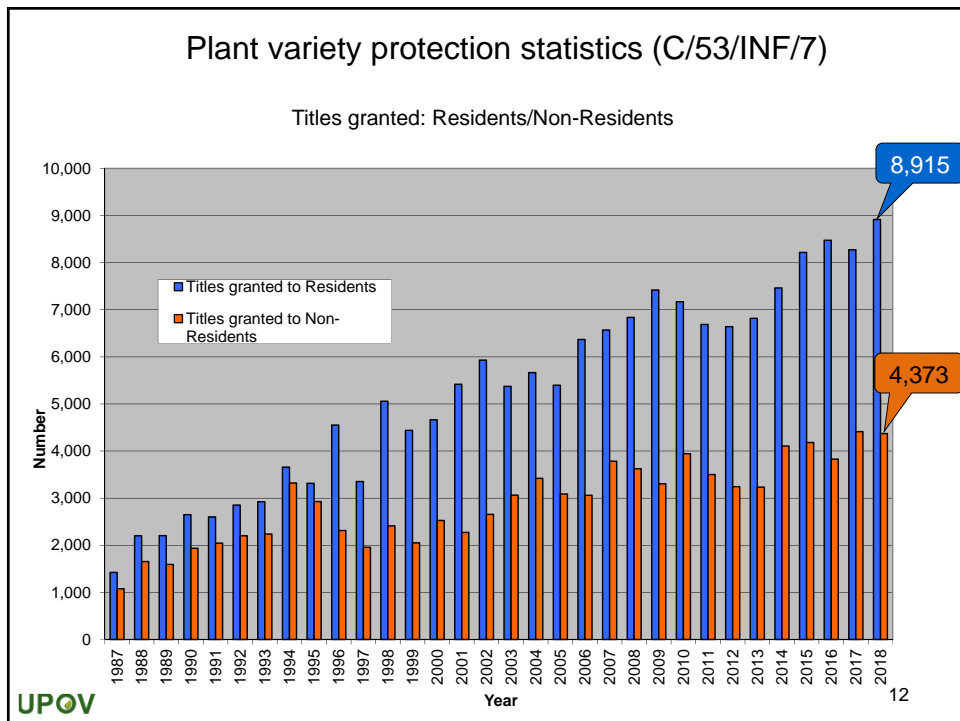
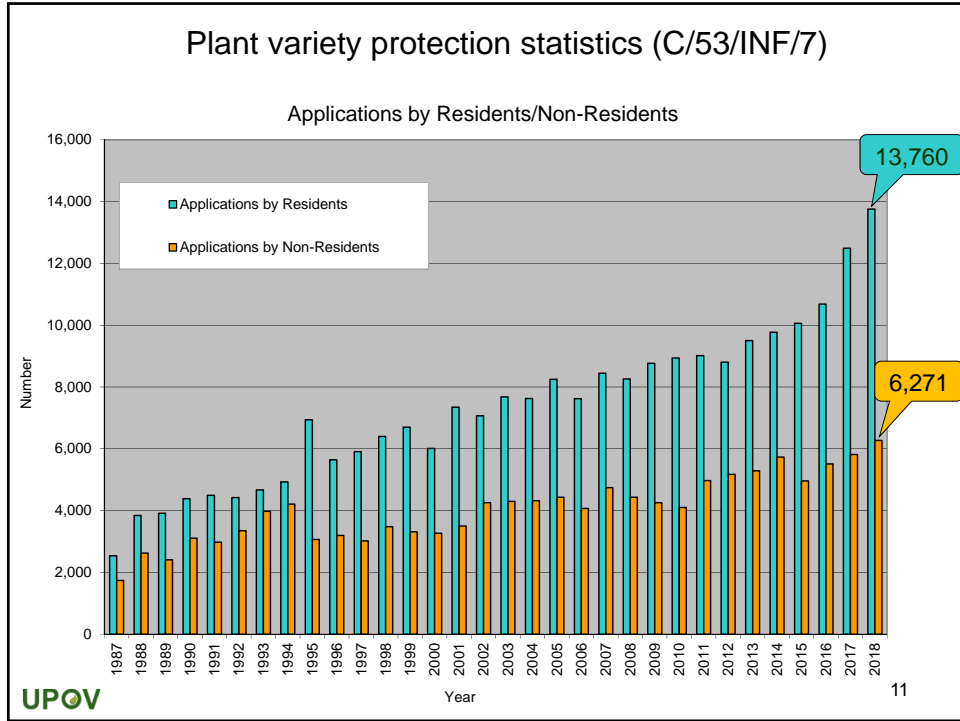
UPOV

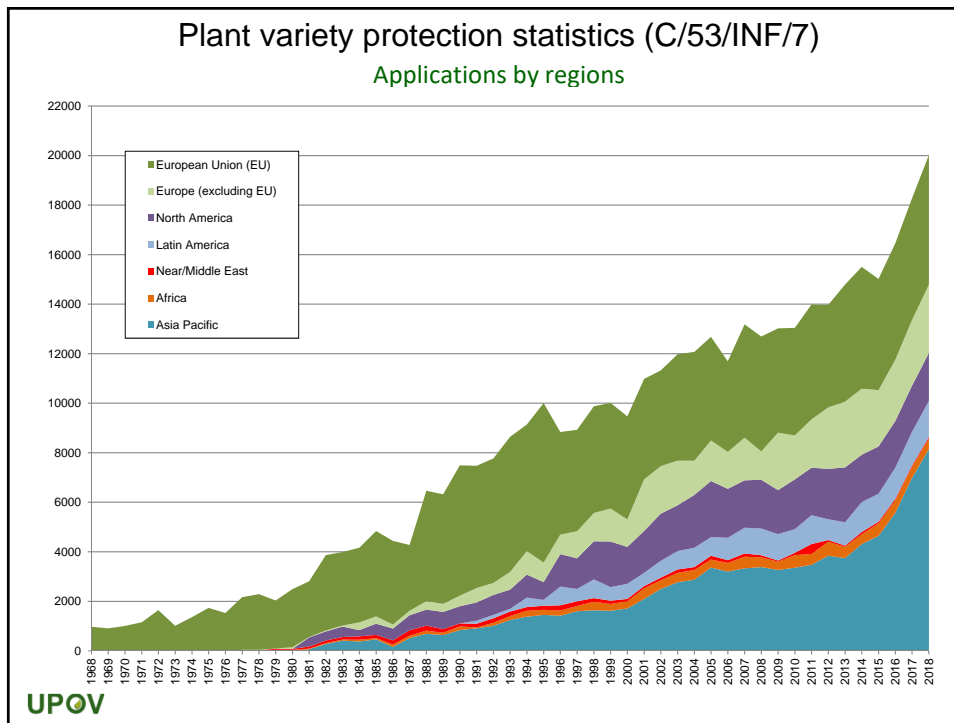
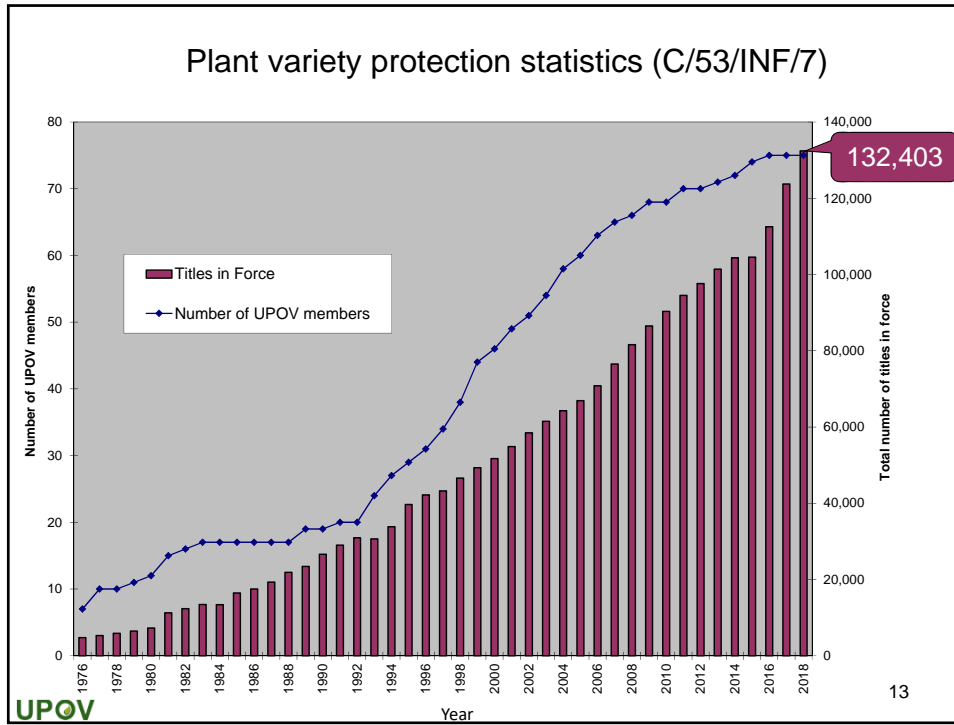
The screenshot shows the UPOV website's 'ABOUT UPOV' page. The header features the UPOV logo, a search bar, and navigation links for 'Contact us', 'Site map', 'YouTube', 'Twitter', and 'LinkedIn'. A green navigation bar contains links for 'ABOUT UPOV', 'MEMBERSHIP', 'UPOV SYSTEM', 'PVP DATA & STATISTICS', 'MEETINGS', and 'NEWS'. The main content area is titled 'HOME > ABOUT UPOV >' and 'COVID-19 measures for breeders'. It includes a disclaimer, a section for 'INTERNATIONAL BREEDERS' ORGANIZATIONS' with a link to the 'International Community of Breeders of Asexually Reproduced Ornamental and Fruit-Tree Varieties (ICOPORA)', and a section for 'UPOV MEMBERS' listing various countries and their respective PVP offices. A graphic for 'UPOV PRISMA' is also present, along with text explaining its function as an online service for PVP applications.

## Preview

- COVID-19 measures
- **Membership & statistics**
- Report on regular activities of UPOV
- Communicating the benefits of UPOV
- UPOV PRISMA









## UPOV Statistics on UPOV website

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**UPOV** welcomes Mr. Manabu Suzuki  
Technical/Regional Officer (Asia)  
[manabu.suzuki@upov.int](mailto:manabu.suzuki@upov.int)



**UPOV**

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The screenshot shows the UPOV website homepage. At the top right, there are links for "Contact us" and "Site map". Below this is a navigation menu with "UPOV SYSTEM", "PVP DATA & STATISTICS", "MEETINGS", and "NEWS". The main content area features a large image of sunflowers with the headline "UPOV update on COVID-19: UPOV services continuing; remote work prioritized". To the right of the image is a "Stakeholder features" section listing "Breeders", "Farmers and Growers", "Policy makers", and "General Public". Below that is a "UPOV PRISMA PBR Application Tool" section, followed by "GENIE Database", "UPOV Lex", and "Plant Variety Database (PLUTO)". A "Quick Links" section is located at the bottom right, containing "Introduction to UPOV", "Benefits of UPOV", "UPOV Collection", "UPOV PRISMA (Information)", and "Distance Learning Courses". A red arrow points to the "Distance Learning Courses" link. On the left side, there is a "Welcome" section with a brief introduction to UPOV and its mission. At the bottom left, there is a "Top of page" link and the UPOV logo. The page number "18" is visible at the bottom right.

## DL-205 Introduction to the UPOV System of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention

## DL-305 Advanced Distance Learning Courses

Registrations can be made in three different categories:

Category 1:  
Government officials of members of the Union nominated by the relevant representative to the UPOV Council  
No fee

Category 2:  
Officials of observer States / intergovernmental organizations nominated by the relevant representative to the UPOV Council  
(One non-fee paying student per State / intergovernmental organization;  
Additional students: CHF1,000 per student)

Category 3:  
Others  
Fee: CHF1,000



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### UPOV Distance Learning Courses

Code	Course	Session	Study period	Registration period
<a href="#">DL-205</a>	Introduction to the UPOV System of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention	Session 1	02-Mar to 05-Apr 2020	13-Jan to 16-Feb 2020
		Session 2	12-Oct to 15-Nov 2020	03-Aug to 13-Sep 2020
<a href="#">DL-305A</a>	Administration of Plant Breeders' Rights (Part A of DL-305 course: Examination of applications for plant breeders' rights)	Session 1	02-Mar to 05-Apr 2020	13-Jan to 16-Feb 2020
		Session 2	12-Oct to 15-Nov 2020	03-Aug to 13-Sep 2020
<a href="#">DL-305B</a>	DUS Examination (Part B of DL-305 course: Examination of applications for plant breeders' rights)	Session 1	02-Mar to 05-Apr 2020	13-Jan to 16-Feb 2020
		Session 2	12-Oct to 15-Nov 2020	03-Aug to 13-Sep 2020
<a href="#">DL-305</a>	Examination of applications for plant breeders' rights	Session 1	02-Mar to 05-Apr 2020	13-Jan to 16-Feb 2020
		Session 2	12-Oct to 15-Nov 2020	03-Aug to 13-Sep 2020

The UPOV Courses are hosted on the WIPO eLearning Center.



**+ Special Session of UPOV DL-205 course during COVID-19 situation  
(May 4 to June 7, 2020)  
at a discounted rate for students under the Category 3  
(breeders, IP managers, IP agents, lawyers, academics)**

**UPOV PLUTO** 

## PLUTO Plant Variety Database services are changing

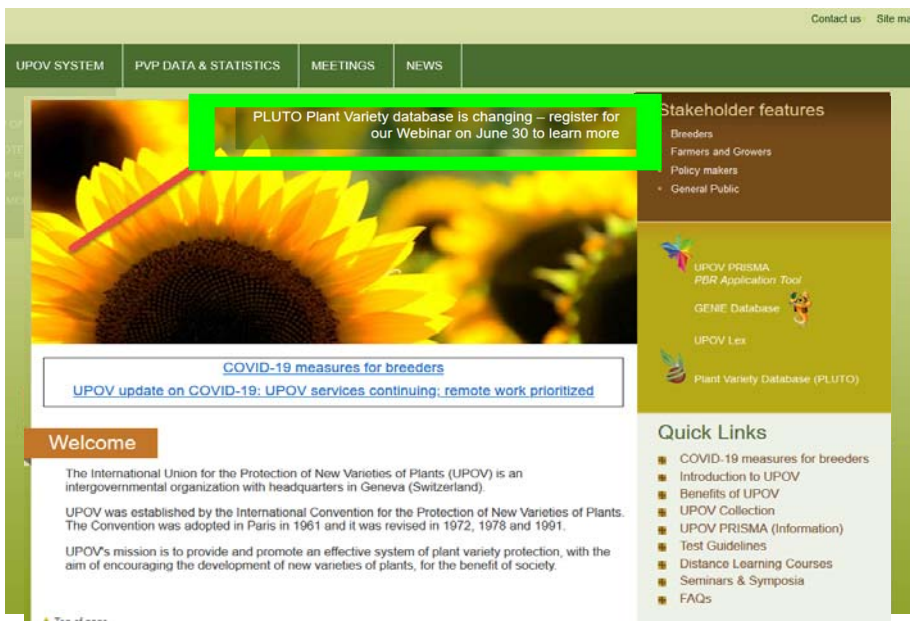
From November, the PLUTO database will provide two levels of service:

- **Free service:** users will be able to search the PLUTO database and display results.
- **Premium service:** there will be no restriction on the amount of data that can be downloaded and users will have new features. The annual fee will be CHF 750. Users will have the possibility to try the premium service for free during the month of October 2020.

(Note: UPOV members and data contributors will have free access to all PLUTO database “premium” features.)

**Register for the information Webinar  
June 30, 12.00 CEST  
from the UPOV Website Portal**

**UPOV**



The screenshot shows the UPOV website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for UPOV SYSTEM, PVP DATA & STATISTICS, MEETINGS, and NEWS. A banner at the top center features a sunflower image and a green box containing the text: "PLUTO Plant Variety database is changing – register for our Webinar on June 30 to learn more". Below the banner, there is a section for "COVID-19 measures for breeders" with a link to "UPOV update on COVID-19: UPOV services continuing; remote work prioritized". The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column has a "Welcome" section with text about UPOV's mission. The right column has a "Stakeholder features" section with links for Breeders, Farmers and Growers, Policy makers, and General Public. Below that is a "Quick Links" section with a list of links including COVID-19 measures for breeders, Introduction to UPOV, Benefits of UPOV, UPOV Collection, UPOV PRISMA (Information), Test Guidelines, Distance Learning Courses, Seminars & Symposia, and FAQs. The UPOV logo is visible at the bottom left of the page.

Contact us Site map

UPOV SYSTEM PVP DATA & STATISTICS MEETINGS NEWS

PLUTO Plant Variety database is changing – register for our Webinar on June 30 to learn more

[COVID-19 measures for breeders](#)  
[UPOV update on COVID-19: UPOV services continuing; remote work prioritized](#)

**Welcome**

The International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) is an intergovernmental organization with headquarters in Geneva (Switzerland).

UPOV was established by the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants. The Convention was adopted in Paris in 1961 and it was revised in 1972, 1978 and 1991.

UPOV's mission is to provide and promote an effective system of plant variety protection, with the aim of encouraging the development of new varieties of plants, for the benefit of society.

**Stakeholder features**

- Breeders
- Farmers and Growers
- Policy makers
- General Public

**Quick Links**

- COVID-19 measures for breeders
- Introduction to UPOV
- Benefits of UPOV
- UPOV Collection
- UPOV PRISMA (Information)
- Test Guidelines
- Distance Learning Courses
- Seminars & Symposia
- FAQs

**UPOV**

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## Preview

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The screenshot shows the UPOV website homepage. At the top, there is a banner for "UPOV Distance Learning Courses: Registration open" with a sunflower image. Below the banner is a "Welcome" section with introductory text about UPOV. To the right, there are "Stakeholder features" and "Quick Links" sections. A diagonal watermark reading "Benefits of UPOV" is overlaid on the page.

**UPOV Distance Learning Courses: Registration open**

**Stakeholder features**

- Breeders
- Farmers and Growers
- Policy makers
- General Public

**Welcome**

The International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) is an intergovernmental organization with headquarters in Geneva (Switzerland).

UPOV was established by the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants. The Convention was adopted in Paris in 1961 and it was revised in 1972, 1975.

UPOV's mission is to provide and promote an effective system of protection of plant breeders' rights in the aim of encouraging the development of new varieties of plants.

**Quick Links**

- Introduction to UPOV
- Benefits of UPOV
- UPOV Collection
- UPOV PRISMA (Information)
- Test Guidelines
- Distance Learning Courses
- Seminars & Symposia
- FAQs

**UPOV** [www.upov.int](http://www.upov.int)

## Benefits of UPOV

The grid contains the following video thumbnails:

- Tsuyahime Rice (Japan):** UPOV (Japan) Tsuyahime Rice. Title: UPOV TSUYAHIME RICE THE SECRET OF ITS SUCCESS. Description: A new rice variety bringing increased income for farmers in Japan.
- Rose Industry Blooming in Kenya:** UPOV (Kenya) Rose Industry Blooming in Kenya. Title: ROSE INDUSTRY BLOOMING IN KENYA. Description: Discover how the UPOV system enabled Kenya to develop a \$500 million cut flower industry that employs 850,000 Kenyans.
- Canadian cherry growers benefit from government policy:** UPOV (Canada) Canadian cherry growers benefit from government policy. Description: See how the Government of Canada uses PVP to improve the livelihood of Canadian cherry growers.
- Ashiro Rindo (Japan):** UPOV (Japan) PVP in Japan (Ashiro Rindo). Description: The story of a group of smallholder rice farmers that used PVP to develop an international brand business.
- China:** UPOV (China) Celebration of the 10th anniversary of the accession of China to UPOV Convention. Description: Celebration of the tenth anniversary of the accession of China to UPOV Convention.
- Colombia:** UPOV (Colombia) UPOV system bringing benefits for agriculture in Colombia. Title: DERECHOS DE OBTENTOR EN COLOMBIA. Description: See how the UPOV system is supporting agriculture and promoting rural development through new improved varieties, with examples of sugar beet and ornamentals.
- Argentina:** UPOV (Argentina) Using the UPOV system to benefit custodians of native wild germplasm in Argentina. Description: Using the UPOV system to benefit custodians of native wild germplasm in Argentina.
- Ecuador:** UPOV (Ecuador) PVP in Ecuador. Title: MUYU. Description: The role of PVP in the development of a new bioactive variety that improves farmers' working conditions.
- Uruguay:** UPOV (Uruguay) Plant variety protection in Uruguay. Description: How PVP enabled a public breeder to ensure a supply of high quality onion seed for farmers.

## UPOV Social Media



Follow us to find out more about how the UPOV system benefits farmers, growers and breeders worldwide and news on events, videos, reports and more.

[UPOV@UPOVint](#)

[PeterButton@vsgupov](#)



International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants

The screenshot shows the LinkedIn profile for the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV). The page header includes the LinkedIn logo and the URL <https://www.linkedin.com/company/upov-official/>. The profile banner features a close-up image of a sunflower. The company name "UPOV" is displayed in a green box, followed by the full name "International Union for the Protection of New..." and the location "International Affairs - Geneva - 127 followers". The company's mission statement is "Encouraging the development of new varieties of plants, for the benefit of society." Below this, there are buttons for "Follow" and "Visit website". The page also shows a navigation menu on the left with options like "Home", "About", "Jobs", and "People". The main content area includes an "Updates" section with a post from "International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants" dated 10mo, and an "Affiliated pages" section listing "UPOV PRISMA PBR Application Tool" with 106 followers. A "UPOV" logo is visible in the bottom left corner of the screenshot.

This collage illustrates UPOV's presence on social media and its technical focus. At the top, the text "UPOV on Social Media (focus on Technical matters)" is displayed. Below this, there are several elements:

- A Twitter profile for @UPOVint, featuring a sunflower image.
- A tweet from Peter Button (@vsigupov) dated Jul 5, discussing a TWF report from the Ministry of Agriculture in Hungary. Below the tweet is a pie chart titled "Structure of agricultural output" with the following data:

Category	Percentage
Wheat and grain	6.8%
Other animal products	2.1%
Meat	12.0%
Pigs	8.6%
Milk	7.3%
Cereals	3.3%
Grain, other	3.2%
Other vegetables	3.0%
Other fruits	1.6%
Other	4.8%
- A LinkedIn post from UPOV dated Aug 29, announcing a positive decision on Nigeria's draft law for plant variety protection. It includes a world map with a magnifying glass over Nigeria.
- A tweet from Peter Button dated Sep 11, mentioning the application of UPOV's DNA model for soybean testing in Argentina.
- A technical document titled "Use of SNP markers for soybean variety protection purposes in Argentina" with a green cover.

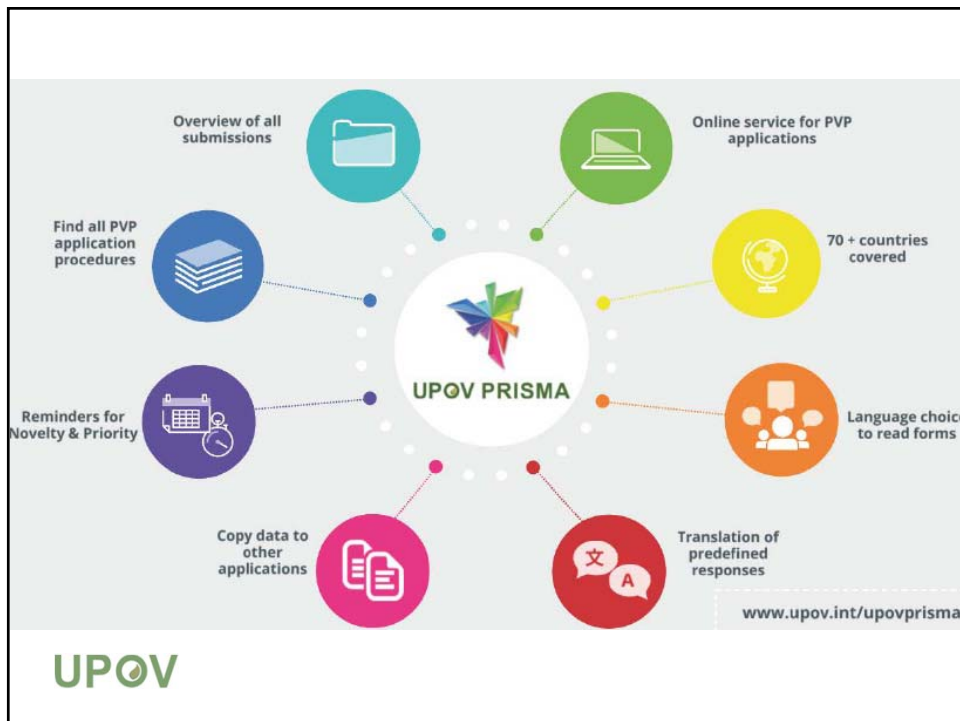
A "UPOV" logo is located in the bottom left corner of the collage.

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# UPOV PRISMA

*Online PBR Application Tool*

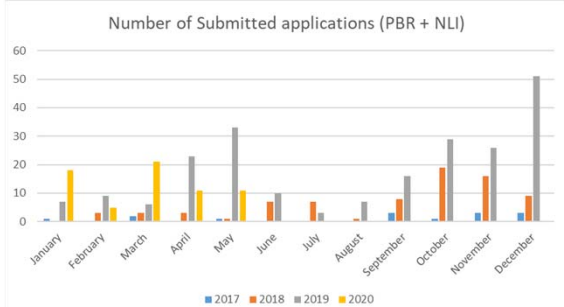


*The boundaries shown on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of UPOV concerning the legal status of any country or territory.*

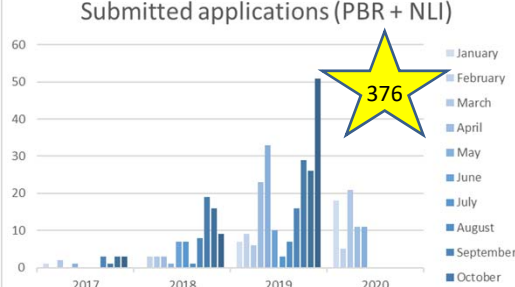
# UPOV PRISMA


as of 31.05.2020

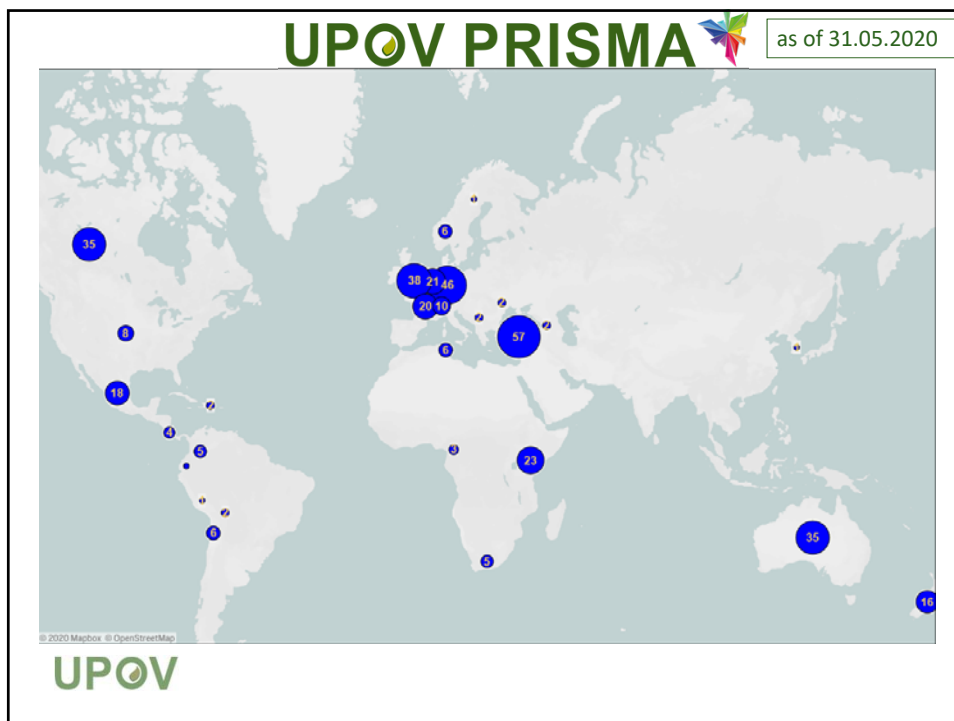
### Number of Submitted applications (PBR + NLI)



### Submitted applications (PBR + NLI)



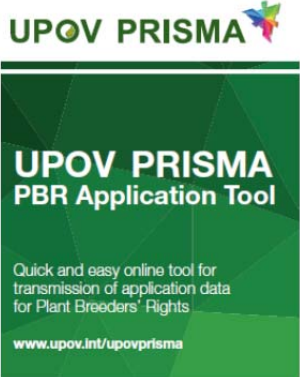






**CONTACT US!**

[prisma@upov.int](mailto:prisma@upov.int)



**UPOV PRISMA** 

**UPOV PRISMA**  
PBR Application Tool

Quick and easy online tool for  
transmission of application data  
for Plant Breeders' Rights

[www.upov.int/upovprisma](http://www.upov.int/upovprisma)

**LinkedIn** 

**twitter** 

**#upovprisma**

**UPOV**