

Technical Working Party for Vegetables

TWV/58/5

**Fifty-Eighth Session
Virtual meeting, April 22 to 25, 2024**

Original: English
Date: March 22, 2024

PARTIAL REVISION OF THE TEST GUIDELINES FOR ASPARAGUS

Document prepared by an expert from Japan

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 Asparagus (document TG/130/4).
2. The Technical Working Party for Vegetables (TWV), at its fifty-seventh session¹, agreed that the Test Guidelines for Asparagus (*Asparagus officinalis* L.) be partially revised (see document TWV/57/26 Corr. "Report", Annex II).
3. The following changes are proposed:
 - (a) Revision of Characteristic 16 "Type of flowering"
 - (b) Revision of Ad.16: Type of flowering
4. The proposed changes are presented below in highlight and underline (insertion) and ~~strike through~~ (deletion).

Revision of Characteristic 16 "Type of flowering"

Current wording

	English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties/ Exemples/ Beispielsorten/ Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
16. (+) (*)	VG Type of flowering	Type de floraison	Blühtyp	Tipo de floración		
QL	plants with male flowers and plants with female flowers	plantes avec des fleurs mâles et plantes avec des fleurs femelles	Pflanzen mit männlichen Blüten und Pflanzen mit weiblichen Blüten	plantas con flores masculinas y plantas con flores femeninas	Andreas	1
	plants with male and female flowers	plantes avec des fleurs mâles et des fleurs femelles	Pflanzen mit männlichen und weiblichen Blüten	plantas con flores masculinas y femeninas	Argenteuil, Desto	2
	plants with androhermaphrodite flowers and plants with male flowers with style rudiments	plantes avec des fleurs androhermaphrodites et plantes avec des fleurs mâles avec rudiments de style	Pflanzen mit männlich-zwittrigen Blüten und Pflanzen mit männlichen Blüten mit Griffelrudimenten	plantas con flores hermafroditas masculinas y plantas con flores masculinas con estilo	Backlim, Gijnlim	3

¹ held in Antalya, Türkiye, from May 1 to 5, 2023, in hybrid format

Proposed new wording

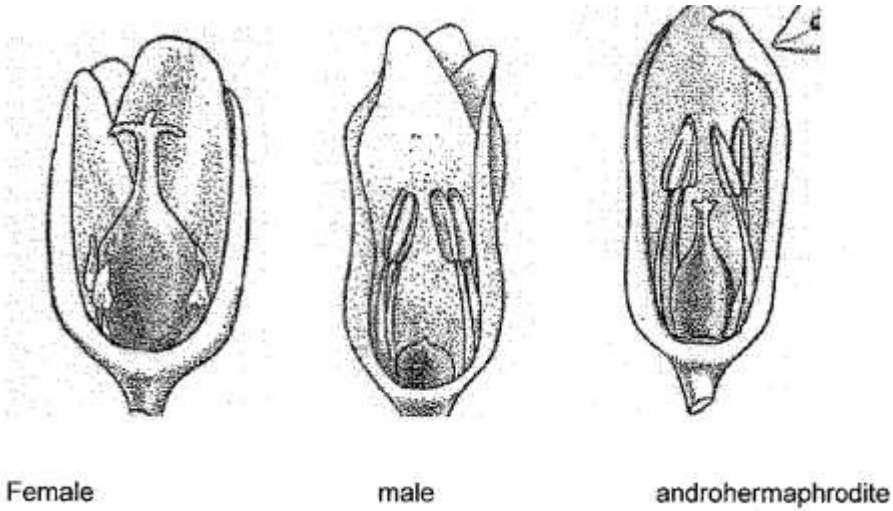
	English	français	deutsch	español	Example Varieties/ Exemples/ Beispielssorten/ Variedades ejemplo	Note/ Nota
16.	VG	Type of flowering	Type de floraison	Blühtyp	Tipo de floración	
(+)						
(*)						
QL	<u>only plants with male flowers without style rudiments and plants with female flowers</u>	<u>seulement</u> plantes avec des fleurs mâles <u>sans</u> rudiments de style <u>et</u> plantes avec des fleurs femelles	nur Pflanzen mit männlichen Blüten <u>ohne</u> Griffelrudimente <u>und</u> Pflanzen mit weiblichen Blüten	<u>solo</u> plantas con flores masculinas sin <u>estilo</u> y plantas con flores femeninas	<u>Andreas</u> , <u>Cumulus</u>	1
	plants with male <u>flowers</u> and <u>plants with</u> female flowers	plantes avec des fleurs mâles et <u>plantes avec</u> des fleurs femelles	Pflanzen mit männlichen Blüten <u>und</u> <u>Pflanzen mit</u> weiblichen Blüten	plantas con flores masculinas y <u>plantas con</u> <u>flores</u> femeninas	Argenteuil, Desto	2
	plants with <u>androhermaphrodite</u> flowers and plants with male flowers with style rudiments (including <u>plants with</u> <u>androhermaphrodite</u> flowers)	plantes avec <u>des fleurs</u> androhermaphrodites et plantes avec des fleurs mâles avec rudiments de style (<u>plantes avec</u> <u>des fleurs</u> androhermaphrodites <u>comprises</u>)	Pflanzen mit <u>männlich-zwittrigen</u> Blüten <u>und</u> <u>Pflanzen mit</u> männlichen Blüten mit Griffelrudimenten (<u>einschließlich</u> <u>Pflanzen mit</u> <u>männlich-zwittrigen</u> Blüten)	plantas con <u>flores</u> hermafroditas masculinas y plantas con flores masculinas con estilo (<u>incluidas las</u> <u>plantas con</u> <u>flores</u> hermafroditas masculinas)	Backlim, Gijnlim	3
	<u>only plants with</u> female flowers	<u>seulement</u> des plantes avec des fleurs femelles	<u>nur</u> Pflanzen mit weiblichen Blüten	<u>solo</u> plantas con flores femeninas	<u>L324</u>	<u>4</u>

5. Changes agreed to characteristics in the table of characteristics would also be reflected in Chapter 10 "Technical Questionnaire", Section 5 "Characteristics of the variety to be indicated".

Revision of Ad.16: Type of flowering

Current wording

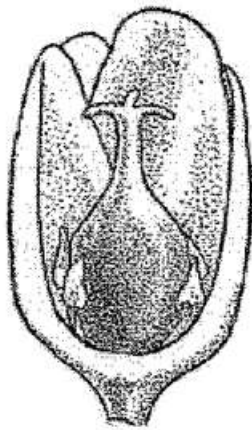
Ad. 16: Type of flowering



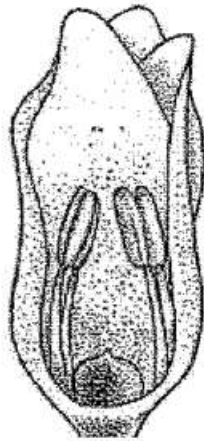
Type of male flowers: the flowers always have fully developed anthers; the style can be from absent to fully developed, but the stigmas are always rudimentary or absent. Even when two of the three stigmas are present, the flower is considered to be male. The male flower will not produce seeds.

The androhermaphrodite flower has three stigmas and anthers which produce pollen. The flower has the possibility, when self-pollinated, to produce a berry with some seeds.

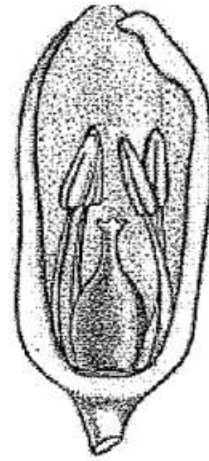
Proposed new wording



Female
Female flower

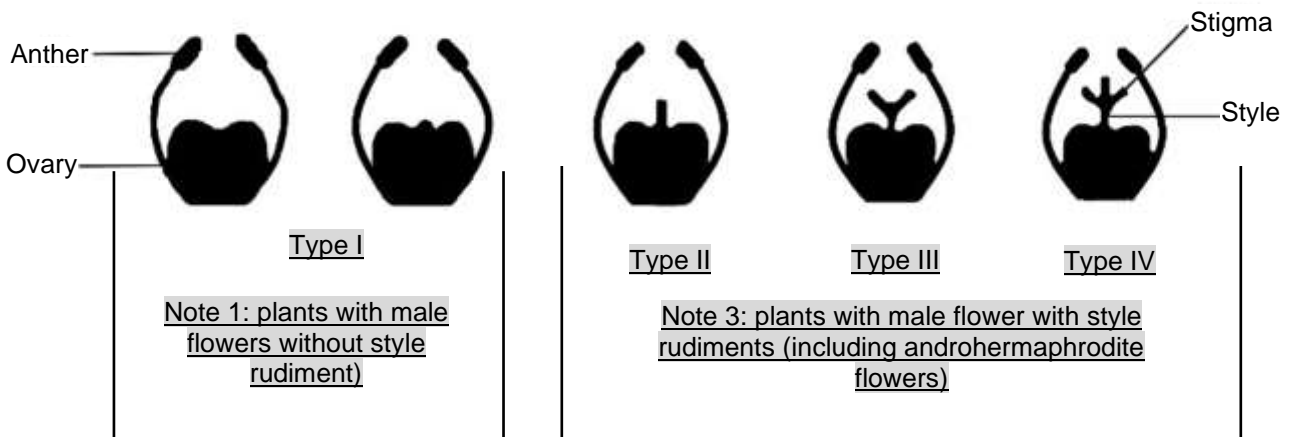


male
male flower
(without rudiment style)



androhermaphrodite
male flower
(with rudiment style including androhermaphrodite)

Type of male flowers



Type of male flowers: the flowers always have fully developed anthers; the style can be from absent to fully developed (Type I to IV), but the stigmas are always rudimentary or absent. Even when two of the three stigmas are present, the flower is considered to be male. The male flower will not produce seeds.

The androhermaphrodite flower (Type IV) has three stigmas and anthers which produce pollen. The flower has the possibility, when self-pollinated, to produce a berry with some seeds. These berries are always smaller and with less seeds than on female plants and in much smaller quantities.

Varieties with note 3 (plants with male flower with style rudiments) can also have plants with androhermaphrodite flowers. Within these varieties the ratio between male flowers with style rudiments (type II and III) and androhermaphrodite flowers (type IV) can vary, leading to a smaller or larger percentage of male plants with small berries.