

**Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops**

**TWA/52/10**

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**COMMENTS ON GUIDANCE AND INFORMATION MATERIALS**

*Document prepared by the Office of the Union*

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1. The purpose of this document is to report the comments on guidance and information materials made by the Technical Working Party for Vegetables (TWV)<sup>1</sup> at its session in 2023.

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
- TWM: Technical Working Party on Testing Methods and Techniques
- TWO: Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees
- TWV: Technical Working Party for Vegetables
- TWPs: Technical Working Parties

<sup>1</sup> At its fifty-seventh session, held in Antalya, Türkiye, from May 1 to 5, 2023

## DEVELOPMENT OF GUIDANCE AND INFORMATION MATERIALS

4. The TWV considered document TWP/7/2.

Document TGP/7 “Development of Test Guidelines”

*Example varieties for asterisked quantitative characteristics when illustrations are provided*

5. The TWV considered the situations described by the TWO as the basis to develop guidance on possible exceptions to the requirement to provide example varieties for asterisked quantitative characteristics when illustrations were provided (see document TWV/57/26 “Report”, paragraphs 11 to 13).

6. The TWV recalled that, at its fifty-sixth session, it had agreed as follows (see document TWV/56/22 “Report”, paragraph 9):

“The TWV agreed that example varieties should continue to be provided for asterisked quantitative characteristics for vegetable crops. The TWV agreed that example varieties could be easily provided for vegetable crops and were useful for harmonizing DUS examination and producing variety descriptions. The TWV recalled that guidance in document TGP/7 required example varieties for three or two states of expression, according to the scale of notes used.”

7. The TWV agreed that example varieties were important for training for DUS experts and plant breeders using Test Guidelines. The TWV agreed that illustrations should be used to complement example varieties in explanations and whenever plant material of a particular variety was not available.

*Disease resistance characteristics: Addition of state of expression and placement of non-asterisked disease resistance characteristics in Section 5 of the Technical Questionnaire*

8. The TWV agreed to amend document TGP/7 GN 13 “Characteristics with specific functions” to clarify that disease resistance characteristics not indicated with an asterisk in the table of characteristics may be presented in Section 5 of Technical Questionnaires (TQ) with the addition of a state of expression “not tested”, as set out in document TWP/7/2, paragraph 21, when the characteristic was not used as a grouping characteristic (see document TWV/57/26 “Report”, paragraph 14).

Document TGP/12 ‘Guidance on certain physiological characteristics’

*Example disease resistance characteristic: Word “highly” in only one state of expression*

9. The TWV considered whether to revise the states of expression in the example characteristic in document TGP/12/2, Section 2.3.2, to address the use of the word “highly” in only one state of expression (see document TWV/57/26 “Report”, paragraphs 15 and 16).

10. The TWV noted that the characteristic from the Test Guidelines for Melon used as example in document TGP/12/2, Section 2.3.2, was under revision. The TWV agreed that the example characteristic in document TGP/12 should be amended as in the proposed revision of TG melon, to read as follows:

<b>70. VG</b>	<b>Resistance to <i>Podosphaera xanthii</i> (Px) (ex <i>Sphaerotheca fuliginea</i>) (Powdery mildew)</b>		
<b>70.1</b>	<b>Race 1 (Px: 1)</b>		
<b>(+)</b>			
<b>QN</b>	absent or low	Védrantais	1
	medium	Escrito	2
	high	Arum	3

Document UPOV/EXN/DEN/1 “Explanatory Notes on Variety Denominations under the UPOV Convention”

11. The TWV considered document TWP/7/4.

*Amending variety denomination classes for Brassica*

12. The TWV agreed to propose the amendments to the variety denomination classes for *Brassica*, as set out in document TWP/7/4, paragraph 13 (see document TWV/57/26 “Report”, paragraph 37).

*New variety denomination classes for Allium*

13. The TWV agreed to propose the creation of new variety denomination classes within the genus *Allium*, as set out in document TWP/7/4, paragraph 15 (see document TWV/57/26 “Report”, paragraph 38).

*Beta vulgaris*

14. The TWV agreed to propose the creation of variety groups Fodder Beet; Garden Beet; Leaf Beet; and Sugar Beet for *Beta vulgaris* ssp. *vulgaris*, as set out in document TWV/57/18, Annex I, and reproduced as follows (see document TWV/57/26 “Report”, paragraph 41):

UPOV code	BOTANICAL NAMES	GRIN	Proposed Group name
BETAA_VUL_GVA	<i>Beta vulgaris</i> L. ssp. <i>vulgaris</i> var. <i>alba</i> DC. <i>Beta vulgaris</i> L. ssp. <i>vulgaris</i> var. <i>crassa</i> Alef.; <i>Beta vulgaris</i> L. ssp. <i>vulgaris</i> var. <i>crassa</i> Mansf.; <i>Beta vulgaris</i> L. ssp. <i>vulgaris</i> var. <i>rapacea</i> K. Koch	Beta vulgaris L (Fodder Beet Group)	Beta vulgaris L. (Fodder Beet Group)
BETAA_VUL_GVC	<i>Beta vulgaris</i> L. ssp. <i>vulgaris</i> var. <i>conditiva</i> Alef. <i>Beta vulgaris</i> L. ssp. <i>vulgaris</i> var. <i>esculenta</i> L.; <i>Beta vulgaris</i> L. ssp. <i>vulgaris</i> var. <i>hortensis</i>	Beta vulgaris L (Garden Beet Group)	Beta vulgaris L (Garden Beet Group)
BETAA_VUL_GVF	<i>Beta vulgaris</i> L. ssp. <i>vulgaris</i> var. <i>flavescens</i> DC. f. <i>crispa</i> <i>Beta vulgaris</i> L. ssp. <i>vulgaris</i> var. <i>cicla</i> (L.) Ulrich; <i>Beta vulgaris</i> L. ssp. <i>vulgaris</i> var. <i>vulgaris</i>	Beta vulgaris L (Leaf Beet Group)	Beta vulgaris L (Leaf Beet Group)
BETAA_VUL_GVS	<i>Beta vulgaris</i> L. ssp. <i>vulgaris</i> var. <i>saccharifera</i> Alef. <i>Beta vulgaris</i> L. ssp. <i>vulgaris</i> var. <i>altissima</i> Doell	Beta vulgaris L (Sugar Beet Group)	Beta vulgaris L (Sugar Beet Group)

*Zea mays*

15. The TWV agreed to create variety groups for the UPOV code ZEAAA\_MAY\_MAY replacing infra-specific botanical names, as set out in document TWP/7/7, paragraph 12 (see document TWV/57/26 “Report”, paragraph 49).

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