

Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops

TWA/49/6

**Forty-Ninth Session
Saskatoon, Canada, June 22 to 26, 2020**

Original: English
Date: June 19, 2020

COMMENTS ON TGP DOCUMENTS

Document prepared by the Office of the Union

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1. The purpose of this document is to report the comments on TGP documents made by the Technical Working Party for Vegetables (TWV), at its fifty-fourth session, hosted by Brazil and held via electronic means, from May 11 to 15, 2020; and the Technical Working Party for Ornamental Crops and Forest Trees (TWO), at its fifty-second session, hosted by the Netherlands and held via electronic means, from June 8 to 12, 2020.

2. The structure of this document is as follows:

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3. The following abbreviations are used in this document:

- 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

DEVELOPMENT OF TGP AND INFORMATION (INF) DOCUMENTS

4. The TWV considered document TWP/4/1 (see document TWV/54/12 “Report”, paragraphs 30 to 32). The TWO considered documents TWP/4/1 “Development of TGP and information (INF) documents” and TWO/52/10 “Comments on TGP documents” (see document TWO/52/11 “Report”, paragraphs 8 to 25).

Matters for adoption by the Council in 2020

5. The TWO noted the matters concerning documents TGP/5, TGP/7, TGP/14, TGP/15, UPOV/INF/12, UPOV/INF/16 and UPOV/INF/22 to be proposed for adoption by the Council at its fifty-fourth ordinary session, to be held in Geneva on October 30, 2020, subject to approval by the CAJ, at its seventy-seventh session, to be held in Geneva on October 28, 2020.

6. The TWO agreed to propose the following editorial correction to the text of document TGP/5, Section 6:

- To capitalize first letter and add full stop at end of sentence to read: “(If the variety is distinct, uniform and stable.)”

7. The TWO agreed to propose the following editorial correction to the text of document TGP/7, section “Characteristics which only apply to certain varieties”:

- To delete quotation marks from state of expression to read: “(PQ) Only varieties with: Presence of hairs: Other than absent or very weak (1): Hair: color”

8. The TWO noted that the TC had agreed the proposal for revision of document TGP/5, Section 6, to be proposed for adoption by the Council at its fifty-fourth ordinary session, to be held in 2020. The TWO agreed to propose that the following changes were considered by the TC for a future revision of document TGP/5, Section 6:

Chapter: UPOV Report on Technical Examination

- Item 13 to read “Testing ~~station~~ site(s) and place(s)”
- New item: Date and document number of UPOV Test Guidelines
- New item: Date and/or document number of Reporting Authority’s test guidelines

Chapter: UPOV Variety Description

- Item 11 to read “Testing ~~station~~ site(s) and place(s)”

9. The TWO considered the explanation to item 16 “Similar Varieties and Differences from These Varieties”, as presented in the Annex to Chapter “UPOV Variety Description”. The TWO noted there were different interpretations among participants on the sentence: “Only those characteristics that show sufficient differences to establish distinctness should be given.” The TWO agreed to invite the European Union to make a presentation on “providing information on ‘Similar Varieties and Differences from These Varieties’” at its fifty-third session.

Possible future revisions of TGP documents and information documents

TGP/8: Trial Design and Techniques Used in the Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability

Data processing for the production of variety descriptions for measured quantitative characteristics

10. The TWV and TWO considered document TWP/4/10.

11. The TWV considered the different approaches to convert observations into notes for producing variety descriptions for measured quantitative characteristics, as presented in document TWP/4/10, Annexes III to VII, and information, if any, that could facilitate their application.

12. The TWV noted the comments provided by the European Union and Germany on the methods described in the Annexes of document TWP/4/10 and agreed to request the following additional information:

Annex III, French Method 2:

- Please describe what are the variables “a” and “B” in the regression model “ $Y = a + Bx$ ”;
- Please provide an explanation on the graphic “Example for the characteristic flowering time of sunflower” in particular whether each blue dot in the graphic is an example variety and how the blue dots are calculated (a value per variety but calculated over years?).
- Please clarify the scale of the graph. Note 10 should not be possible according to the characteristic

Annex IV, Japanese method:

- Please clarify whether the word “distance” used in the text means “width of class”

Annex VI, German method, slide 16:

- Please clarify whether the difference between the states of expression is always the same (6 cm);
- Please clarify whether example varieties are taken into account.

13. The TWO considered the different approaches to convert observations into notes for producing variety descriptions for measured quantitative characteristics, as presented in document TWP/4/10, Annexes III to VII, and agreed that the approaches were primarily aimed at species with larger sample sizes and multi-year data sets, which was not often the case for ornamental species.

New proposals for revisions of TGP documents and information documents

TGP/7: Development of Test Guidelines

Links to relevant TGP documents guidance in Test Guidelines

14. The TWO noted the invitation to the TWPs to propose relevant guidance in TGP documents that could have links displayed in Test Guidelines.

15. The TWO agreed that the following links should be considered for inclusion in Test Guidelines:

- Chapter 4.1.3 “Clear Differences” - link to document “General Introduction” (document TG/1/3);
- Chapter 4.2 “Uniformity” – links to documents “General Introduction” (document TG/1/3) and TGP/13 “Guidance for new types and species” for advice on using the Test Guidelines for varieties with other types of propagation;
- Chapter 5.4 “Guidance for the use of grouping characteristics” - links to documents “General Introduction” (document TG/1/3) and TGP 9 “Examining Distinctness”.
- Chapter 8.2 “Explanations for individual characteristics” - link to document TGP 14 “Glossary of terms used in UPOV documents”, section 2: Botanical terms, to avoid inconsistencies between Test Guidelines in relation to explanations for simple characteristics.

[End of document]