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WORKING PAPER ON TEST GUIDELINES FOR RUNNER BEAN  
(REVISION)

*Document prepared by experts from the Netherlands*

<u>TABLE OF CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
I. Subject of these Guidelines .....	3
II. Material Required .....	3
III. Conduct of Tests .....	3
IV. Methods and Observations .....	3
V. Grouping of Varieties .....	4
VI. Characteristics and Symbols .....	4
VII. Table of Characteristics .....	5
VIII. Explanations on the Table of Characteristics .....	13
IX. Literature .....	13
X. Technical Questionnaire .....	13

I. Subject of these Guidelines

These Guidelines apply to all varieties of *Phaseolus coccineus* 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. As a minimum, for each year of test the following quantity of seed is recommended:

2000 g. or 6000 seeds.

The quality of the seed to be delivered should not be below the standards of seeds for marketing standard seed in the country concerned, especially with regard to germination capacity and moisture content.

2. The seed 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 be two similar growing periods.

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 measuring 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 a total of 60 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. For uniformity due to partly cross polination relative uniformity or population standard of 2% resulting in max 3 off types per 60 plants allowed.

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 20 plants or parts of 20 plants.

2. All observations on the pod should be made at fresh harvest maturity. All observations on the seed should be made at the mature dry stage.

3. All observations on the seed should be made on harvested material (and not on seed sent in by the applicant).

#### 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) Plant: growth type (characteristic 2)
- (ii) Flower: color (characteristic 12)
- (iii) Pod: stringiness (characteristic 17)
- (iv) Seed: main color (characteristic 28)

#### 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 expression for 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.

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. Plant: anthocyanin coloration of hypocotyledon</b>					
absent				Emergo, White Lady	1
present				Fergie, Streamline	9
<b>2. Plant: growth type</b>					
dwarf				Pickwick	1
climbing				Enorma	2
<b>3. <u>Dwarf Beans only:</u> Plant height</b>					
short					3
medium				Hammond's Dwarf Scarlet	5
tall					7
<b>4. <u>Climbing beans only:</u> Plant starts climbing (80% of plants)</b>					
early				Butler	3
medium				White Lady, Flame	5
late				White Apollo	7
<b>5. <u>Climbing beans only:</u> Plant: speed of climbing</b>					
slow				White Apollo	3
medium				Emergo Stringless	5
rapid				Butler, Fergie	7

English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielssorten Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
<b>6. Leaf: ground color</b>					
yellow green				Sun Bright	1
true green				Kelvedon Wonder	2
<b>7. Leaf: intensity of green color</b>					
light				Red Rum, White Lady	3
medium				Galaxy, Kelvedon Stringless	5
dark				Emergo Stringless, Pallas	7
<b>8. Leaf: rugosity</b>					
weak				Desiree, Titan	3
medium				Riley	5
strong				Enorma	7
<b>9. Terminal leaflet: size</b>					
(+)					
small				Pallas, Sun Bright	3
medium				Red Rum	5
large				Emergo	7
<b>10. Terminal leaflet: shape</b>					
(+)					
triangular				Red Rum	1
triangular to circular				Flame	2
circular					3
circular to quadrangular				Pallas	4
quadrangular				Armstrong, Sun Bright	5

English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielssorten Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
<b>11. Terminal leaflet: apex</b>					
(+)					
short acuminate					3
medium acuminate				Armstrong	5
long acuminate				Pallas	7
<b>12. Flower: color</b>					
white				Desiree, Emergo	1
pink				Riley	2
red				Armstrong, Streamline	3
red standard and white wing petals				Painted Lady	4
<b>13. Pod: length (including beak)</b>					
very short				Sun Bright	1
short				Espartot, Painted Lady	3
medium				Emergo	5
long				Armstrong	7
very long				Liberty	9
<b>14. Pod: median width</b>					
narrow				Sun Bright	3
medium				Armstrong, Riley	5
broad				Titan	7
<b>15. Pod: shape of cross section (through seed)</b>					
elliptic to ovate				Desiree, Red Rum	1
cordate					2
circular					3
“eight shaped”					4

English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielssorten Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
<b>16. Pod: intensity of green color</b>					
very light				Sun Bright	1
light				Emergo	3
medium				Armstrong, Esparot	5
dark				Pallas	7
very dark					9
<b>17. Pod: stringiness</b>					
absent				Armstrong, Emergo Stringless	1
present				Enorma, Kelvedon Marvel	9
<b>18. Pod: degree of curvature</b>					
absent or very slight					1
slight				Red Rum	3
medium				Painted Lady	5
strong				Galaxy	7
very strong					9
<b>19. Pod: shape of curvature</b>					
concave					1
s-shaped					2
convex					3
<b>20. Pod: shape of distal part (excluding beak)</b>					
pointed					1
pointed to truncate					2
truncate					3



English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielssorten Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
<b>21. Pod: length of beak</b>					
short				Armstrong, Desiree	3
medium				Titan	5
long				Flame, Red Rum	7
<b>22. Pod: curvature of beak</b>					
absent or very weak				Sun Bright	1
weak				Emergo, Red Rum	3
medium				Desiree, Galaxy	5
strong				Armstrong	7
very strong					9
<b>23. Pod: constrictions (at dry stage)</b>					
absent or very slight					1
slight				Galaxy, Red Rum	3
medium				Armstrong, Emergo	5
pronounced				Enorma	7
very pronounced					9
<b>24. Seed: weight</b>					
very low				Sun Bright	1
low				Esparot	3
medium				Hammonds Dwarf Scarlet	5
high				Streamline Stringless	7
very high				Liberty	9

English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielssorten Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
<b>25. Seed: shape of median longitudinal section</b>					
(+)					
narrow elliptic				Painted Lady	1
elliptic				Emergo, Pallas	2
broad elliptic				Galaxy, Prizewinner Stringless	3
narrow ovate					4
ovate					5
broad ovate					6
circular					7
narrow kidney shaped					8
kidney shaped				Armstrong, Flame, Red Rum	9
broad kidney shaped				Esparot	10
<b>26. Seed: shape of median cross-section</b>					
(+)					
flat				Desiree	1
elliptic				Armstrong, Flame Red, Rum	2
circular					3
<b>27. Seed: number of colors</b>					
one				Emergo, Riley	1
two				Crusader, Enorma	2

English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielssorten Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
<b>28. Seed: main color</b>					
white				Desiree, Emergo	1
light brown				Melange	2
purple				Armstrong, Bonela, Sun Bright	3
violet				Painted Lady	4
black				Riley	5
<b>29. Seed: secondary color</b>					
brown					1
black				Armstrong	2
<b>30. Seed: distribution of predominant secondary color (+)</b>					
spotted				Enorma, Prijswinner	1
stained				Crusader, Kelvedon Stringless	2
<b>31. Seed: veining</b>					
weak				Enorma	3
medium				Desiree	5
strong					7
<b>32. Seed: color of hilar ring</b>					
same color as seed				Desiree	1
not same as seed				Flame, Red Rum	2

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English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties Exemples Beispielssorten Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
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<b>33.</b>	<b>Time of flowering (50% of the plants with at least one flower)</b>				
early				Hestia, Red Rum	3
medium				Armstrong, Flame	5
late				Esparot, Sun Bright	7

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VIII. Explanations on the Table of Characteristics

[still to be prepared]

IX. Literature

[still to be prepared]

X. Technical Questionnaire

[still to be prepared]

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