



TWF/34/4

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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS
GENEVA

**TECHNICAL WORKING PARTY
FOR
FRUIT CROPS**

**Thirty-Fourth Session
Niagara Falls, Canada, September 29 to October 3, 2003**

STANDARDIZED EXPLANATION FOR
“MATURITY OF FRUIT”
CHARACTERISTICS

Document prepared by the Experts from Germany and Hungary

1. At its thirty-third session held in San Carlos de Bariloche, Argentina, from November 24 to 29, 2003, the Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops (TWF) discussed document TGP/7.1 Draft 1 “Guidance for Drafters of Test Guidelines.” During these discussions the TWF agreed that additional standard wording and/or guidance notes should be developed to explain the nature of the growing cycle referred to in Section 3.1 “Duration of Test” of the Test Guidelines, where this was not obvious. For example, in the case of fruit trees it should be explained that the growing cycle should relate to the production of fruit.

2. On this basis it is recommended that TGP/7 “Development of Test Guidelines” draft 3 should be amended to include the following additional standard wording options:

- (a) Temperate fruit species with predominantly perennial growth:

“The growing cycle should be considered as the duration of a single vegetation period, starting with bud burst and ending when the subsequent dormant period finishes, as indicated by the swelling of buds.”

- (b) Tropical fruit species / Subtropical fruit species where phenological development does not start or end with the turn of the year:

“The growing cycle should be considered as the time ranging from the beginning of a flower bud burst, over the time of removal of the concerned mature fruit from the plant, until the fruit starts to perish.”

3. The TWF is invited to comment on the proposal for additional standard wording as set out in paragraph 2.

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