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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS
Geneva

TECHNICAL WORKING PARTY ON AUTOMATION AND COMPUTER PROGRAMS

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THE NEW PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION IMAGE ANALYSIS SYSTEM IN CHINA

Document prepared by an expert from China

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1. The Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs (TWC), at its thirty-second session, held in Helsinki, Finland, from June 3 to 6, 2014, received a presentation from China on "PVP Database in China", as set out in Annex II to document TWC/32/6. The TWC noted that the new software included modules for the management of applications, variety description database, data analysis and image analysis. The TWC agreed to request China to make a presentation on the particular features of the software, including image analysis, at its thirty-third session (see document TWC/32/28 "Report", paragraph 82).
2. The Annex to this document contains a copy of a presentation on "the new plant variety protection image analysis system in China" that was made at the thirty-third session of the TWC.

[Annex follows]



Introduction

The image analysis system for agricultural new plant variety protection is one of the important components of crop computer analysis system (DUSP) for the protection of new varieties of agricultural crops.

It is mainly used for collecting the visual images during plant different growing stages and through computer image processing technology, the characteristics such as the plant shape, size, color value, color distribution were quantified, analyzed and matched, so as to help us carry out the new plant variety test or identification work more comprehensively, accurately and quickly.

Main modules of the system

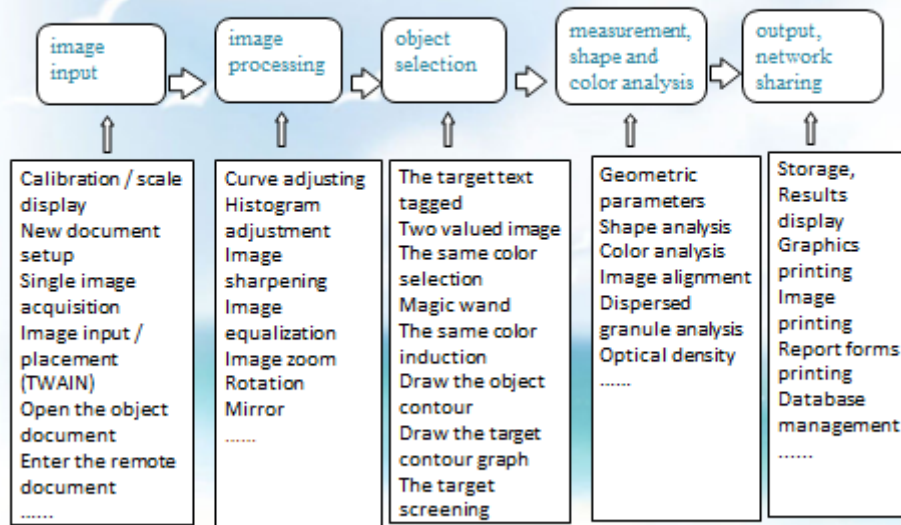




Image collection

The system has the feature of openness:

- support images caught directly from analogic vidicon, digital vidicon, digital camera, scanner, microscope (Biological or stereologic, etc.).
- support many image storage format, such as: .BMP,.JPG,.TIF etc..

Image processing

1. Image processing functions: image enhancement, histogram adjustment, curve adjustment, image stepless gray processing, image denoising (mean, median), edge sharpening, image filtering of any color, image restoration, negative image, two value image and the gray transformation, image screening, the extraction of contour and other functions.
2. Image transformation and editing functions: image zoom, rotation, mirror, clipping, Montage, repair, and filling etc..
3. Image adjustment functions: to adjust of brightness, saturation, coloration and contrast of real-time activity images, so as to reproduce a true image.

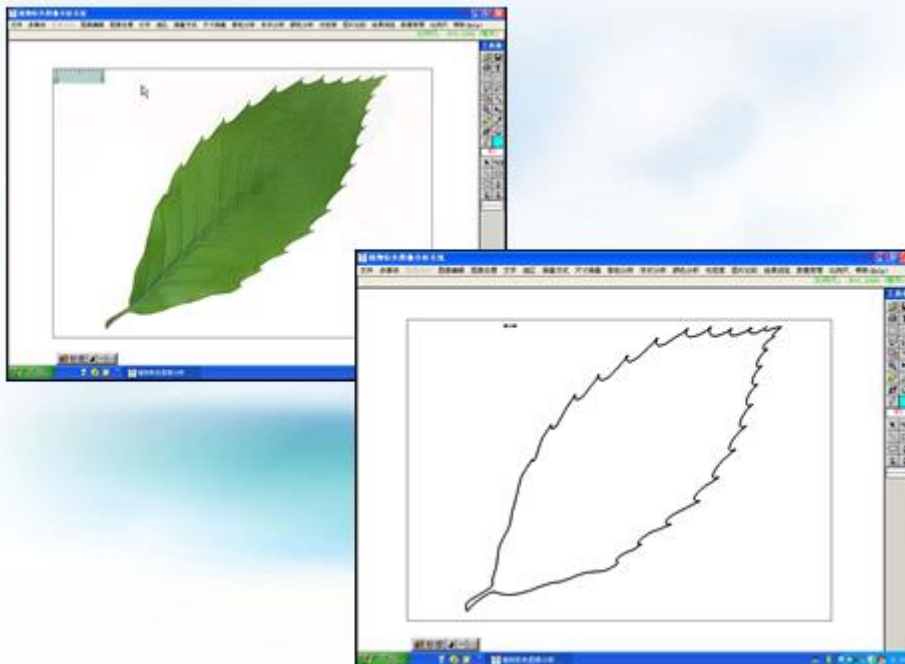


Image measurement

The measurement module provides measurements of the object as following:

1. geometry parameters: length, width, angle, diameter, perimeter , length of any curved line, perimeter of any closed form, area and permeability.
2. shape parameters: maximum / minimum diameter, equivalent diameter, length width ratio, shape of leaf base and tip, classification of leaf shape.
3. granule parameters : total number, area percentage, target total area, covered area.
4. light density parameters: the average gray level, average transmittance, average optical density, integral optical density.

Image shape analysis

Based on measured parameters, the system also provides in electronic version the illustrations of the common shapes of four main types along with the subdivision graphs of each type.

After the measurement of the target through the software, by using man-machine combination, the description of the target shape could be automatically determined .

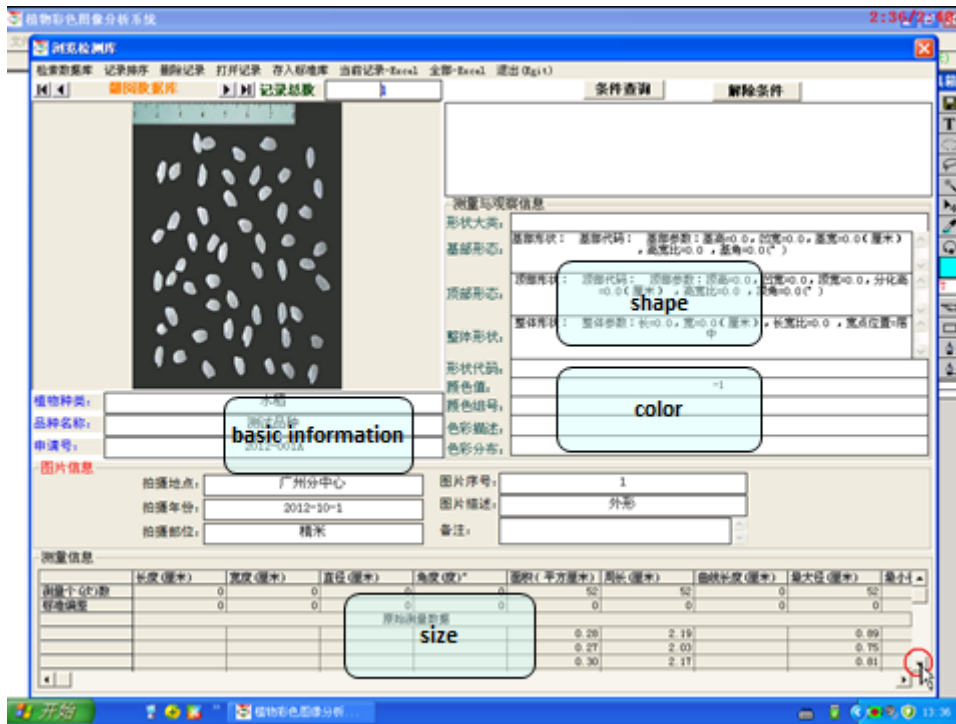
(this system also support manual selection and determination)

Analysis of dispersed granule

With the purpose of measuring and analyzing the parameters of the granular targets; with a greater number, the system dedicated a dispersed granular analysis module, which could fulfill the one-time measurement of dispersed targets with a large number.

The measurable parameters include: the total number of granules, the geometry parameters of each granular, the shape parameters, the area percentage, the target total area and the region area etc..





Using this software the lettuce seed area during germination were calculated and the related results were published in JXB (SCI impact factor 6.019)

Journal of Experimental Botany, Vol. 65, No. 12, pp. 3189–3200, 2014
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This paper is available online free of access charges (see http://jxb.oxfordjournals.org/open_access.html for further details)



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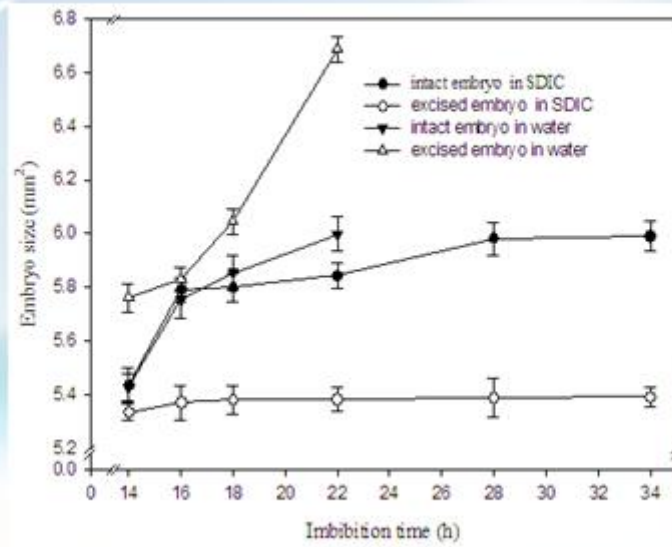
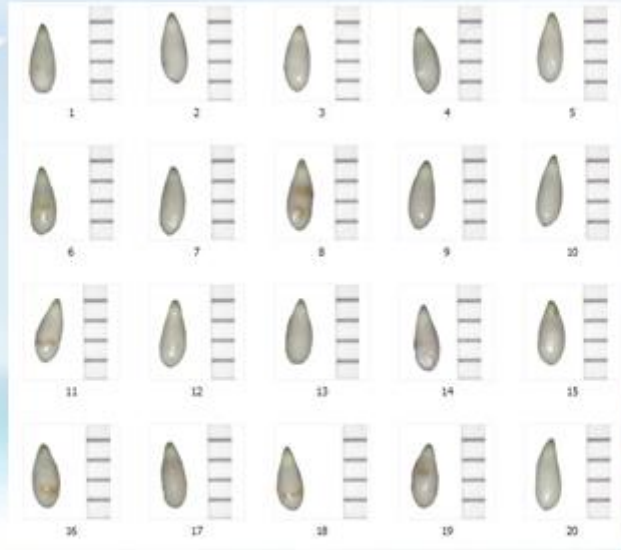
Involvement of reactive oxygen species in endosperm cap weakening and embryo elongation growth during lettuce seed germination

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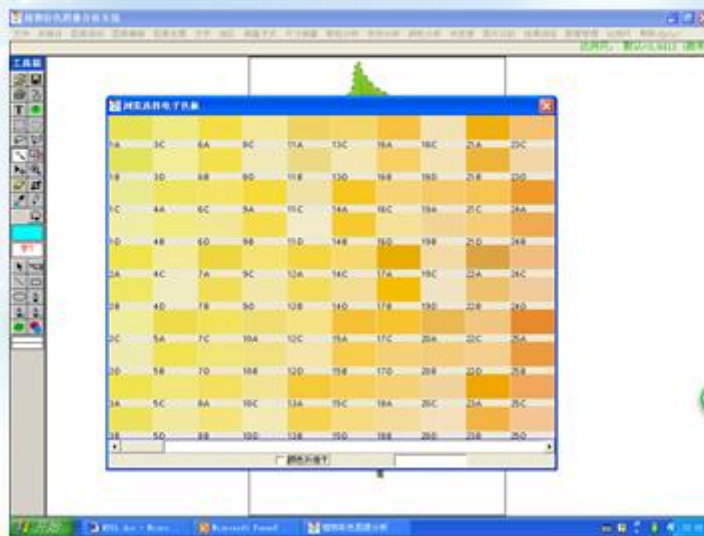
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Analysis of image color

1. In this system, more than 800 kinds of color chart of RHS were collected and conducted a quantitative correction, which formed a standard digital color chart library.
2. After the target color is collected by the system, automatic alignment analysis with the standard color chart library was carry out and 6 most closed color chart were selected. (The system also accept manual selection, then the manual selection will be stored as the best fit color.)
3. Color distribution: the system has built-in 20 kinds of sketch maps of the common color distribution, the aligning results could be chosen and confirmed manually.

standard color chart library of RHS for color analysis



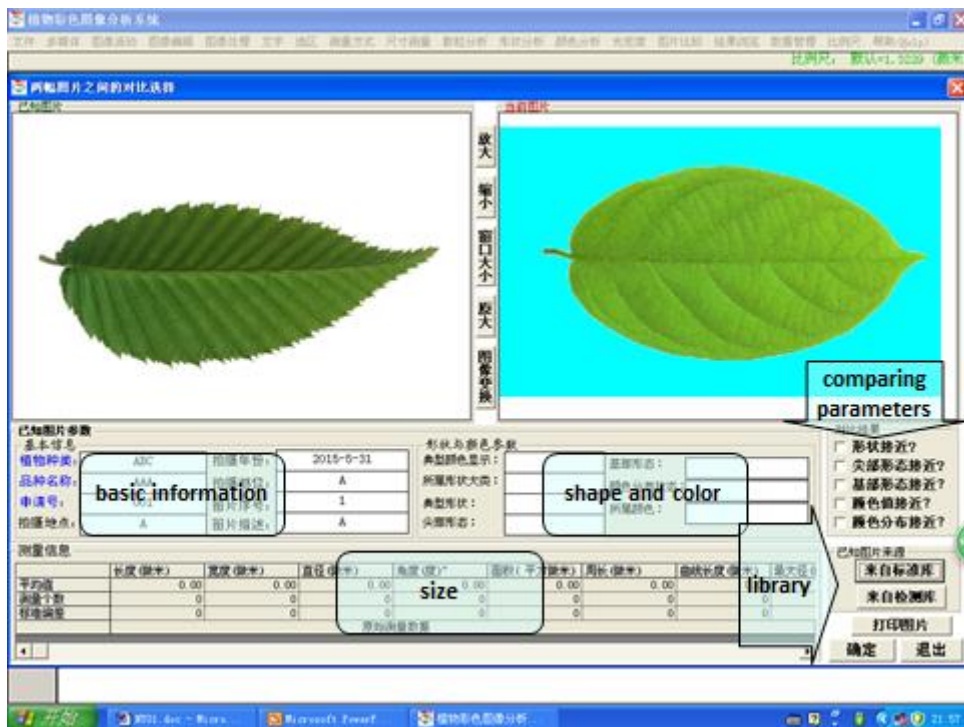
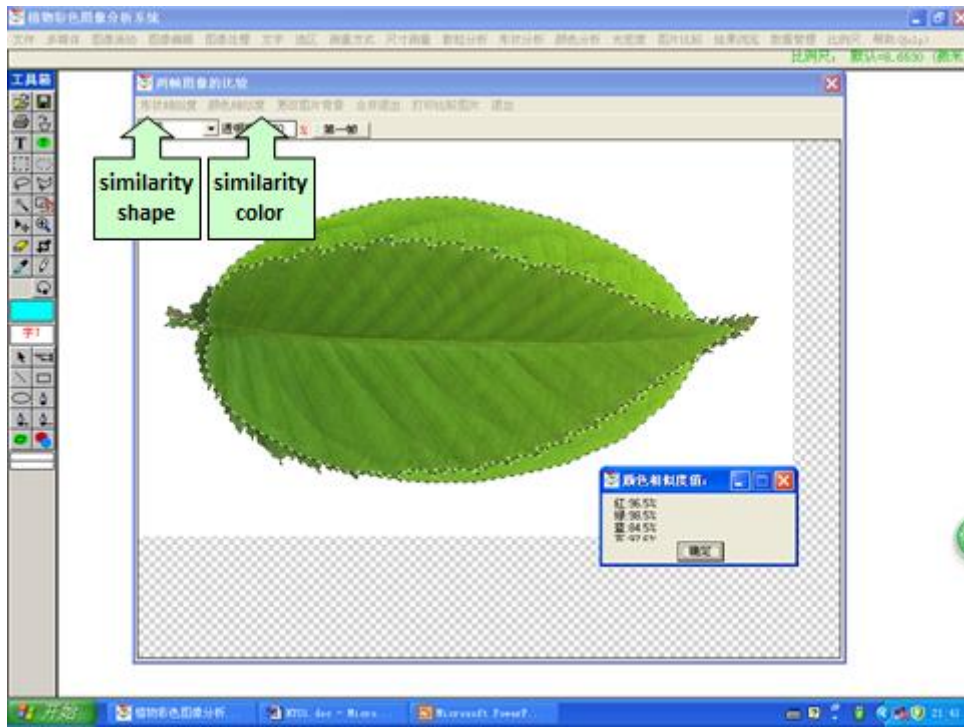
Automatic tests of color analysis



Image comparison analysis

The system provides two kinds of image comparison methods: single window overlay comparison and double windows comparison, which could achieve the fast comparison of two images of plant shape or color.

the single window overlay comparison can calculate the similarity coefficient of two images.



Thinking & Future Plan

- Is image a new characteristics used for DUS testing as a whole?
- **Future plan:**
- to fix environmental parameters according to different image types.
- to make a huge image database and to provide a quick and accurate searching function to get similar varieties.

Thanks for your attention!