



International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants

Technical Working Party for Vegetables

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GROUPING CHARACTERISTICS

Document prepared by an expert from the European Union

Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance

The Technical Working Party for Vegetables (TWV), at its fifty-fourth session, from May 11 to 15, 2020, agreed to add an agenda item for its fifty-fifth session on a proposal to indicate grouping characteristics in the Table of characteristics and TQ5 of UPOV Test Guidelines and invited the experts from the European Union and France to make a presentation in support of the proposal (see document TWV/54/9 "Report", paragraph 116).

The annex to this document contains a copy of a presentation "Grouping characteristics", to be made by an expert from the European Union, at the fifty fifth session of the TWV.

[Annex follows]

ANNEX





Grouping characteristics

Addition of the grouping information (G) in the table of characteristic and the technical questionnaire

1

Situation at UPOV

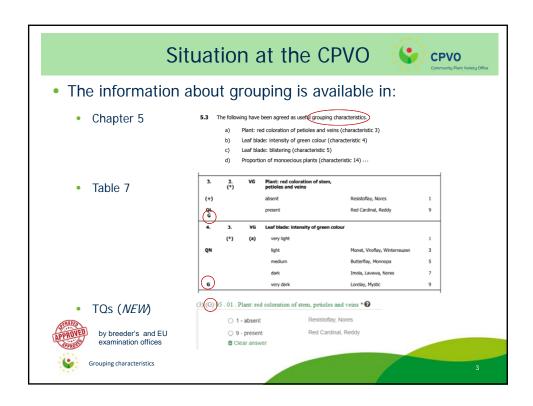
UPOV

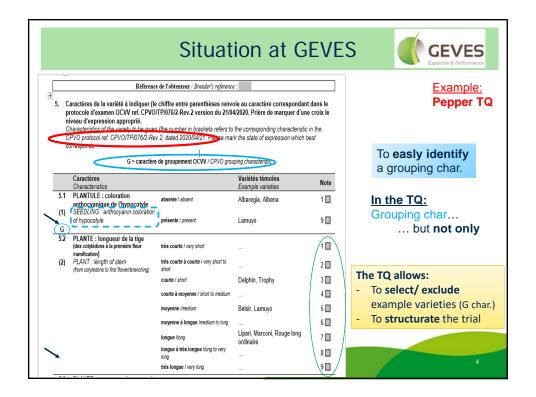
- Grouping information already available in the Test Guidelines (listed in chapter 5) – Harmonisation work already done between Member States during the revision process
- In table 7 information describing a characteristic are available in this table (methods of assessment, expression type, link to explanation...)
 but no info concerning the possible use for grouping.
- In the TQ according to the General introduction:

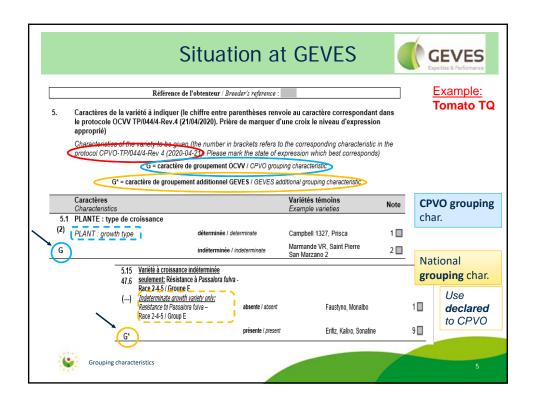
"The Grouping characteristic...3. Should be an asterisked characteristic and/or included in the Technical Questionnaire or application form."

The grouping characteristics are always mentioned in the TQ. However, the TQ also includes char. that are compulsory (*) but not used for grouping (G).









Proposal to display this information in the Table of characteristics (chapter 7) and in the TQ

- Benefit for DUS experts
 - Information about grouping will be always available both in the Test Guidelines/ Technical Protocols and the TQ
 - For authorities which use the UPOV TQ, and where a G char. is not used as such by the national authorities, proposal to add in the TQ an introducing sentence:

"grouping characteristics (G) <u>could be</u> used either to select varieties of common knowledge that can be excluded from the growing trial used for examination of distinctness or to organize the growing trial so that similar varieties are grouped together (for more information please read chapter 5 of the corresponding TG or contact the national authority performing the DUS test)

- Benefit for applicants
 - More transparency on the <u>possible</u> use of a characteristic for grouping
 - Information on grouping displayed in the meaning of the TG



Next steps

- To introduce this information when revising the Test Guidelines (no urgent need to update all documents at the same time)
- Pursue the harmonisation work on TQ to include this information

Thank you for your feedback!



[End of Annex and of document]