

Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs TWC/36/13**Thirty-Sixth Session
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EXPERIENCE IN THE MANAGEMENT OF REFERENCE COLLECTIONS WITH THE SELECT METHOD*Document prepared by an expert from Germany**Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance*

1. The SELECT method was developed by experts from Germany for cereal crops in order to handle the continuously increasing number of reference varieties to be considered in the assessment of distinctness of new varieties.
2. The method allows identifying varieties within the reference collection which can be excluded from the growing trial because of clear differences in the expression of at least one relevant characteristic in comparison to all candidate varieties (see documents TWC/24/8 and TWA/35/9).
3. Based on in-house variety descriptions in a database individual characteristics are determined in which clear differences can be expected in a direct comparison in the same growing trial. A reference variety is considered to be distinct from all candidate varieties if there is a clear difference in at least one characteristic. If a reference variety is distinct from all candidate varieties, it is excluded from the growing trial.
4. The experience using the software SELECT will be presented in relation to the size of the reference collection and the size of the growing trial.

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