

Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees TWO/53/5

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EXAMPLE VARIETIES FOR ASTERISKED QUANTITATIVE CHARACTERISTICS WHEN ILLUSTRATIONS ARE PROVIDED

Document prepared by an expert from Germany

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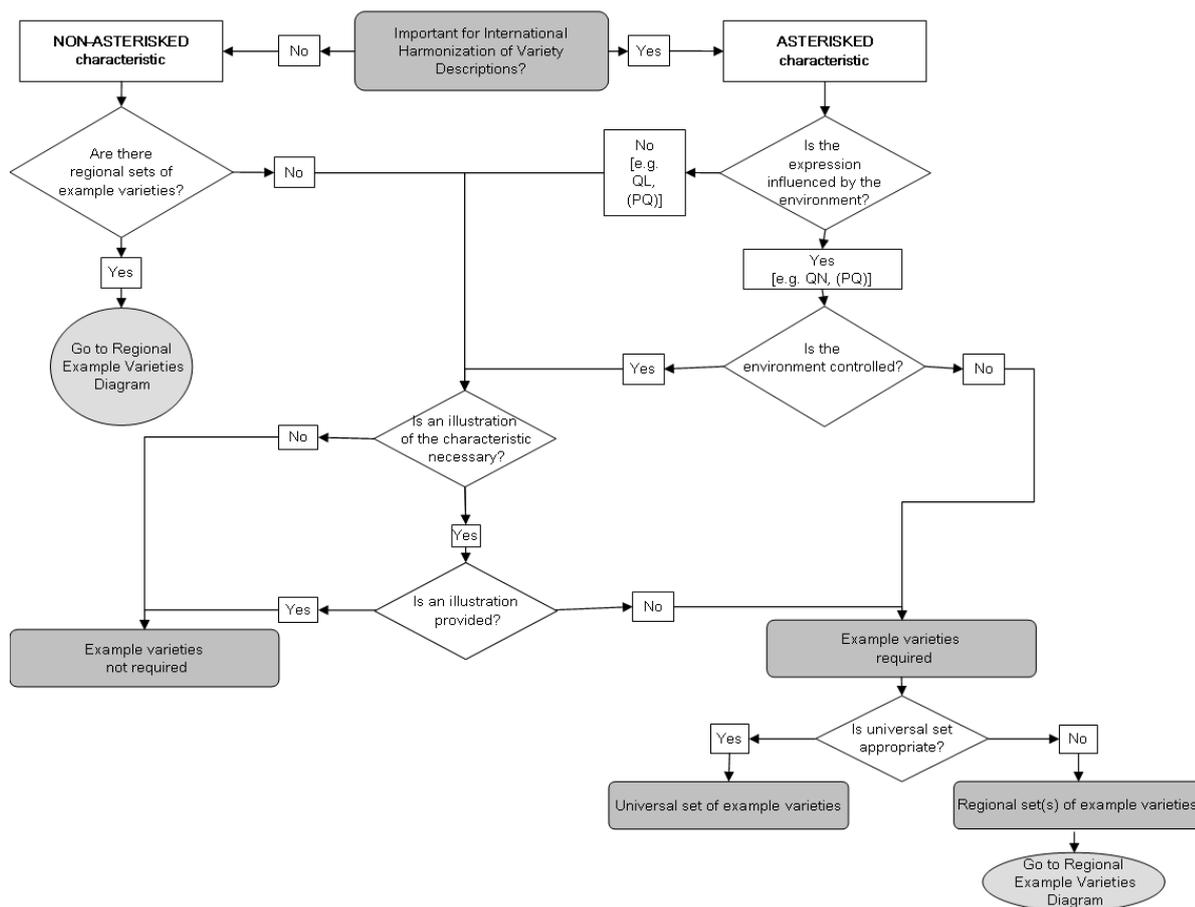
INTRODUCTION

1. During the TWO in June 2020 a Test Guidelines has been discussed for which the TC-EDC asked for example varieties for quantitative and pseudo-qualitative characteristics which were well illustrated. In the discussion it became clear that the guidance given in document TGP/7/7 "Development of Test Guidelines" on the necessity for example varieties for asterisked characteristics might lead to a misunderstanding. In document TGP/7/8 of October 2020 the wording of the guidance is the same as in document TGP/7/7.

2. In document TGP/7/8 paragraph 1.3 (iii) and paragraph 1.4 of GN 28 (Chapter 6.4) read as follows:

"(iii) If a characteristic is important for the international harmonization of variety descriptions (asterisked characteristics) and is influenced by the environment (most quantitative and pseudo-qualitative characteristics) or example varieties are necessary for illustration of the characteristic (see Section 3.1) it is necessary to provide example varieties."

"1.4 The process for deciding if example varieties need to be provided for a characteristic is illustrated in the following Flow Diagram 1..."



3. From the flow diagram it becomes clear that example varieties are not necessary for quantitative characteristics which are observed in a controlled environment and where an illustration is provided. This is not in line with the text in paragraph 1.3 (iii).

4. Another point is that the diagram does not take into account the additional guidance which is given in paragraph 4.1 of GN 28 (Chapter 6.4).

5. GN 28 paragraph "4.1 Illustration of a characteristic" reads as follows:

"Although example varieties have the benefit of enabling examiners to see a characteristic in "real life", in many cases the illustration of a characteristic by photographs or drawings (to be provided in chapter 8 of the Test Guidelines) may provide a clearer illustration of the characteristic. Furthermore, the difficulty in selecting suitable example varieties, which satisfy all the requirements in Section 4.2 below, means that photographs or drawings are an important alternative or addition to example varieties as a means of illustrating characteristics."

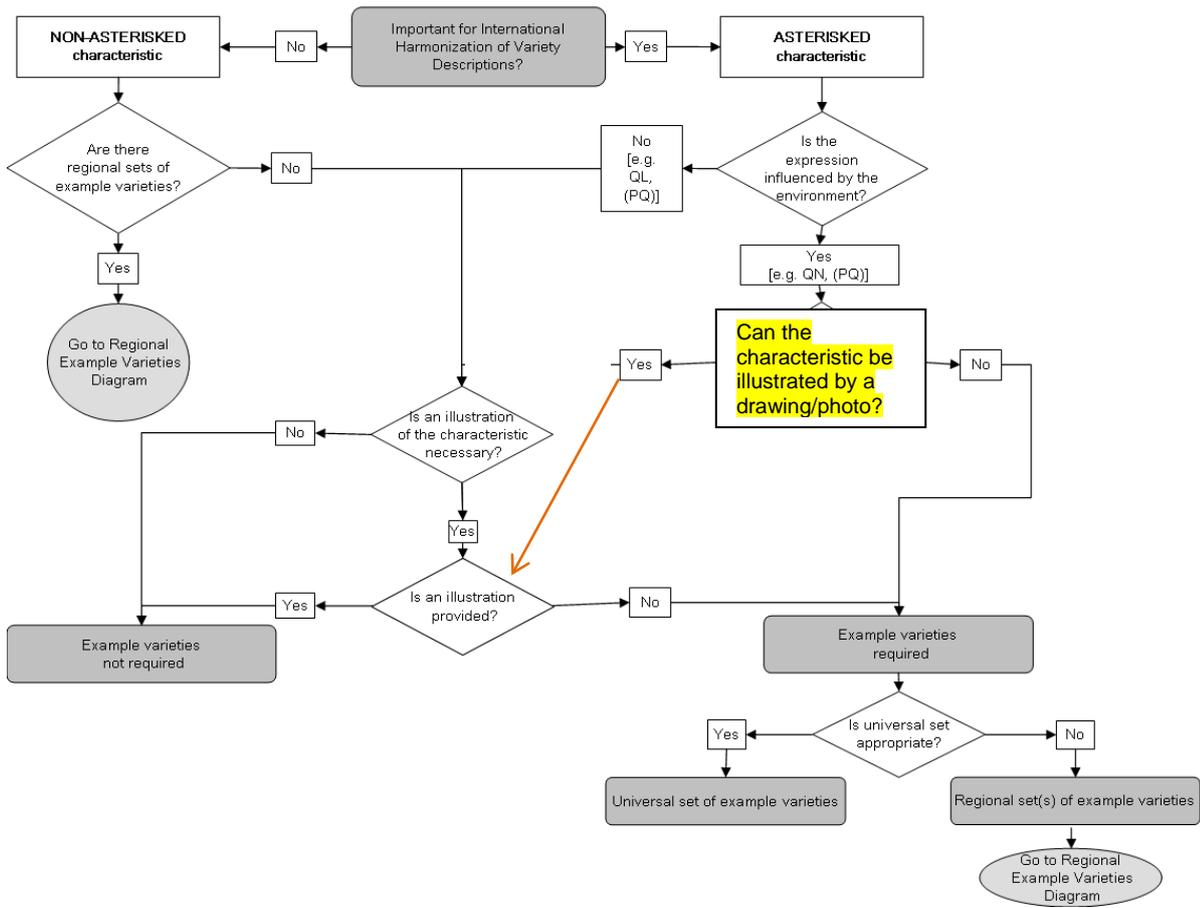
6. It should be emphasized that most of the quantitative and pseudo-qualitative characteristics in ornamental test guidelines could be illustrated by drawings or photographs and only a few need example varieties like height, length, width and diameter.

7. In order to clarify the use of illustrations in test guidelines it seems necessary to change paragraph 1.3 (iii) of GN 28 in document TGP/7/8 and Flow Diagram 1.

PROPOSAL FOR A NEW WORDING OF PARAGRAPH 1.3 (III) OF GN 28 IN TGP/7/8

"(iii) If a characteristic is important for the international harmonization of variety descriptions (asterisked characteristics) and cannot be illustrated by photographs or drawings in a meaningful way ~~(is influenced by the environment (most quantitative and pseudo-qualitative characteristics) or example varieties are necessary for illustration of the characteristic~~ (see Section 3.1) it is necessary to provide example varieties."

PROPOSAL TO CHANGE FLOW DIAGRAM 1



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