



TWF/42/20

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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS
GENEVA

TECHNICAL WORKING PARTY FOR FRUIT CROPS

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**PROPOSAL FOR ADDITIONAL CHARACTERISTICS TO THE TEST GUIDELINES
FOR BLUEBERRY (DOCUMENT TG/137/4)**

Document prepared by an expert from New Zealand

1. Document TGP/5 Section 10/2 “Experience and Cooperation in DUS Testing, Section 10: notification of additional characteristics and states of expression” states that:

“4.2 Proposals for additional characteristics and states of expression notified to the Office of the Union by means of document TGP/5 Section 10, will be presented to the relevant Technical Working Party(ies) (TWP(s)) at the earliest opportunity with information on the extent of use of the characteristic. The characteristics will then, as appropriate, be posted on the password-restricted area of the UPOV website (http://www.upov.int/restrict/en/index_drafters_kit.htm), on the basis of comments made by the relevant TWP(s), and/or the TWP(s) may initiate a revision or a partial revision of the Test Guidelines concerned.”

2. It is proposed that the characteristics presented in the Annex to this document be considered as additional characteristics with a view to
 - (a) posting the characteristics on the password-restricted area of the UPOV website;
or
 - (b) initiating a revision or partial revision or partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Blueberry (document TG/137/4)

[Annex follows]

ANNEX

Test Guidelines for Blueberry: TG/137/4
Additional Characteristic(s)

Submitting Authority: Plant Variety Rights Office
Southern Business Centre
Private Bag 4714
CHRISTCHURCH 8140
NEW ZEALAND Contact Expert: Name: Chris Barnaby

Date: June 23, 2011 Organization: Plant Variety Rights Office
Southern Business Centre
Private Bag 4714
CHRISTCHURCH 8140
NEW ZEALAND

Tel.: +64 3 962 6206

E-mail: chris.barnaby@pvr.govt.nz

		English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties/ Exemples/ Beispielsorten/ Variedades ejemplo	^[iii] Note/ Nota
10A	VG	Leaf: glaucosity (upper side)					
QN		absent or weak				HortBlue Onyx	1
		medium				Whitu	2
		strong				Takahe	3
20A (*)	MG	Fruit: ratio height/width					
QN		very small (flattened)					1
		small (flat rounded)				Ono	3
		medium (rounded)				Centra Blue	5
		large (slightly elongated)					7
		very large (moderately elongated)				Northland	9

[i] indicate type of expression (QL, PQ, QN)

[ii] indicate method of observation (VG, VS, MG, MS)

[iii] example varieties to be provided for at least 2 states.

Information on extent of use of the characteristic

Characteristic 10A: Leaf: glaucosity (upper side)

The characteristic is included in the New Zealand objective description form for Blueberry (national test guidelines) and is not used by any other authority. The characteristic provides discrimination between varieties of *Vaccinium ashei* (Rabbiteye types). The character was proposed for inclusion in the last revision of TG/137/4, but was rejected as New Zealand was the only state with experience.

Characteristic 20A: Fruit: ratio height/width

The characteristic is included in the New Zealand objective description form for Blueberry (national test guidelines) and is not used by any other authority. Following the adoption of TG/137/4 we have found that fruit size and fruit shape as in the guideline alone are not sufficient to describe the range of variation observed. Fruit shape is limited and many varieties fall in the round to oblate group. This character provides the possibility of determining distinctness within this shape grouping. In addition, fruit size is increasing and the relationship between fruit size and fruit shape requires description.

From our testing Fruit diameter ranges from 10-23 mm and corresponding ratios of 0.75 – 1.3.

The use of a ratio to describe shape and dimension is in accordance with the principles set out in TGP/14.

[End of Annex and of document]