

Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops

TWA/55/9

Fifty-Fifth Session
Seoul, Republic of Korea, June 15 to 18, 2026

Original: English
Date: June 9, 2026

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)¹.

REVISION OF DOCUMENT TGP/7 “DEVELOPMENT OF TEST GUIDELINES”: NUMBER OF GROWING CYCLES AND CONCLUDING EXAMINATION

2. The TWV considered the proposed amendments to document TGP/7 “Development of Test Guidelines”, to amend the universal standard wording for “number of growing cycles” and when the testing of a variety may be concluded, as set out in document TWP/10/1, paragraphs 12 to 14 (see document TWV/60/8 “Report”, paragraphs 8 to 10).

3. The TWV noted the comment from France on whether the term “generally” could lead to different interpretations on duration of tests to be conducted as two growing cycles. The TWV agreed that the wording for number of growing cycles should provide flexibility for authorities to conclude examination while maintaining harmonized procedures as much as possible.

4. The TWV agreed with the proposal to amend the additional standard wording of Test Guidelines, as set out in document TWP/10/1 to read as follows:

“(a) Single growing cycle:

“The minimum duration of tests should normally generally be a single growing cycle. The testing of a variety may be concluded when the competent authority can determine with certainty the outcome of the test”

“(b) Two independent growing cycles:

“The minimum duration of tests should normally generally be two independent growing cycles. The testing of a variety may be concluded when the competent authority can determine with certainty the outcome of the test”

[End of document]

¹ TWV, sixtieth session, held in Pacific Grove, California, United States of America, from May 18 to May 21, 2026