



TWC/34/20

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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**

SEARCH PLANT: A SEARCH PORTAL TO FACILITATE TRACKING AND TRACING OF ORNAMENTAL
VARIETIES

Document prepared by experts from the Netherlands

Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance

The Annex to this document contains a copy of a presentation on “Search Plant: A search portal to facilitate tracking and tracing of ornamental varieties” that will be made at the thirty-fourth session of the Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs (TWC).

Abbreviations:

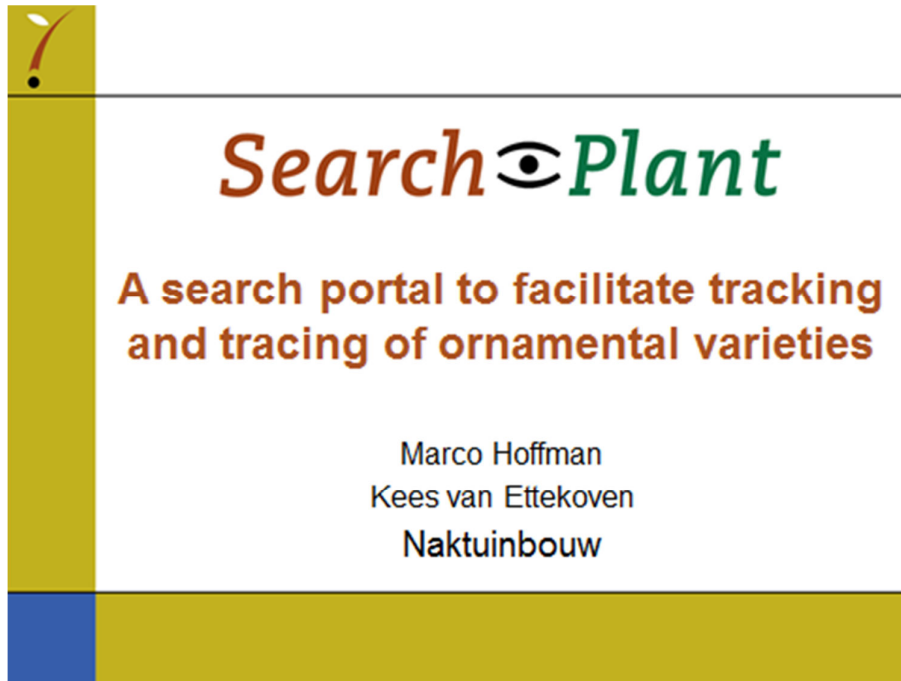
CPVO	Community Plant Variety Office of the European Union
ICNCP	International Code for Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants
KAVB	Royal General Association for Bulb Culture
RHS	Royal Horticulture Society

Marco Hoffman, Crop Expert Ornamentals, Naktuinbouw

Kees van Ettehoven, Head, Variety Registration Department, Naktuinbouw

[Annex follows]

SEARCH PLANT: A SEARCH PORTAL TO FACILITATE TRACKING AND TRACING OF ORNAMENTAL VARIETIES





Content of the presentation

- Introduction
- Plant Reproductive Material law (PRM)
- Existing legislation
- Problems in practice
- Industry initiative?
- Disclosure of existing taxonomic data
- Launch of new portal: Search-Plant



Introduction

- European marketing policy driven by *transparency* for the user and *traceability* of plant material
- New draft European Union (EU) Plant Reproductive Material law (PRM regulation) caused concern for producers and users of ornamental plants
- PRM rejected by European Parliament, but the ideas still exist



Elements from PRM

- PRM where as (31) In order to ensure that all varieties have access to registration and are subject to common rules and conditions rules should be established for the registration of varieties and should apply to varieties of listed genera or species as well as to varieties of non-listed species
- Conclusion: **all varieties on the market have to be registered**



Elements from PRM (2)

- The statement was later weakened in the text (exclusion of exchange between amateurs, niche-market varieties, registration by supplier possible) but the seed of the idea was sown.
- In the meantime PRM is withdrawn by the EU Commission.
- Existing rules now in focus; DIRECTIVE 98/56/EC on the marketing of propagating material of ornamental plants.
- Article 9: Propagating material may be marketed with a reference to a variety, only if the variety concerned is:



Existing legislation (2)

1. Legally protected by a plant variety right,
2. Officially registered,
3. Commonly known, or
4. Entered on a list kept by a supplier with its detailed description and denomination.

The lists shall be available, on request, to the responsible official body of the Member State concerned.



Industry initiative?

- To avoid heavy burden on individual suppliers and users, a joint approach could help to avoid undue EU legislation or control measures
- Requirements: a transparent system to enable tracking and tracing. A proper link between variety denomination and description of identity.
- Accessible for users, trade and inspectors



Existing valuable databases

- In various countries and institutes taxonomic acceptable ornamental databases exist.
- In those databases the link between identity and denomination is available and the rules of the EU and/or ICNCP are followed.
- Examples: RHS Find a Plant, PlantScope, CPVO database, KAVB bulb-database, Naktuinbouw databases (incl. List of names of woody plants and perennials).



Existing usable databases (2)

- Existing databases only in stand alone modus approachable.
- Not enough user friendly.
- Alternative:

Portal:

Search  **Plant**

A gateway to information on varieties of ornamental plants



Gateway to information on varieties of ornamental plants

This search portal gives you access to various databases with information on varieties of ornamental plants. In the descriptions, you will find the properties of the variety including images.

Participating parties:

- PlantScope
- List of names of woody plants
- List of names of perennials

Would you also participate in the portal? Contact [Naktuinbouw](#)



Search

Sort by:



Family: Rutaceae
Genus: Skimmia
Species: japonica
Cultivar: Rubella
Trade name:
Cultivar group:

More info




Family: Rutaceae
Genus: Skimmia
Species: japonica
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More info



Family: Rutaceae
Genus: Skimmia
Species: japonica
Cultivar: Rubella
Trade name:
Cultivar group:



 **PlantScope®**

Skimmia japonica 'Rubella'

TAXONOMISC NUMBER
110718

PRODUCT NUMBER PLANTSCOPE
334583

TRADE NAMES

SYNONYMS
Skimmia foremansii
Skimmia rubella

COMMON NAMES

Name	Level	Language
Skimmia	Botanical genus	NL
Skimmia	Botanical genus	UK
Skimmia	Botanical genus	F
Skimmia	Botanical genus	D
Skimmia	Botanical species	NL
Skimmia	Botanical species	UK
Skimmia	Botanical species	F
Skimmia	Botanical species	D

REGISTRATIONS

Date	Organisation
16-01-1995	Floricode
17-01-1995	PPO - sector Bomen

CHARACTERISTICS

Utilization properties	Characteristic	Value(s)
Cutflower	Free character	
	Plant height	70 cm - 100 cm
	Plant, growth type	Erect
	Leaf duration	Evergreen
	Leaf, general shape	Elliptic / oval
	Leaf margin	Entire
	Leaf, main color	Dark green
	Flowering month(s)	April, May
	Inflorescence	Raceme
	Flower color	Red-Dark red-RHS 185 B
	Flower scent	Sweet scented-Strong

CONSUMER INFO


TRADING/AUCTION CODES

Type	Code	Group of products	Description
VBN code	12587	Cutflower	Skimmia japonica 'Rubella'


PLANT VARIETY RIGHTS DATA & LINKS

ROLE

Type	Organisation/person
Applicant	Plant Publiciteit Holland, Boskoop, Netherlands
Beneficiary	Kalster BV, Boskoop, Netherlands



[Code image](#)
[Print this page](#)


 **Search Plant** Plant Search


Search

Clear search criteria


Sort by:


Symphoricarpos 'White Berry Group' MIO-GAL GREENPEARL FANTASY

	Family: Caryophyllaceae	Cultivar: Kijungo
	Genus: Symphoricarpos	Trade name: MIO-GAL GREENPEARL FANTASY
	Species:	Cultivar group: White Berry





Symphoricarpos 'Greenpearl Fantasy'

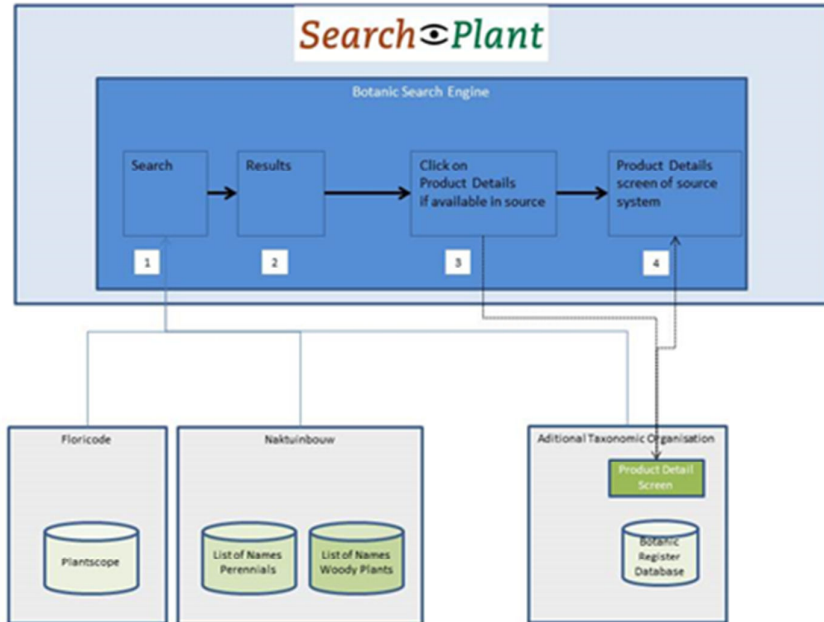
	Family: Caryophyllaceae	Cultivar: Kijungo
	Genus: Symphoricarpos	Trade name: Greenpearl Fantasy
	Species:	Cultivar group:



Symphoricarpos Greenpearl Fantasy White Berry Group
→ Preferred name: Symphoricarpos 'White Berry Group'

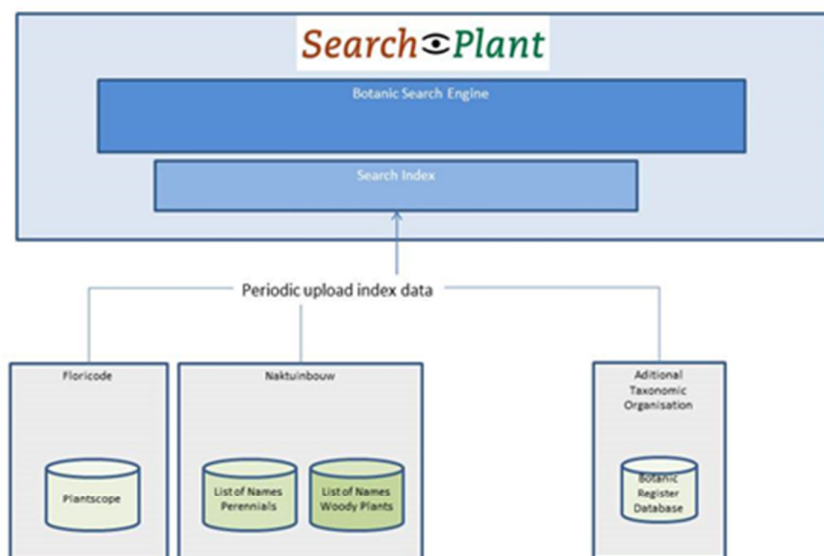
	Family: Caryophyllaceae	Cultivar: Kijungo
	Genus: Symphoricarpos	Trade name: Greenpearl Fantasy
	Species:	Cultivar group: White Berry Group





General architecture of Search plant

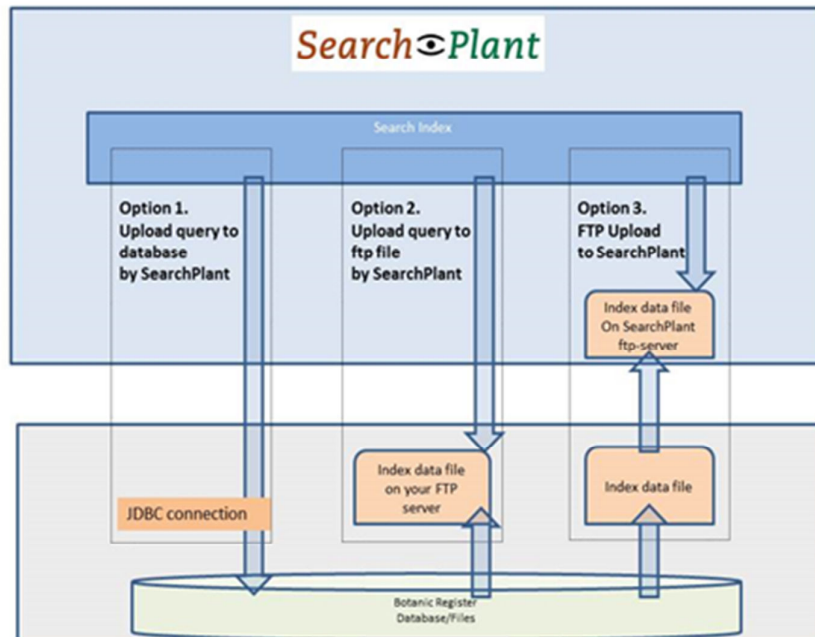
- The Botanic Search Engine uses a **search index** on the botanical products. This search index enables Search-Plant to search through different data sources in a standardized and fast way.
- The data in the search index has to be synchronized with the source systems.



Synchronization of search index data

In general 3 options are available for synchronization of index data:

1. Search-Plant queries the source database.
 - a. Connection details to be discussed in detail with every specific organization, like:
 - i. JDBC-connection
 - ii. Firewall settings
2. Search-Plant queries a data file that is available on a ftp-server of the taxonomic organization
 - a. Connection details to be discussed in detail with every specific organization
 - i. Access to FTP-server
 - b. Taxonomic organization has to implement the creation of the data file on ftp-server
 - i. Data file in XML or csv
3. Taxonomic organization puts the index data file on ftp-site of Search-Plant. Search-Plant queries this file of its own ftp-server.
 - a. Connection details to be discussed in detail with every specific organization
 - b. Taxonomic organization has to implement the creation of the data file and push to ftp-server
 - i. Data file in XML or csv



Content of data

ID	A unique Identifier of all possible search results. <i>Sometimes you may need to combine or multiply the ID's of the different trade products (e.g. cut flower vs. bulb) and the ID's of the different (synonym) names to obtain a suitable unique identifier. Please Note: products having non-unique identifiers will be skipped!</i>
Image ID's	(A comma separated string of) image-identifier(s) of the product.
Image url	The URL which can be used to obtain the image(s)
Product-ID	An identifier to be used in the decolink to the product detail report
Decolink to the product report	The URL which can be used to obtain the product detail report
Product name	The full name of the product. - Hybrid indicators to be placed at the start of the applicable name parts, - Trade names at the end, followed by the group information, in between brackets. - Cultivar in between quotes <i>Note: the search engine will use this product name to query the results, not the separate parts of the names</i>
Trade name	
Genus	Hybrid indicators to be placed at the start of the name
Species	Hybrid indicators to be placed at the start of the name
Subspecies	
Variety	
Forma	
Cultivar	
Cultivar group	
ID of the name	Only applicable if the result concerns a preferred name. The key to be used to find the right name, if synonym names exist.
ID of the preferred name	Only applicable if the result concerns a synonym name. This ID supplies the key to find to the preferred name



Why should you join?

- It is a proper answer to the threat of undue EU legislation
- It is a transparent system for the ornamental industry to enable tracking and tracing
- It is a perfect possibility to get access to existing but fragmented information on ornamental varieties
- It will improve the accessibility of your data
- You keep the ownership and credits of your data
- It is fast and cheap

Quality in Horticulture