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UPOV

TWV/24/10
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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

GENEVA

TECHNICAL WORKING PARTY FOR VEGETABLES

Twenty - fourth Session

Kecskemét, Hungary, June 4 to 7, 1991

REPORT

adopted by the Technical Working Party for Vegetables

Opening of the Session

1. The twenty-fourth session of the Technical Working Party for Vegetables (hereinafter referred to as "the Working Party") was held in Kecskemét, Hungary, from June 4 to 7, 1991. The list of participants appears in Annex I to this report.

2. Dr. B. Szalóczy, Deputy Director-General, Institute for Agricultural Qualification, Ministry of Agriculture and Food, welcomed the participants to Hungary. The session was opened by Mr. N.P.A. van Marrewijk (The Netherlands), Chairman of the Working Party.

Adoption of the Agenda

3. The Working Party adopted the agenda for its twenty-fourth session, which is reproduced in document TWV/24/1, after having agreed to insert the following new items: Report on the results of the Diplomatic Conference for the Revision of the UPOV Convention; Umbrella varieties; Cooperation with breeders.

Short Reports on Special Problems or Difficulties Encountered

4. The Working Party received short reports from some of the experts on further recent developments in their countries. The expert from The Netherlands reported on the administrative reorganization of variety testing, leading to the foundation of the Centre for Plant Breeding and Reproduction Research (CPRO = Centrum voor Plantenveredelings- en Reproductie-Onderzoek) and on continuing problems with the testing of mushrooms. A summary of his report is reproduced in Annex II to this report. The expert from Germany reported on the changes as a result of unification with the former German Democratic Republic (GDR). All varieties protected in one of the States before the date of unification were protected in all of Germany as of that date. At present, plant variety protection was also available for medicinal and aromatic plants. Eight new trial stations in the former GDR had been included in the Bundessortenamt.

Report on the Twenty-sixth Session of the Technical Committee

5. Dr. M.-H. Thiele-Wittig reported on the main subjects of interest to the Working Party that were raised during the previous session of the Technical Committee, referring for further information to the full report on that session, which is to be found in document TC/26/5.

Recommendations of the Technical Committee

6. Amended Standard Technical Questionnaire and Variety Description Form. The Working Party noted document TC/26/6, which reproduces the amended UPOV standard technical questionnaire and also the UPOV Variety Description Form. It appreciated that the Technical Committee had reconsidered the wording of one paragraph on the basis of remarks made by it at the last session.

7. Harmonization of States of Expression. The Working Party noted the request of the Technical Committee that account be taken of the examples and rules of document TC/26/4 Rev. on the Harmonization of States of Expression and Notes of Characteristics when new Test Guidelines were drawn up or existing ones revised.

8. Quantity of Plant Material to be Supplied by the Applicant. The Working Party noted paragraph 43 of document TC/26/5 on the differences in the indication in the Test Guidelines of the quantity of plant material to be supplied by the applicant. It saw no problem in these different approaches, and no conflict in the fact of the first sample sent in by the applicant being the sample representing the variety. The Working Party preferred to indicate the quantity needed for each year of testing as the length of the test could not be definitely determined on the date of application (especially in the case of vegetatively propagated varieties).

Report on the Results of the Diplomatic Conference for the Revision of the UPOV Convention

9. Dr. M.-H. Thiele-Wittig informed the Working Party of the main results of the Diplomatic Conference for the Revision of the UPOV Convention, which took place from March 4 to 19, 1991, and which on March 19, 1991, unanimously adopted a new text for the UPOV Convention. He highlighted the definition of variety, the increased scope of protection, its application after a certain period to all plant genera and species, the introduction of the so-called "farmer's privilege," the possibility of membership for organizations that had their own plant breeders' rights systems, and the introduction of the system of dependency for essentially derived varieties.

Umbrella Varieties

10. Dr. Valvassori (European Economic Community) reported that, as already noted by the Working Party during its previous session (see document TWV/XXIII/22), the EEC had identified 111 old vegetable varieties to be re-inscribed by splitting them, in principle, into different varieties. Since then the Commission of the European Communities (Decision 90/639/EEC - OJ NL 348, 12.12.1990) had specified the names to be borne by the derived varieties. Member States planning the renewal of the acceptance of such varieties had to ensure that the varieties bore the names specified at Community level. Four had already begun to implement the Community Decision (supplement to the Common Catalogue of Varieties of Vegetable Species - OJ C 96A, 12.04.1991).

Items for the Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs

11. Similar Varieties. The Working Party noted document TWC/VIII/15 on similar varieties. It agreed that the document was useful for experts wishing to apply it in the presence of many measured characteristics. In the Working Party's field of competence it might be applied to certain species such as onions and carrots. For most other species it was seen to be of little use, as only few characteristics were measured and most would be assessed visually. The Working Party would start from the other end in preparing the testing, in other words, instead of searching for similar varieties, it would delete from the list of varieties all those that were clearly dissimilar. It would work mainly with grouping characteristics and therefore deal with small groups which could be readily overseen. Consequently, the need for extensive computer programs was seldom felt.

Minimum Distances Between Varieties

12. The Working Party noted document TWC/VIII/9 Rev. It further noted that the Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs had asked for the document to be studied by the Technical Working Parties, and for any comments on it to be presented to that Working Party. The present Working Party also took note of document TWC/VIII/14, which explained the relation between least significant difference and minimum distance. The Working Party noted that the documents required more biometrical and statistical work to be done, which, because of the few measured characteristics, had not been usual except for a few vegetable species.

13. That was also the reason why no progress had been made with the application of the Combined Over-Years Distinctness (COYD) Criterion. In addition, a number of technical and organizational difficulties had been encountered, including a lack of the necessary hardware, a lack of software (only very few countries had software) and a lack of experts to operate it. The software was considered not to be user-friendly for experts who rarely had to handle measured characteristics. Finally, the Technical Committee was asked to review its past recommendation regarding the use of COYD analysis for vegetable species. In the meantime the Working Party would continue to use the old UPOV criterion in the case of measured characteristics, until a way out of the present difficulties was found after some more intensive studies.

Cooperation with Breeders

14. The Working Party noted document TWA/20/6, which explained a system at present under study in France, whereby for maize inbred lines the applicant and the national office did one year of DUS testing each. If the results of both series of tests agreed, the decision to grant variety protection could be made on the basis of the official test results of one year in at least two locations. The breeder thus saved one year. The Working Party agreed to follow that study.

Disease Resistance Characteristics

15. Lack of time prevented the Working Party from discussing this item.

New Methods, Techniques and Equipment in the Examination of Varieties

16. Lack of time prevented the Working Party from discussing this item.

Variety Denomination Classes for Brassica

17. The Working Party noted Circular U 1681, which contained proposals for grouping species of Brassica for the purposes of variety denomination, prepared on the basis of a proposal made by the Working Party, and also Circular U 1725, which opposed the changes. It noted that the Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops could not accept the proposal to combine the Brassica species from the present classes 5 and 6 in one class (with the exception of Sinapis, which would be in another class). In its opinion this would create other problems with the naming of varieties. The Working Party, in an effort to find a solution for the species Brassica chinensis and Brassica pekinensis, therefore proposed including these species in class 5 for market and use reasons and excluding them from class 6 in case taxonomists decided to attribute them to Brassica rapa.

Final Discussions on Test Guidelines

Test Guidelines for Parsley

18. The Working Party noted documents TG/136/2(proj.) and TWV/24/4. It finally made the following main changes to document TWV/24/4:

(i) Methods and Observations: In paragraph 1 the figure "90" was replaced by "40."

(ii) Grouping of Varieties: The second grouping characteristic should be characteristic 23.

(iii) Table of Characteristics:

Characteristics

1 The example variety "Einfache Schnitt" to be completed to read "Einfache Schnitt 2" here and in all characteristics in which it appeared

3 To receive an asterisk

6 To receive a "+"

7 The example variety "US Paramount" to be corrected to read "Paramount"

9 To be deleted

14 The example variety "Commun 2" to be replaced by "Einfache Schnitt 2"

22 To receive an asterisk

Test Guidelines for Tomato (Revision)

19. The Working Party noted documents TG/44/4(proj.), TWV/24/2 and TWV/24/8 as well as additional comments made by Mr. Brand (France). It finally made the following main changes to document TWV/24/2, in addition to the proposed changes to the example varieties and the additional methods in document TWV/24/8:

(i) Material Required: The required seed to be 25g (10g for hybrids).

(ii) Table of Characteristics:

Characteristics

5,6 To have their order reversed

7,8,9,38 To receive an asterisk

13 To have the additional state "drooping (Montfavet H. 63,5)" and the Notes changed to "3, 5, 7"

17 To have the additional example variety "High Crimson (2)"

20 To have the additional example variety "Sweet 100 (1)" and "Freude" replaced by "Europeel (3)" and "Vollendung" by "Diego" and "Alphamech (5)"

21 To have the additional state "obovoid (8)" and the example variety "San Marzano 2" (state 7) corrected

24 To read: "Fruit: shape at stalk end"

27 To read: "Fruit: shape at blossom end"

30 To have the word "predominant" deleted and the word "to" replaced by "and"

32,33 To have the time refer to characteristic 31

35 To have the example varieties for Note 3 given for Note 2 and the additional example variety "Ferline (5)"

36 To have the additional state "white (1)" and the additional example variety "Regina (4)"

36,39 To have the time refer to characteristic 35

37 To have the asterisk deleted

42,43 To be grouped together

46,47,48 To be grouped together

50 To be placed before 40; Mr. Brand to prepare explanations

51 Mr. Brand to indicate the method; after this characteristic two new characteristics to be inserted reading: "(a) Resistance to Pseudomonas solanaceum" (Mr. Watanabe to supply the method to Mr. Brand) and "(b) Resistance to Yellow Leaf Curl Virus" (Mr. Brand to supply the method)

Test Guidelines for Pea (Revision)

20. The Working Party noted documents TG/7/5(proj.) and TWV/XXIII/19, and also document TWV/24/9, which was distributed during the session. It finally made the following main changes to document TWV/24/9:

(i) Table of Characteristics:

Characteristics

15 To have the bracketed addition "yellow and blue green varieties excluded" and the states reading: "light, medium, dark"

17 To have the word "occurrence" replaced by "presence"

18 To have the second state read: "well developed"

20 To read: "Leaf: average of maximum number of leaflets"

25 To read: "Leaf: waxiness of upper surface of leaflet"

26 To read: "Stipule: waxiness of upper surface of stipule"

38 To have the order of the states reversed

42 To be observed at the second flowering node

44 To be observed at the second fertile node

45 To have the bracketed addition "as for 44"

46 To have the states: "absent (1), partially present (2), entirely present (3)"

54 To be restricted to "Varieties with no or only partial parchment"

58 To have the states "light (1), dark (2)"

62 To read: "Dry seed: 100 seeds weight" with the states from "very low" to "very high"

63 to 66 To be grouped together

67 To be kept, despite the absence of controlled infection; the sentence on resistance to be completed with "or if under natural infection the test was reliable and repeatable"

69 + 70 To be grouped together and to mention all seven races

(ii) Explanations on the Table of Characteristics: The majority of the explanations to be transferred to the Annex with the exception of the explanations on the following characteristics: 2, 7b, 9, 10, 19, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 39, 40, 43, 45, 46, 57, 62, and 63 to 73, some of which received a few changes.

(iii) Changes in the Explanations:

Ad 12, 14, 26, 42, 44, 52, 53 To be deleted

Ad 8 To have the word "expression" replaced by "degree"

Ad 9, 28, 58 To have the second sentence deleted

Ad 13, 35, 36, 37, 38, 40, 50, 55, 56 To have the first sentence deleted

Ad 31 To apply also to characteristic 32

Ad 34 To have the last sentence deleted and the words "at least" added before "one flower"

Ad 39, 45 To have the word "measurements" replaced by "observations"

Ad 40 To receive an additional drawing for state 1 and to have the reference to example varieties deleted

Ad 43 To receive drawings

Ad 46 To have the order of the drawings reversed; the first sentence to read: "The observations should be made on dry pods"; the last two sentences to be deleted

Ad 51 To have the words "on a sample of plants and" deleted

Ad 62 To have the words "but can be useful as a discriminator" deleted

(iv) Literature: To have references 2, 3, 4, 11, 12, 13, 20, 50, 60, 61, 73 in the Annex to document TWV/24/9 and two references each from Cousin and Fourmont of the list of documents (TC/27/4) included in the Test Guidelines.

Discussion of Working Papers on Test Guidelines

Test Guidelines for Cabbage (Revision)

21. The Working Party noted document TWV/XXIII/2 Rev. and made the following main changes in that document:

(i) Grouping Characteristics: The first grouping to be made according to the subspecies.

(ii) Table of Characteristics:

Characteristics

1.1 The example varieties in the whole table to be completed with the indication of the three groups: white cabbage (w), red cabbage (r) and Savoy cabbage (s) (Mr. Van Ettekoven (NL) to supply the information), and also several example varieties of former umbrella varieties to be completed and others corrected, replaced or added

3,6,15,30 To have the asterisk deleted

7 To have the Notes "3, 5, 7"

29 To have the additional state "greenish (2)"

(iii) Technical Questionnaire: Paragraph 1(iv) to read: "Inter-subspecific hybrid of the above groups (give details)" and in paragraph 4.1 the word "breeding" to be replaced by "maintenance and reproduction."

Test Guidelines for French Bean (Revision)

22. The Working Party noted documents TG/12/4 and TWV/XXIII/10 Rev. and made the following main changes in document TWV/XXIII/10 Rev.:

(i) Methods and Observations: In paragraph 1 the figure "60" should be replaced twice by "20" and in paragraph 2 the observations on the pod should be done at the time of fresh market maturity.

(ii) Table of Characteristics:

Characteristics

2 To have the contents of the brackets deleted

12 To have the wording of the states and the Notes checked

13,15 To be put in the singular

16 To have the present characteristic 16 reintroduced

19a To receive an asterisk and to have the word "thickness" and the brackets deleted and the states read: "small, medium, large"

19 To be checked to determine whether it should be reduced to two states, Mr. Van Ettekoven to prepare drawings for explanation

21 To receive additional example varieties for "light yellow" from the German expert

22,23,24 To have the word "pigmentation" replaced by "secondary color"

25 To have the explanations deleted

32 To have the word "grains" replaced by "seeds," the expert from Germany to indicate example varieties

36 To read: "Seed: 100 seeds weight" with the states from "very low" to "very high"

37a To read: "Seed: width"

39,41 To be combined to read: "Seed: number of colors" with the states "one, two, more than two"

40 To have the word "main" replaced by "ground"

42 To have the state "green or greenish" deleted

43 To have the states "around hilum, in streaks, on half of grain, in patches"

45 To have the states read: "same color as seed, not same color as seed (state color)"

46 To have the different races mentioned as 46.1, 46.2, 46.3, 46.4 and 46.5; the race lambda to receive an asterisk; the German expert to circulate the method to experts from France, The Netherlands, United Kingdom and Hungary by the end of September

47 To have the word "tolerant" in the last state replaced by "resistant"; the German expert to supply the method; after this characteristic the following additional characteristics to be included: "(a) Resistance to Pseudomonas phaseolicola" (the German expert to supply the method) and "(b) Resistance to Xanthomonas vesicatoria" (the expert from Hungary to supply the method)

(iii) Literature: The experts to send literature references to the UPOV Office.

(iv) Technical Questionnaire: Characteristic 11 to be included after 5.1, and the pod and the seed to be inserted under 7.2(ii) as first main use.

23. In connection with the discussions on the Test Guidelines for French Bean, the Working Party had a general discussion on the order of grouping characteristics in the Technical Notes. It finally agreed to indicate the characteristics in the order of their appearance in the Table of Characteristics, irrespective of the fact that the value of the characteristics might be different for grouping purposes, and that in general qualitative characteristics would be used in the first instance even if listed at the end.

24. The Working Party also had a general discussion on the correct place for physiological characteristics in the Table of Characteristics. It eventually concluded that they should continue, as at present, to be indicated at the end of the Table of Characteristics. Moreover, all characteristics of a given organ would be grouped together, irrespective of the time of observation.

Test Guidelines for Watermelon

25. The Working Party noted documents TWV/24/3 and TWV/24/6 and made the following main changes in document TWV/24/3:

(i) Subject of these Test Guidelines: To have the exclusion deleted.

(ii) Conduct of Tests: To have the figure "30" in paragraph 3 replaced by "20."

(iii) Methods and Observations: To have the words "first well developed" inserted before "mature" in paragraph 3.

(iv) Grouping of Varieties: To have the additional grouping characteristic "Ploidy."

(v) Table of Characteristics:

Characteristics

1 To have the example varieties "Yamato 3 (2); Mikawa Red Seedless (3); Fumin, Tetra Elena (4)"

6 To have the additional example varieties "Black Seeded Chilean (2)"

7 To have the example varieties "Mirage, A graine rouge à confire à chair rouge (3); Jubilé (5); Candida (7)"

8 To have the first state read "bush"

9,12 To be deleted

11,13 To refer to characteristic 10

13 To be checked by the expert from Japan to determine whether it refers to the average length

18 To have the word "Leaflet" replaced by "Leaf blade"; to have a new characteristic inserted after characteristic 18 reading: "Leaf blade: ratio length/width" with the states "small, medium, large" and example varieties to be indicated by Japan

19 To receive the additional example variety "Sugar Baby"

20 To have the example variety "Yamato 3" corrected

21 To read: "Third true leaf: degree of lobing"

22 To read after "margin" "of lobes of central third of plant (after flowering)"; Mr. Brand (France) to prepare a drawing, also for characteristic 21

23 To have the example variety "Klondike Striped 11 (7)"

24 To have the example varieties: "Rocio, Fabiola (3); Sugar Baby, Rodeo (5); Family Fun (7)"

As time prevented discussion of the document beyond characteristic 24, all experts would send their comments before the end of September to Mr. Watanabe, who would prepare a new draft for circulation.

Status of Test Guidelines

26. The Working Party agreed that the draft Test Guidelines for Parsley and Tomato (Revision) should be sent to the Technical Committee for final adoption as soon as the missing information had been received by the Office of UPOV.

27. The Working Party agreed that the draft Test Guidelines for Pea should be sent again to the professional organizations for comments in view of the considerable changes made in that document.

28. The Working Party agreed that the draft Test Guidelines for Cabbage (revision) and French Bean (revision) should be sent to the professional organizations for comments.

29. Lack of time prevented the Working Party from discussing the remaining working papers on Test Guidelines.

Future Program, Date and Place of Next Session

30. Having noted that the discussions on a large number of Test Guidelines had again--as they had for several years in a row--to be postponed for lack of time, the Working Party decided to hold two sessions in 1992 to work on the accumulated backlog. The twenty-fifth session would take place at the Embassy of South Africa in Paris, from January 15 to 17 (4 p.m.), and would be devoted exclusively to the discussion of Test Guidelines in the following order of priority:

(i) Watermelon (Mr. Watanabe (JP) to prepare a new draft)
(ii) Broccoli (TWV/XXIII/7 and 13)
(iii) Cauliflower (Revision) (TG/45/3, TWV/XXIII/3 Rev.)
(iv) Cucumber, Gherkin (Revision) (TG/61/3, TWV/XXI/12 + comments to be collected by Mr. Van Ettekoven (NL))
(v) Lettuce (Revision) (TG/13/4, TWV/XXIII/4 Rev. + comments to be collected by Mr. Van Marrewijk (NL))
(vi) Onion (Revision) (TG/46/3, TWV/XXIII/8)
(vii) Shallot (TWV/XXIII/9 Rev. + comments to be collected by Mr. Van Marrewijk (NL))
(viii) Spinach (Revision) (TG/55/3, TWV/XXI/11)
(ix) Witlof (TWV/XXIII/5 Rev. + comments to be prepared by Mr. Van Marrewijk (NL))
(x) Sweet Pepper (TG/76/3 + working paper to be prepared by Hungary on the basis of comments to be collected by the end of September)
(xi) Cucurbita maxima (TWV/XXII/16 + TWV/24/5)
(xii) Cucurbita moschata (working paper to be prepared by Mr. Brand (FR))
(xiii) Garlic (working paper to be prepared by Mr. Brand (FR))
(xiv) Chick Pea (TWV/XXIII/15 + comments to be received by Mr. Brand (FR))
(xv) Oenothera (TWV/XX/9 + working paper to be prepared by Mr. Bar-Tel (IL))
(xvi) Beetroot (Revision) (TG/60/3 + working paper to be prepared by Mr. Van Ettekoven (NL))

31. At the invitation of the expert from Germany, the Working Party agreed to hold its twenty-sixth session in Germany from June 23 to 26, 1992. The session would start on June 23 at 9 a.m. and would close on June 26 at 1 p.m.

Visits

32. On the afternoon of June 4, the Working Party paid a short visit to the Trial Station of the Institute for Agricultural Qualification. On the afternoon of June 5, it visited the Vegetable Crop Research Institute in Kecskemét-Kisfai, where it saw the breeding program and trials of tomato, cucumber and carrot, the Trial Station of the Institute for Agricultural Qualification at Kecskemét, where it was given an introduction to the vegetable trials and the registration system for new varieties, and the Variety Trial Station with trials on tomato and pepper varieties. On June 6 the Working Party inspected the sweet pepper production at the "Puskin" cooperative farm at Szegvár, tomato production at the "Arpád" cooperative farm in Szentes, paprika production and breeders' trials at the central station of the "Arpád" cooperative farm in Szentes, and visited the Trial Station of the Institute for Agricultural Qualification at Szarvas, with its outdoor variety trials, and the arboretum at Szarvas.

33. This report has been adopted by correspondence.

[Two annexes follow]

1158

TWV/24/10

ANNEX I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS AT THE TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE TECHNICAL WORKING PARTY FOR VEGETABLES, KECSKEMET, HUNGARY, JUNE 4 TO 7, 1991

I. MEMBER STATES

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[Annex II follows]

Ministerie van Landbouw, Natuurbeheer en Visserij

Dienst Landbouwkundig Onderzoek
Centrum voor Plantenveredelings- en Reproduktieonderzoek

cpro-dlo

Short Reports from the DUS-testing authorities in the Netherlands

~~RIVRO~~ → ~~CRZ~~ → **CPRO-DLO**

1977 - 1990 1990/1991 from June 1, 1991

Centre for Plant Breeding and Reproduction Research (C P R O)

From June 1, 1991 the amalgamations of institutes and research centres in the field of Plant Breeding Research, Application of Radiation in Plant Breeding, Seed Testing and Seed Technology Research, Variety Testing and Genetic Resources has resulted in the foundation of the new Centre for Plant Breeding and Reproduction Research (Dutch: Centrum voor Plantenveredelings- en Reproductie-Onderzoek) - **C P R O**.
(See Annex II to the Report of our working party of last year and the organigrams of national offices distributed by UPOV).
The new centre is one of the research centres belonging to the Dutch Agricultural Research Department - **D L O**.

The department for **DUS-testing (RKO)** of the former CRZ (RIVRO) will have a special status within the whole institute to garantee the independance of advice to the Board for Plant Breeder's Rights. The three Permanent Experts of the Board are directly responsible for the advices, reports and variety descriptions delivered to the Board.

The closer cooperation with the DUS-unit of NAK-G [DUS Testing and Listing of Varieties based on the EEC rules] is still under discussion and will be extended under the responsibility of Permanent Expert for Vegetable species. He will be responsible for the trial results and reports in case of Plant Variety Protection. All decisions in the field of Plant Variety Protection are taken by the Board for Plant Breeder's Rights.
NvM

Mushroom DUS Testing

The juridical procedures around the two mushroom varieties mentioned earlier are still under the court.
The department for Methodology in DUS-Testing (MORZ) studies reliable methods and characteristics for description of *Agaricus* species. For the two varieties concerned additional descriptions have been send to the Board for Plant Breeder's Rights.
An application of *Agaricus arvensis* is under test.

Applications of 'in vitro' propagated tomato and cucumber

Since last year we tested one application of each of these species. If the 'plant material' is more or less directly derived from existing (hybrid) varieties reliable and heritable distinctness is very difficult to prove, but required by a decision of the Board. Especially the effects induced during the 'in vitro' propagation cause a lot of complications. Material of the original seed propagated variety has to be raised under equal conditions, because otherwise it is impossible to study the distinctness characteristics in the right way. If not, authorities might describe induced characters without an heritable base (caused by a method in fact). But methods or techniques cannot be the subject of plant variety protection (yet). Disease resistance testing is another example of complications because the applicant will have to supply 'plant material' for each individual test, or the testing method has to be modified.

In fact these 'in vitro' propagated applications resulting from an excellent plant of a hybrid variety are 'derived varieties' according to the new convention.

In one species we observed clear differences between 'in vitro' and by seed propagated material during the first part of the harvest period, but after some time they dissappeared completely. In seed propagated varieties we very often do not observe such clear differences.

In cooperation with the methodology department we are studying the effects of 'in vitro' propagation on the expression of characteristics. Samples have also been collected for studies at molecular level.
NvM

CPRO/CRZ, Wageningen, 91.06.03.

[End of annex and of document]