



TWC/34/15

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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

Geneva

TECHNICAL WORKING PARTY ON AUTOMATION AND COMPUTER PROGRAMS

Thirty-Fourth Session Shanghai, China, June 7 to 10, 2016

NUMBER OF GROWING CYCLES IN DUS EXAMINATION

Document prepared by the Office of the Union

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The purpose of this document is to report on the consideration of the number of growing cycles in DUS examination.

2. The TWC is invited to:

(a) note that the TC, at its fifty-second session, agreed to invite members of the Union to simulate the impact of using different numbers of growing cycles on DUS decisions using actual data and to report on their results at the TWP sessions in 2016 and at the fifty-third session of the TC; and

(b) consider the presentations made by experts on this subject.

3. The structure of this document is as follows:

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4. 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

BACKGROUND

5. The TC, at its fifty-second session, held in Geneva from March 14 to 16, 2016, received the following presentations on variety descriptions and the role of plant material, including minimum number of growing cycles for DUS examination (in order of presentation):

Variety descriptions and the role of plant material, including minimum number of growing cycles for DUS examination	France (Mr. Richard Brand)
Development and use of variety descriptions	Germany (Ms. Beate Rücker)
Minimum number of growing cycles	Netherlands (Mr. Kees van Ettehoven)
Using variety descriptions and length of testing – A New Zealand perspective	New Zealand (Mr. Chris Barnaby)

6. The TC considered the discussion on the number of growing cycles in DUS examination and agreed to invite members of the Union to simulate the impact of using different numbers of growing cycles on DUS decisions using actual data and to report on their results at the TWP sessions in 2016 and at the fifty-third session of the TC (see document TC/52/29 "Report", paragraph 206).

Presentations to the TWPs at their sessions in 2016

7. On April 12, 2016, by means of Circular E-16/095, the TC and TWP experts were invited to make presentations to the TWPs, at their sessions in 2016, to simulate the impact of using different numbers of growing cycles on DUS decisions using actual data and to report on their results at the TWP sessions in 2016 and at the fifty-third session of the TC.

8. The presentations made at the thirty-fourth session of the TWC under this agenda item will be published as an addendum to this document.

9. *The TWC is invited to:*

(a) note that the TC, at its fifty-second session, agreed to invite members of the Union to simulate the impact of using different numbers of growing cycles on DUS decisions using actual data and to report on their results at the TWP sessions in 2016 and at the fifty-third session of the TC; and

(b) consider the presentations made by experts on this subject.

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