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**TECHNICAL WORKING PARTY FOR VEGETABLES**

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**WORKING PAPER ON REVISED DRAFT TEST GUIDELINES FOR EGG PLANT**  
*(Solanum melongena L.)*

*Document prepared by the experts from the Netherlands*

## I. Subject of these Guidelines

These Test Guidelines apply to all varieties of *Solanum melongena* L.

## II. Material Required

1. The competent authorities decide when, where and in what quantity and quality the seed required for testing the variety is to be delivered. Applicants submitting material from a State other than that in which the testing takes place must make sure that all customs formalities are complied with. The minimum quantity of seed to be supplied by the applicant in one or several samples should be:

10 g.

The seed should at least meet the minimum requirements for germination capacity, moisture content and purity for marketing certified seed in the country in which the application is made. The germination capacity should be as high as possible.

2. The plant material must not have undergone any treatment unless the competent authorities allow or request such treatment. If it has been treated, full details of the treatment must be given.

## III. Conduct of Tests

1. The minimum duration of tests should normally be two independent growing cycles.

2. The tests should normally be conducted at one place. If any important characteristics of the variety cannot be seen at that place, the variety may be tested at an additional place.

3. The tests should be carried out under conditions ensuring normal growth. The size of the plots should be such that plants or parts of plants may be removed for measurement and counting without prejudice to the observations which must be made up to the end of the growing period. As a minimum, each test should include 20 plants, which should be divided between two or more replicates. Separate plots for observation and for measuring can only be used if they have been subject to similar environmental conditions.

4. Additional tests for special purposes may be established.

## IV. Methods and Observations

1. All observations determined by measurement or counting should be made on 10 plants or parts of 10 plants.

2. For the assessment of uniformity a population standard of 2 % for open pollinated varieties and of 1 % for hybrid varieties with an acceptance probability of 95 % should be applied. In the case of 20 plants, the maximum number of off-types allowed would be 1 for hybrid varieties, whereas for open-pollinated varieties it would be 2.

3. Unless otherwise indicated, all observations on the plant and leaves should be made after the first node starts to flower and before the start of the harvest.

4. Unless otherwise indicated, all observations on the fruit should be made on the first normally developed fruits of trusses.

V. Grouping of Varieties

1. The collection to be grown should be divided into groups to facilitate the assessment of distinctness. Characteristics which are suitable for grouping purposes are those which are known from experience not to vary, or to vary only slightly, within a variety and which in their various states are fairly evenly distributed within the collection.

2. It is recommended that the competent authorities use the following characteristics for grouping varieties:

- (i) Fruit: length (characteristic ..)
- (ii) Fruit: ratio length/diameter (characteristic ..)
- (iii) Fruit: general shape (characteristic ..)
- (iv) Fruit: color of skin at commercial harvesting (characteristic ..)
- (v) Fruit: stripes (characteristic ..)
- (vi) Fruit: color of flesh (characteristic ..)

VI. Characteristics and Symbols

1. To assess distinctness, uniformity and stability, the characteristics and their states as given in the Table of Characteristics should be used.

2. Notes (1 to 9), for the purposes of electronic data processing, are given opposite the states of the different characteristics.

3. Legend:

(\*) Characteristics that should be used every growing period for the examinations of all varieties and should always be included in the description of the variety, except when the state of expression of a preceding characteristic or regional environmental conditions render this impossible.

(+) See Explanations on the Table of Characteristics in chapter VIII.

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VII. Table of Characteristics/Tableau des caractères/Merkmalstabelle/Tabla de caracteres

English	français	Deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielssorten Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
<b>1. Seedling: anthocyanin coloration hypocotyl</b>	<b>of</b>				
Absent				Listada de Gandia	1
Present				Baluroi, Bonica	9
<b>2. Seedling: intensity mod of anthocyanin coloration of hypocotyl</b>					
Very weak				Whitegg	1
Weak				Bonica	3
Medium				Baluroi	5
Strong				Larga Morada	7
Very strong					9
<b>3. Plant: growth mod habit</b>	<b>growth</b>				
Erect				<i>Pingtung Long, Violetta Lunga 2, Purpura, Baluroi</i>	1
Semi-erect				Ovana, Bonica	3
Horizontal				Listada de Gandia, <i>Slim Purple, Irene, Black Bell</i>	5
<b>4. Plant: height mod</b>					
Very short					1
Short				Adona, Monstrueuse de New York, Whitegg	3
Medium				<i>Tudela, Short Tom</i>	5
Tall				<i>Avan, Baluroi</i>	7
Very tall				<i>Nilo</i>	9

English	français	Deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielssorten Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
<b>5. Stem: length from mod cotyledons to node of first flower</b>					
Very short				Ova	1
Short				Dourga	3
Medium				Bonica	5
Long				De Barbentane	7
Very long				Nilo	9
<b>6. Stem: anthocyanin coloration</b>					
Absent				Dourga	1
Present				Baluroi	9
<b>7. Stem: intensity of mod anthocyanin coloration</b>					
Very weak				<i>Dourga</i>	1
Weak				Bonica	3
Medium				Baluroi	5
Strong				Redonda de Valencia, Short Tom	7
Very strong				<i>Prosperosa</i>	9
<b>8. Stem: pubescence mod</b>					
Weak				Black Oval, <i>Baluroi</i>	3
Medium				<i>Abrivado, Bonica</i>	5
Strong				Bolan, <i>Estival, Mistral</i>	7
<b>9. del Branch: length of internodes</b>					
Short				Ebany	3
Medium				Baluroi	5
Long				Malibu	7

English	français	Deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielssorten Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
<b>10. Leaf blade: size mod</b>					
Very small					1
Small				Short Tom	3
Medium				Baluroi	5
Large				Bonica	7
Very large				Morisca	9
<b>11. Leaf: margin del</b>					
Entire					1
Dentate					2
Sinuate					3
<b>12. Leaf blade: sinuation of margin mod</b>					
Absent or very weak				<i>Baluroi, Bonica</i>	1
Weak				<i>Adria</i>	3
Medium				<i>Epic, Fabiola</i>	5
Strong				<i>Niteking, Dalia, Tasca</i>	7
Very strong					9
<b>13. Leaf blade: blistering mod</b>					
Absent or very weak				Baluroi	1
Weak				Ritmo	3
Medium				Bonica	5
Strong				Oria	7
Very strong					9

English	français	Deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielssorten Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
<b>14. Leaf blade:</b>					
<b>del spininess</b>					
Absent or very weak				Bonica	1
Weak				Baren	3
Medium				Baluroi	5
Strong				Larga Morada	7
Very strong					9

English	français	Deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielssorten Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
<b>15. mod</b>	<b>Leaf blade: intensity of green color</b>				
	Light			Black Beauty	3
	Medium			Bonica, Baluroi	5
	Dark			Purpura, Short Tom	7
<b>New</b>	<b>Inflorescence: number of flowers</b>				
	One to three				1
	More than three			Whitegg	2
<b>New</b>	<b>Flower: size</b>				
	Small			Cima viola	3
	Medium			Violetta di new York	5
	Large			Prosperosa	7
<b>16. mod</b>	<b>Flower: intensity of purple color</b>				
	Light			Listada de Gandia	3
	Medium			Baluroi	5
	Dark			Redonda Negra	7
<b>17. mod</b>	<b>Fruit: length</b>				
	Very short			Whitegg	1
	Short			Birgah	3
	Medium			Cava	5
	Long			Mistral	7
	Very long			Indira, Slim Purple	9



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**18. Fruit: maximum  
mod diameter**

Very small	Slim Purple, Whitegg	1
Small	Mistral, Indira	3
Medium	Cava	5
Large	Bonica	7
Very large	Birgah	9

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**19. Fruit: ratio  
mod length/maximum  
diameter**

Very small	Kermit, Birgah	1
Small	Bonica	3
Medium	Cava	5
Large	Mistral	7
Very large	Indira, Slim Purple	9

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**20. Fruit: shape  
mod**

Globular	Kermit, Purpura, Violetta di New York	1
Ovoid	Whitegg, Beatrice	2
Drop shaped	Oria, Black King	3
Pear shaped	Listada de Gandia	4
Club shaped	Mileda, Baluroi, Solara	5
Elliptipsoid	Volta	6
Cylindric	Slim Purple, Tango, Mirabelle	7

<b>21. mod</b>	<b>Fruit: size of pistil scar</b>		
	Very small	Whiteegg	1
	Small	Baluroi	3
	Medium	Bonica	5
	Large	Semi Redonda Negra	7
	Very large	Purpura	9
<b>22. mod</b>	<b>Fruit: shape of apex</b>		
	Indented		1
	Flattened	Prosperosa	2
	Rounded	Baluroi	3
	Obtuse	Short Tom, Slim Purple	4
<b>23. new</b>	<b>Fruit: depth of indentation of pistil scar</b>		
	Absent or very shallow		1
	Shallow		3
	Medium		5
	Deep		7
	Very deep		9
<b>24.</b>	<b>Fruit: curvature (only for cylindrical types)</b>		
	Absent or very weak		1
	Weak		3
	Medium		5
	Strong		7
	Very strong		9

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**25. Fruit: main color  
mod of skin at harvest  
maturity**

White	Dourga	1
Green	Kermit	2
Red Violet	Purpura,	3
Blue violet	Baluroi, Bride	4

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**New Fruit: development  
of main color of  
skin at harvest  
maturity**

Even	Baluroi	1
Gradual	Kermit, Purpura	2

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**26. Fruit: intensity of  
mod main color of skin  
(except for white;  
as for 25)**

Very light		1
Light	Bride	3
Medium	Purpura	5
Dark		7
Very dark	Faselis	9

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**27. Fruit: stripes**

Absent	Baluroi	1
Present	<i>Bandera</i>	9

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**New Fruit: patches**

Absent	Baluroi	1
Present	Kermit, Galine	9

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**New Fruit: prominence  
of stripes**

Weak	Bride	3
Medium		5
Strong	Bandera	7

<b>New</b>	<b>Fruit: conspicuity of patches</b>		
	weak	Galine	3
	Medium		5
	strong	Kermit	7
<b>28.</b>	<b>Fruit: density of stripes</b>		
	Sparse		3
	Medium		5
	Dense	Bandera	7
<b>29.</b>	<b>Fruit: glossiness at harvest maturity</b>		
	Weak	<i>Short Tom</i>	3
	Medium	<i>Baluroi</i>	5
	Strong	<i>Elisa</i>	7
<b>30. del</b>	<b>Fruit: ribs</b>		
	Absent	Reina Negra	1
	Present	Monstrueuse de New York	9
<b>31. del</b>	<b>Fruit: prominence of ribs</b>		
	Weak		3
	Medium	Redonda Morada	5
	Strong	Semi Redonda Negra	7
<b>New</b>	<b>Fruit: ribs</b>		
	Absent or very weak	Reina Negra, Bonica	1
	Weak	Bibo	3
	Medium	Redonda Morada	5
	Strong	Black Beauty	7
	Very strong		9

<b>33.</b>	<b>Fruit: anthocyanin coloration underneath calyx</b>		
	Absent	<i>Pingtung Valence</i> Long, Ronde de	1
	Present	Baluroi	9
<b>34. del</b>	<b>Fruit: intensity of anthocyanin coloration <u>below</u> calyx</b>		
	Weak	Short Tom	3
	Medium	Black beauty	5
	Strong	Baluroi	7
<b>new</b>	<b>Fruit: length of peduncle</b>		
	Very short	Golden Eggs	1
	Short	Globo	3
	Medium	Madonna	5
	Long	Telar	7
	Very long	Adria, Avan	9
<b>32. mod</b>	<b>Fruit: size of calyx</b>		
	Very small	Whitegg	1
	Small	Dourga	3
	Medium	Baluroi	5
	Large	Larga Morada	7
	Very large	Solara	9
<b>35.</b>	<b>Fruit: anthocyanin coloration of calyx</b>		
	Absent	Dourga	1
	Present	Short Tom	9

**36. Fruit: intensity of anthocyanin coloration of calyx**

Very weak	Dourga	1
Weak	Baluroi	3
Medium	Mileda	5
Strong	De Barbentane	7
Very strong	Ronde de Valence, Short Tom	9

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**37. Fruit: spininess of calyx**

Absent or very weak	<i>Freia</i>	1
Weak	Bonica	3
Medium	Baluroi	5
Strong	<i>Bibo</i>	7
Very strong		9

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**New Fruit: creasing of calyx**

Very weak		1
Weak	Telar	3
Medium	Bonica	5
Strong	Talina	7
Very strong	Linda	9

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**38. Fruit: color of flesh**

Whitish	Dourga	1
Greenish	Baluroi	2

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**39. Fruit: color of skin mod at physiological ripeness**

Yellow	Dourga	1
Orange	Comprido Verde Claro	2
Ochre	Adria, Vernal	3
Brown	Baluroi, Abrivado	4

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**40. Time of beginning  
of flowering**

Early	Prelane	3
Medium	Bonica	5
Late	Monstrueuse de New York	7

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**41. Time of  
physiological  
ripeness**

Early	Dourga, Prelane	3
Medium	Bonica	5
Late	Monstrueuse de New York	7

VIII. Explanations on the Table of Characteristics/Explications du tableau  
des caractères/Erklärungen zu der Merkmalstabelle



IX. Literature/Littérature/Literatur

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