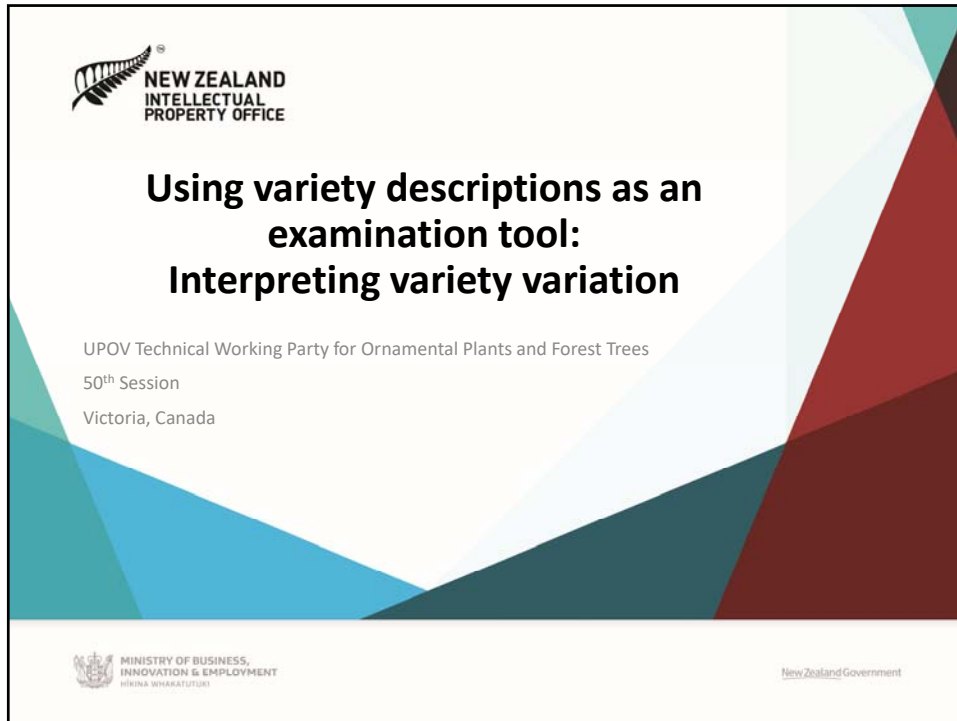



Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees**TWO/50/13 Add.****Fiftieth Session****Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, September 11 to 15, 2017****Original:** English**Date:** November 14, 2018

**ADDENDUM TO
CHARACTERISTIC EXPRESSION BETWEEN YEARS OR ENVIRONMENTS FOR ORNAMENTAL VARIETIES***Document prepared by the Office of the Union**Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance*

The Annex to this document a copy of a presentation on “Using variety description as an examination tool: Interpreting variety variation” by an expert from New Zealand, made at the fiftieth session of the Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees (TWO).


[Annex follows]



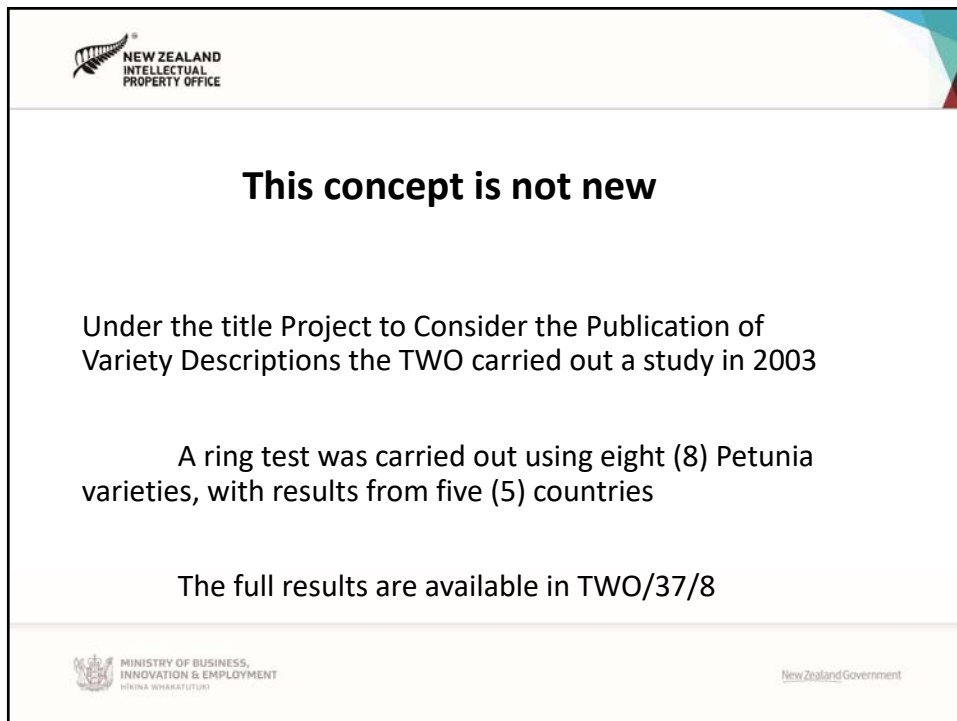
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**Using variety descriptions as an
examination tool:
Interpreting variety variation**

UPOV Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees
50th Session
Victoria, Canada

 **MINISTRY OF BUSINESS,
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This concept is not new

Under the title Project to Consider the Publication of
Variety Descriptions the TWO carried out a study in 2003

A ring test was carried out using eight (8) Petunia
varieties, with results from five (5) countries

The full results are available in TWO/37/8

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How does the environment impact on characteristic expression?

1. Qualitative characteristics expressed identical expression in all countries
2. Quantitative characteristics expressed some variation in certain characteristics between countries
3. Variation in colour expression and the use of RHS Colour Charts indicated some variation between countries

An Example

Variety	Country	Flower type	Flower diameter	Corolla lobe: colour	Corolla lobe: venation	Corolla tube: colour
Sunsolos	DE	1	2	light blue violet	7	dark violet
	CA	1	4	light blue violet	7	blue violet
	NZ	1	3	violet	7	dark violet
	PL	1	5	light blue violet	5	violet
	JP	1	3	light blue violet	-	dark violet

For Petunia variety `Sunsolos`

The variety can be consistently grouped as:

- Flower single and smaller diameter
- Corolla lobe blue violet to violet colour and strong venation
- Corolla tube violet to dark violet colour

For Petunia, this example indicates the possibility of using descriptions for identifying similar varieties

Descriptions can add to the great resource **The Internet**

Thirteen years later



- This earlier study compliments more recent studies
- Variety descriptions can be used to supplement or add to information about that variety
- Descriptions expand the set of global varieties of common knowledge
- **Description information is more readily available**

Environmental influence on character expression can be difficult to predict

There is a need to have knowledge of the genus
and species

And to some extent of the variety itself

The use of a single variety description requires prior understanding of the genus

**An authority must also be clear on how a foreign
description is to be used**

- **To identify similar varieties**
- **For a grant decision**
- **For another purpose**

Limitations of variety descriptions

1. For infringements where a variety requires identification in a specific environment
2. For specific determination of difference between varieties
3. Knowledge of the original DUS growing trial

USE IN PRACTICE


 **TWO PETUNIAS**



NZ Petunia:
Application date: 18 March 2014
– No previous sales

German Petunia:
Application date: 12 May 2014
1st date sale: 15th Jan 2014

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The two Petunias were not grown side by side

One in Germany

One in New Zealand

Knowledge of the environmental influence on characteristics allowed an effective supplementary examination

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Going Forward

The UPOV model form for technical examination could be enhanced with a section on details of the growing trial used for the description

??????????

[End of Annex and of document]