

Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops

TWF/54/10

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COMMENTS ON GUIDANCE AND INFORMATION MATERIALS

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1. The purpose of this document is to report the comments on guidance and information materials made by the Technical Working Party for Vegetables (TWV)¹, Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops² and Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees³, at their sessions in 2023.

2. The structure of this document is as follows:

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3. The following abbreviations are used in this document:

TC:	Technical Committee
TC-EDC:	Enlarged Editorial Committee
TWA:	Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops
TWC:	Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs
TWF:	Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops
TWM:	Technical Working Party on Testing Methods and Techniques
TWO:	Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees
TWV:	Technical Working Party for Vegetables
TWPs:	Technical Working Parties

¹ At its fifty-seventh session, held in Antalya, Türkiye, from May 1 to 5, 2023

² At its fifty-second session, held via electronic means, from May 22 to 26, 2023

³ At its fifty-fifth session, held via electronic means, from June 12 to 16, 2023

DEVELOPMENT OF GUIDANCE AND INFORMATION MATERIALS

4. The TWV, TWA and TWO considered document TWP/7/2.

Document TGP/7 “Development of Test Guidelines”

Example varieties for asterisked quantitative characteristics when illustrations are provided

5. The TWV, TWA and TWO considered the situations described by the TWO as the basis to develop guidance on possible exceptions to the requirement to provide example varieties for asterisked quantitative characteristics when illustrations were provided (see documents TWV/57/26 “Report”, paragraphs 11 to 13; TWA/52/11 “Report”, paragraphs 15 to 17 and TWO/55/11 “Report”, paragraphs 10 to 13).

6. The TWV recalled that, at its fifty-sixth session, it had agreed as follows (see document TWV/56/22 “Report”, paragraph 9):

“The TWV agreed that example varieties should continue to be provided for asterisked quantitative characteristics for vegetable crops. The TWV agreed that example varieties could be easily provided for vegetable crops and were useful for harmonizing DUS examination and producing variety descriptions. The TWV recalled that guidance in document TGP/7 required example varieties for three or two states of expression, according to the scale of notes used.”

7. The TWV agreed that example varieties were important for training for DUS experts and plant breeders using Test Guidelines. The TWV agreed that illustrations should be used to complement example varieties in explanations and whenever plant material of a particular variety was not available.

8. The TWA agreed that Test Guidelines should provide as much information as possible to clarify the states of expression of a characteristic, such as using illustrations to complement the use of example varieties.

9. The TWA agreed to invite the experts from Germany in collaboration with Canada, Netherlands and United Kingdom to draft a proposal to amend the guidance in document TGP/7, GN 28 “Example Varieties”, concerning the situations where illustrations could replace example varieties and their complementary role to clarify the states of expression of a characteristic.

10. The TWO recalled that information on the situations where the approach would be applicable had been provided in document TWP/7/2 and agreed that such an approach would also be applicable for species with few example varieties and where there was difficulty obtaining plant material of such varieties

11. The TWO noted that the TWA, at its fifty-second session, had agreed to invite the experts from Germany in collaboration with Canada, Netherlands and United Kingdom to draft a proposal to amend document TGP/7, GN 28 “Example Varieties”, concerning situations where illustrations could replace example varieties and their complementary role to clarify the states of expression of a characteristic.

12. The TWO agreed to invite the experts from Canada, European Union, France and the United Kingdom to join the TWA experts to draft a proposal to amend document TGP/7, GN 28.

Disease resistance characteristics: Addition of state of expression and placement of non-asterisked disease resistance characteristics in Section 5 of the Technical Questionnaire

13. The TWV and TWA agreed to amend document TGP/7 GN 13 “Characteristics with specific functions” to clarify that disease resistance characteristics not indicated with an asterisk in the table of characteristics may be presented in Section 5 of Technical Questionnaires (TQ) with the addition of a state of expression “not tested”, as set out in document TWP/7/2, paragraph 21, when the characteristic was not used as a grouping characteristic (see documents TWV/57/26 “Report”, paragraph 14; and TWA/52/11 “Report”, paragraph 19).

Document TGP/12 'Guidance on certain physiological characteristics'

Example disease resistance characteristic: Word "highly" in only one state of expression

14. The TWV considered whether to revise the states of expression in the example characteristic in document TGP/12/2, Section 2.3.2, to address the use of the word "highly" in only one state of expression (see document TWV/57/26 "Report", paragraphs 15 and 16).

15. The TWV noted that the characteristic from the Test Guidelines for Melon used as example in document TGP/12/2, Section 2.3.2, was under revision. The TWV agreed that the example characteristic in document TGP/12 should be amended as in the proposed revision of TG melon, to read as follows:

70. VG	Resistance to <i>Podosphaera xanthii</i> (Px) (ex <i>Sphaerotheca fuliginea</i>) (Powdery mildew)		
70.1	Race 1 (Px: 1)		
(+)			
QN	absent or low	Védrantais	1
	medium	Escrito	2
	high	Arum	3

Document UPOV/EXN/DEN/1 "Explanatory Notes on Variety Denominations under the UPOV Convention"

16. The TWV, TWA and TWO considered document TWP/7/4.

Amending variety denomination classes for Brassica

17. The TWV agreed to propose the amendments to the variety denomination classes for *Brassica*, as set out in document TWP/7/4, paragraph 13 (see document TWV/57/26 "Report", paragraph 37).

18. The TWA considered the proposed amendments to the variety denomination classes for *Brassica*, as set out in document TWP/7/4, paragraph 13 (see document TWA/52/11 "Report", paragraphs 28 and 29).

19. The TWA agreed that it would not be possible to achieve consensus on the proposal to create a separate denomination class for Oilseed Rape varieties (UPOV code BRASS_NAP_NUS). The TWA noted that certain varieties could be grouped on the basis of end use (forage / oil / vegetable) but in some cases not on the basis of existing DUS characteristics. The TWA noted that it was not possible to agree on the examination of variety denominations for different subspecies of *Brassica napus* as well as *B. nigra* and *B. rapa* under separate denomination classes.

New variety denomination classes for Allium

20. The TWV agreed to propose the creation of new variety denomination classes within the genus *Allium*, as set out in document TWP/7/4, paragraph 15 (see document TWV/57/26 "Report", paragraph 38).

21. The TWO agreed with the TWV, at its fifty-fifth session, to propose the creation of new variety denomination classes within the genus *Allium*, as set out in document TWP/7/4, paragraph 15 (see document TWO/55/11 "Report", paragraph 27).

New variety denomination classes for Prunus

22. The TWO considered the proposal for creating new variety denomination classes within the genus *Prunus*. The TWO noted the existence of ornamental varieties of *Prunus*, including interspecific hybrids, and agreed to propose that the TWF take this information into consideration when discussing the possible creation of new variety denomination classes (see document TWO/55/11 "Report", paragraph 28).

Beta vulgaris

23. The TWV and TWA agreed to create variety groups for the UPOV codes for *Beta vulgaris* L. ssp. *vulgaris*, as set out in document TWP/7/7, paragraph 8 (see documents TWV/57/26 "Report", paragraphs 40 41; and TWA/52/11 "Report", paragraphs 31 and 32).

24. The TWA agreed with the TWV to propose naming the variety groups Fodder Beet; Garden Beet; Leaf Beet; and Sugar Beet for *Beta vulgaris* ssp. *vulgaris*, as set out in document TWV/57/18, Annex I, and reproduced as follows:

UPOV code	BOTANICAL NAMES	GRIN	Proposed Group name
BETAA_VUL_GVA	<i>Beta vulgaris</i> L. ssp. <i>vulgaris</i> var. <i>alba</i> DC. <i>Beta vulgaris</i> L. ssp. <i>vulgaris</i> var. <i>crassa</i> Alef.; <i>Beta vulgaris</i> L. ssp. <i>vulgaris</i> var. <i>crassa</i> Mansf.; <i>Beta vulgaris</i> L. ssp. <i>vulgaris</i> var. <i>rapacea</i> K. Koch	Beta vulgaris L (Fodder Beet Group)	Beta vulgaris L. (Fodder Beet Group)
BETAA_VUL_GVC	<i>Beta vulgaris</i> L. ssp. <i>vulgaris</i> var. <i>conditiva</i> Alef. <i>Beta vulgaris</i> L. ssp. <i>vulgaris</i> var. <i>esculenta</i> L.; <i>Beta vulgaris</i> L. ssp. <i>vulgaris</i> var. <i>hortensis</i>	Beta vulgaris L (Garden Beet Group)	Beta vulgaris L (Garden Beet Group)
BETAA_VUL_GVF	<i>Beta vulgaris</i> L. ssp. <i>vulgaris</i> var. <i>flavescens</i> DC. f. <i>crispa</i> <i>Beta vulgaris</i> L. ssp. <i>vulgaris</i> var. <i>cicla</i> (L.) Ulrich; <i>Beta vulgaris</i> L. ssp. <i>vulgaris</i> var. <i>vulgaris</i>	Beta vulgaris L (Leaf Beet Group)	Beta vulgaris L (Leaf Beet Group)
BETAA_VUL_GVS	<i>Beta vulgaris</i> L. ssp. <i>vulgaris</i> var. <i>saccharifera</i> Alef. <i>Beta vulgaris</i> L. ssp. <i>vulgaris</i> var. <i>altissima</i> Doell	Beta vulgaris L (Sugar Beet Group)	Beta vulgaris L (Sugar Beet Group)

Zea mays

25. The TWV and TWA agreed to create variety groups for the UPOV code ZEAAA_MAY_MAY replacing infra-specific botanical names, as set out in document TWP/7/7, paragraph 12 (see documents TWV/57/26 "Report", paragraph 49; and TWA/52/11 "Report", paragraph 33).

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