



TWC/33/11

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TECHNICAL WORKING PARTY ON AUTOMATION AND COMPUTER PROGRAMS

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GUIDANCE FOR DRAFTERS OF TEST GUIDELINES

Document prepared by the Office of the Union

Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The purpose of this document is to present a proposal for updating the content of the TG Drafters' webpage of the UPOV website on guidance for drafters of Test Guidelines.

2. The TWC is invited to consider the plan to update the TG drafters' webpage to provide the following information:

- (a) Additional characteristics
- (b) Summary information on quantity of plant material required on adopted Test Guidelines
- (c) Test Guidelines under development (reference to document TC/[xx]/2)
- (d) Shapes extract from document TGP/14
- (e) Web-based TG Template

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
TWPs:	Technical Working Parties
TWV:	Technical Working Party for Vegetables

4. The structure of this document is as follows:

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CURRENT GUIDANCE

5. Guidance for drafters of Test Guidelines is currently available on the TG drafters' webpage of the UPOV web site as follows:

The screenshot shows the UPOV website header with the logo and the text 'INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS'. Below the header is a navigation menu with links: 'ABOUT UPOV', 'MEMBERSHIP', 'UPOV SYSTEM', 'PVP DATA & STATISTICS', 'MEETINGS', and 'NEWS'. The 'MEETINGS' link is highlighted in yellow. Below the navigation menu is a sidebar with a 'MEETINGS' section containing links: 'Home', 'Calendar of Meetings', 'Meeting Documents', 'Seminars & Symposia', 'Restricted area', and 'Search Documents'. The main content area is titled 'TG DRAFTERS WEBPAGE' and includes a breadcrumb trail: 'HOME » TEMPORARY RESTRICTED AREAS ». Below this are several links: 'Additional Characteristics', 'Test Guidelines under development', and four links for 'TWA', 'TWF', 'TWO', and 'TWV'. There are also links for 'Practical Guide for Drafters of Test Guidelines', 'Electronic TG Template', 'Adopted Test Guidelines in Word Format', and 'General Introduction to DUS'. A section for 'TGP/7 Development of Test Guidelines' includes a PDF icon and links for 'EN FR DE ES', 'TGP/7 Annex 4', '- User Notes', '- Index', and '- Collection of Approved Characteristics'. A 'NEW' section contains a link for 'Summary information on quantity of plant material required on adopted Test Guidelines'. The 'TGP/14 Supplement' section includes a PDF icon and links for 'EN FR DE ES'. The 'TGP/14' section includes a PDF icon and links for 'EN FR DE ES' and '- SHAPES Extract'.

GUIDANCE INCORPORATED IN THE WEB-BASED TG TEMPLATE

6. Most of the guidance available on the TG drafters' webpage has been, or will be, incorporated in the web-based TG Template. For example, links to relevant guidance from documents TGP/7 and TGP/14 are provided in the web-based TG Template for each item in the Test Guidelines. A report on developments on the web-based TG Template is provided in the document TWC/33/12 "Revision of document TGP/7: Drafter's Kit for Test Guidelines".

INFORMATION NOT INCLUDED IN THE WEB-BASED TG TEMPLATE

Additional Characteristics

7. Additional characteristics not included in UPOV Test Guidelines that have been used by members of the Union in the examination of DUS and which should be considered for inclusion in future Test Guidelines should be notified to the Office of the Union by means of document TGP/5 Section 10 (see http://www.upov.int/edocs/tgpdocs/en/tgp_5_section_10.pdf).

8. Proposals for additional characteristics and states of expression notified to the Office of the Union will be presented to the relevant TWP(s) at the earliest opportunity with information on the extent of use of the characteristic. The characteristics will then, as appropriate, be posted on the TG Drafters' webpage of the UPOV website on the basis of comments made by the relevant TWP(s), and/or the TWP(s) may initiate a revision or a partial revision of the Test Guidelines concerned.

9. As of April 2015, the following additional characteristics had been posted on the TG Drafters' webpage:

- Blueberry: "Leaf: glaucosity"; and "Fruit: ratio height/width"
- Field Bean: "Content of vicine/convicine"
- Mandarin: "Fruit: number of seeds (controlled manual crosspollination)"

Summary information on quantity of plant material required on adopted Test Guidelines

10. The TG drafters' webpage provides information on the quantity of plant material required in adopted Test Guidelines in order to allow drafters to consider similar crops and seek consistency as far as that was appropriate. A summary of the following information is available as a Microsoft Excel file on the TG Drafters' webpage:

Chapter 2.3	Minimum quantity of plant material to be supplied by the applicant
Chapter 3.1	Number of growing cycles
Chapter 3.4.1	Each test should be designed to result in a total of at least X plants
Chapter 3.5	Number of plants for special tests (e.g. disease resistance)
Chapter 4.1.4	Number of plants / parts of plants to be examined for distinctness
Chapter 4.2	Number of plants to be examined for uniformity

PLANS FOR UPDATING THE TG DRAFTERS' WEBPAGE

11. It is planned that the TG drafters' webpage will be updated in 2015 to provide the following information:

Web-based TG Template
Additional characteristics
Summary information on quantity of plant material required on adopted Test Guidelines
Test Guidelines under development (reference to document TC/[xx]/2)
Shapes extract from document TGP/14

12. The TWC is invited to consider the plan to update the TG drafters' webpage to provide the information as set out in paragraph 11 of this document.

[End of document]