

Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops

TWF/53/7

Fifty-Third Session
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MATTERS RELEVANT IN DUS EXAMINATION FOR THE FRUIT SECTOR

Document prepared experts from Brazil and the European Union

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NUMBER OF PLANTS OF REFERENCE VARIETY

The UPOV document TGP/9/2 specifies the following:

“5.5.5 The required precision of records depends on the size of the difference between the candidate variety and the varieties of common knowledge. If two varieties are very similar it is important to ensure the same precision of the records for both varieties. The number of plants indicated in the Test Guidelines applies to both the candidate variety and the similar variety of common knowledge. In other cases, it may be possible to include in the trial a lower number of plants for the variety of common knowledge, provided that uniformity does not have to be assessed for that variety, i.e. varieties in the variety collection.”

The European Union reported on practical difficulties in implementing the provisions of the above paragraph (management of reference collections) by some examination offices within the EU dealing with fruit testing; it was felt that there was no need to have the same number of plants of the reference variety as of the candidate variety even if the varieties were considered very similar, nor that the use of fewer plants of a reference variety would impact the precision of records.

The TWF, at its fifty-second session, held in 2021, agreed to invite the experts from Brazil and the European Union to draft a proposal on possible changes in document TGP/9/2 paragraph 5.5.5, to be presented at its fifty-third session, to be held in 2022.

The proposal aims at opening the possibility of using in the DUS testing a lower number of plants of the reference variety which is very similar to the candidate if uniformity of the reference variety does not need to be assessed.

The following changes are proposed to paragraph 5.5.5 of document TGP/9/2:

“5.5.5 The required precision of records depends on the size of the difference between the candidate variety and the varieties of common knowledge. If two varieties are very similar it is important to ensure the same precision of the records for both varieties. The number of plants indicated in the Test Guidelines in principle applies to both the candidate variety and the similar variety of common knowledge. ~~In other cases, However,~~ it may be possible to include in the trial a lower number of plants for the variety of common knowledge, provided that uniformity does not have to be assessed for that variety, i.e. varieties in the variety collection.”

The proposed changes presented above are in highlight and underline (insertion) and ~~strikethrough~~ (deletion).

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