

Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees TWO/56/4**Fifty-Sixth Session
Virtual meeting, April 29 to May 2, 2024****Original:** English
Date: March 26, 2024**PARTIAL REVISION OF THE TEST GUIDELINES FOR ALOE***Document prepared by an expert from the Netherlands**Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance*

1. The purpose of this document is to present a proposal for a partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Aloe (document TG/310/1).
2. The Technical Working Party for Ornamentals (TWO), at its fifty-fifth session¹, agreed that the Test Guidelines for Aloe (*Aloe L.*) should be partially revised (see document TWO/55/11 "Report", Annex II).
3. The following changes are proposed:
 - (a) Removal of the asterisk from all flower characteristics: 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 30, 33, 36, 37, 41, 43 and 45
 - I. The reason for this removal is the fact that in our experience part of the varieties selected for their ornamental leaves, especially from hybrid origin, are not flowering or it takes many years to start flowering and the flowering characteristics are sometimes not very distinctive. Especially for the ornamental types the leaf characteristics are often enough unique to establish the distinctness from other varieties of common knowledge.
 - (b) As a consequence to this removal, we can add to the grouping characteristics the following text: 'If plants of a variety under optimal growing conditions do not flower within one or two growing seasons and they are clearly distinguishable on vegetative characteristics, the items d, e and f with characteristics 18, 25 and 41 are optional.'
 - (c) As a consequence to this removal we have to adapt the information in 8.1 – Explanations covering several characteristics
 - I. The following sentence has been added: 'If the observations are chosen to be made on non-flowering plants this should be done at the end of the growing season after full development of the leaves.'
 - (d) As a consequence to this removal we have to adapt the information on the TQ
 - I. We want to know on forehand if the flowering characteristics of the variety are not very relevant and/or the variety is not flowering in the first year.
 - II. We have to make clear that the following characteristics are not compulsory in case a variety does not flower or has difficulty to flower under optimal growing conditions and/or they are clearly distinguishable from other varieties on vegetative characteristics: 5.4 (18), 5.5 (25) en 5.6 (41).
4. The proposed changes are presented below in highlight and underline (insertion) and ~~strikethrough~~ (deletion).

¹ held via electronic means, from June 12 to 16, 2023.

Removal of the asterisk from all flower characteristics

	English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielssorten Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
18. (*) (+)	VG	Inflorescence: branching	Inflorescence : ramification	Blütenstand: Verzweigung	Inflorescencia: ramificación	
QL	absent	aucune	fehlend	ausente	Ice Cap	1
	primary	primaire	einfach	primaria	Twice as Nice	2
	secondary	secondaire	doppelt	secundaria	Koeleman's Orange	3
	tertiary	tertiaire	dreifach	terciaria	Coral Red	4
19. (*) (+)	VG/ MS	Inflorescence: number of racemes	Inflorescence : nombre de grappes	Blütenstand: Anzahl Blütentrauben	Inflorescencia: número de racimos	
QN	one	une	eine	uno	Rooiklip	1
	two	deux	zwei	dos	Bountiful Bronny	2
	three to five	trois à cinq	drei oder fünf	de tres a cinco	Goldbells	3
	six to ten	cinq à dix	sechs bis zehn	de seis a diez	Etam	4
	more than ten	plus de dix	über zehn	más de diez	Lake Kyle	5
20. (*) (+)	VG/ MS	Inflorescence: length	Inflorescence : longueur	Blütenstand: Länge	Inflorescencia: longitud	
QN	very short	très courte	sehr kurz	muy corta		1
	short	courte	kurz	corta	Twice as Nice	3
	medium	moyenne	mittel	media	Royal Claret	5
	long	longue	lang	larga	Firechief	7
	very long	très longue	sehr lang	muy larga	Erik the Red	9
22. (*) (+)	VG	Peduncle: color	Pédoncule : couleur	Blütenstandsstiel: Farbe	Pedúnculo: color	
PQ	greenish only	verdâtre seulement	nur grünlich	solo verdoso	Twice as Nice	1
	greenish and reddish	verdâtre et rougeâtre	grünlich und rötlich	verdoso y rojizo	Ice Cap	2
	reddish only	rougeâtre seulement	nur rötlich	solo rojizo	Orange Jade	3
	brownish	brunâtre	bräunlich	amarronado	Lemon Drops	4
23. (*) (+)	VG	Lateral raceme: attitude	Grappe latérale : port	Seitliche Blütentraube: Haltung	Racimo lateral: porte	
QN	erect	dressée	aufgerichtet	erecto	Ruby Blaze	1
	semi-erect	demi-dressée	halbaufgerichtet	semierecto	Red Parade	2
	horizontal	horizontale	waagrecht	horizontal	Red Horizon	3

	English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielsorten Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
25 (*) (+)	VG	Terminal raceme: shape	Étage terminal : forme	Terminale Blütentraube: Form	Racimo terminal: forma	
PQ		capitate	capité	kopfförmig	capitada	Baby Cloud 1
		corymbose-capitate	corymbe-capité	doldentraubig	corimboso-capitada	Lemon Drops 2
		capitate to conical	capité à conique	kopfförmig bis kegelförmig	capitada a cónica	Little Joker 3
		conical	conique	kegelförmig	cónica	Orange Jade 4
		conico-cylindrical	cylindro-conique	kegelförmig-zylindrisch	cónico-cilíndrica	Hilko 5
		cylindrical	cylindrique	zylindrisch	cilíndrica	Southern Cross 6
26. (*) (+)	VG	Terminal raceme: ratio length/width	Étage terminal : rapport longueur/largeur	Terminale Blütentraube: Verhältnis Länge/Breite	Racimo terminal: relación longitud/anchura	
QN		very low	très bas	sehr klein	muy baja	1
		low	bas	klein	baja	Goldibells 3
		medium	moyen	mittel	media	Havenga's Pride 5
		high	élevé	groß	alta	Eiffel 7
		very high	très élevé	sehr groß	muy alta	9
27. (*) (+)	VG	Terminal raceme: density of flowers	Étage terminal : densité des fleurs	Terminale Blütentraube: Dichte der Blüten	Racimo terminal: densidad de flores	
QN		sparse	lâche	locker	laxa	Ice Cap 3
		medium	moyenne	mittel	media	Twice as Nice 5
		dense	dense	dicht	densa	Lake Kyle, Winter Festival 7
30. (*)	VG	Immature flower bud: main color	Bouton floral immature : couleur principale	Unreife Blütenknospe: Hauptfarbe	Botón floral inmaduro: color principal	
PQ	(b) (c)	RHS Colour Chart (indicate reference number)	Code RHS des couleurs (indiquer le numéro de référence)	RHS-Farbkarte (Nummer angeben)	Carta de colores RHS (indíquese el número de referencia)	
33. (*)	VG	Mature flower bud: main color	Bouton floral mature : couleur principale	Reife Blütenknospe: Hauptfarbe	Botón floral maduro: color principal	
PQ	(b) (d)	RHS Colour Chart (indicate reference number)	Code RHS des couleurs (indiquer le numéro de référence)	RHS-Farbkarte (Nummer angeben)	Carta de colores RHS (indíquese el número de referencia)	
36 (*)	VG	Pedicel: main color	Pédicelle : couleur principale	Blütenstiel: Hauptfarbe	Pedicelo: color principal	
PQ	(b)	greenish	verdâtre	grünlich	verdoso	Ice Cap 1
	(e)	yellowish	jaunâtre	gelblich	amarillento	Lemon Drops 2
		orange	orange	orange	naranja	Bushwhacker 3
		reddish	rougeâtre	rötlich	rojizo	Little Joker 4
		brownish	brunâtre	bräunlich	amarronado	Andgol 5

	English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielsorten Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota	
37. (*) (+)	VG	Flower: basal swelling	Fleur : gonflement de la base	Blüte: basale Schwellung	Flor: hinchazón basal		
QN	(e)	weak	faible	gering	débil	Leo8544	1
		medium	moyen	mittel	media	Pink Lady	3
		strong	fort	stark	fuerte	Yellow maculata	5
41. (*)	VG	Outer perianth segment: main color of outer side	Enveloppe extérieure du périanthe : couleur principale de la face extérieure	Äußeres Blütenhüllensegment: Hauptfarbe der Außenseite	Segmento externo del perianto: color principal de la cara externa		
PQ	(b) (e)	RHS Colour Chart (indicate reference number)	Code RHS des couleurs (indiquer le numéro de référence)	RHS-Farbkarte (Nummer angeben)	Carta de colores RHS (indíquese el número de referencia)		
43. (*)	VG	Inner perianth segment: main color of apex of inner side	Enveloppe intérieure du périanthe : principale couleur du sommet de la face intérieure	Inneres Blütenhüllensegment: Hauptfarbe der Spitze der Innenseite	Segmento interno del perianto: color principal del ápice de la cara interna		
PQ	(b)	white	blanc	weiß	blanco		1
	(e)	green	vert	grün	verde	Ice Cap	2
		yellow	jaune	gelb	amarillo	Twice as Nice	3
		red	rouge	rot	rojo		4
		purple	violet	purpurn	púrpura	Koeleman's Red	5
		brown	brun	braun	marrón	Koeleman's Orange	6
45. (*)	VG	Filament: anthocyanin coloration	Filament : pigmentation anthocyanique	Staubfaden: Anthocyanfärbung	Filamento: pigmentación antocíánica		
QN	(f)	absent or weak	nulle ou faible	fehlend oder gering	ausente o débil	Bekkies, Ice Cap	1
		medium	moyenne	mittel	media	Majesty	2
		strong	forte	stark	fuerte	Red Parade	3

Changes to the grouping characteristics in Chapter 5.3

Current wording:

5.3 The following have been agreed as useful grouping characteristics:

- (a) Leaf: spots on upper side (characteristic 11)
- (b) Leaf: color of marginal zone of upper side (characteristic 13)
- (c) Leaf: marginal teeth (characteristic 14)
- (d) Inflorescence: branching (characteristic 18)
- (e) Terminal raceme: shape (characteristic 25)
- (f) Outer perianth segment: main color of outer side (characteristic 41) with the following groups:
 - Gr. 1: white
 - Gr. 2: green
 - Gr. 3: yellow
 - Gr. 4: orange
 - Gr. 5: pink
 - Gr. 6: red

Proposed new wording:

5.3 The following have been agreed as useful grouping characteristics:

- (a) Leaf: spots on upper side (characteristic 11)
- (b) Leaf: color of marginal zone of upper side (characteristic 13)
- (c) Leaf: marginal teeth (characteristic 14)
- (d) Inflorescence: branching (characteristic 18)
- (e) Terminal raceme: shape (characteristic 25)
- (f) Outer perianth segment: main color of outer side (characteristic 41) with the following groups:
 - Gr. 1: white
 - Gr. 2: green
 - Gr. 3: yellow
 - Gr. 4: orange
 - Gr. 5: pink
 - Gr. 6: red

Remark: If plants of a variety under optimal growing conditions do not flower within one or two growing seasons and they are clearly distinguishable on vegetative characteristics, the items d, e and f with characteristics 18, 25 and 41 are optional.

Revision of chapter 8.1 "Explanations covering several characteristics", explanation covering all characteristics

Current wording:

Unless otherwise indicated, observations should be made at the time of full flowering.

Proposed new wording:

Unless otherwise indicated, observations should be made at the time of full flowering.

If the observations are chosen to be made on non-flowering plants this should be done at the end of the growing season after full development of the leaves.

Addition to chapter 10.4.3 – Technical Questionnaire

Proposed addition:

4.3 Flowering of the variety

4.3.1 Plants of the variety have difficulty to flower under optimal growing conditions and/or *they are clearly distinguishable from other varieties on vegetative characteristics* []

Addition to item 10.5 – Technical Questionnaire

Proposed addition:

Remark: The following characteristics are not compulsory in case plants of a variety have difficulty to flower under optimal growing conditions and they are clearly distinguishable from other varieties on vegetative characteristics: 5.4 (18), 5.5 (25) en 5.6 (41).

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