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UPOV

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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

GENEVA

TECHNICAL WORKING PARTY FOR VEGETABLES

Seventeenth Session
Bet Dagan, Israel, June 11 to 15, 1984

REPORT

adopted by the Technical Working Party for Vegetables

Opening of the Session

1. The seventeenth session of the Technical Working Party for Vegetables (hereinafter referred to as "the Working Party") was held in the Kibbutz Shefayim near Tel Aviv, Israel, from June 11 to 15, 1984. The list of participants is given in Annex I to this report.

2. Dr. M. Hoffman, Chairman of the Plant Breeders' Rights Council, welcomed the participants to his country. The session was opened by Mr. F. Schneider, Chairman of the Working Party.

Adoption of the Agenda

3. The Working Party adopted the agenda as reproduced in document TWV/XVII/1, after having agreed to include after item 12 the following items:

(i) sanitary status,

(ii) minimum distances,

and after having deleted subitem (vii) of item 11.

Report on the Nineteenth Session of the Technical Committee

4. Dr. M.-H. Thiele-Wittig reported on the last session of the Technical Committee restricting himself to the main subjects discussed. The full report on that session is reproduced in document TC/XIX/5.

5. In connection with the report on the last session of the Technical Committee, the Working Party discussed several items and came to the following conclusions:

(i) Japanese Color Chart. The Working Party agreed that when checking the color chart it would not restrict itself solely to the colors for which also a segment had been prepared by a German firm but would also check the usefulness of the Japanese color chart with respect to green colors in vegetable species.

(ii) Homogeneity in Species Including Vegetatively Propagated Varieties and Varieties Produced by Seed. The Working Party was unable to concur with the opinion expressed by the Technical Committee at its last session that each group of varieties (vegetatively propagated varieties and varieties of the same species produced by seed) had to be judged according to its method of propagation. It was of the opinion that the homogeneity requirement had to be met at species level and not according to the type of propagation of a certain group within that species. It therefore asked the Technical Committee to rediscuss that question at its next session. It felt that it was not possible to have different degrees of homogeneity within one and the same species.

(iii) Homogeneity of the Hilum Color in Broad Beans. The Working Party considered the color of the hilum of broad beans a good grouping characteristic in respect of which plants would have to be homogeneous. Since the Working Party had not considered it possible to accept two levels of homogeneity within one species, as stated at (ii) above, the level of homogeneity for field beans would have to be exactly the same as for broad beans.

Final Discussion on Draft Test Guidelines

Draft Test Guidelines for Curly Kale

6. The Working Party noted the comments received by the Office of UPOV and reproduced in document TWV/XVII/10. However, it was not in a position to accept any change to the draft Test Guidelines for Curly Kale as reproduced in document TG/90/1(proj.) and requested the presentation of the draft Test Guidelines for Curly Kale to the Technical Committee for final adoption.

Draft Test Guidelines for Broad Bean, Field Bean

7. The Working Party noted the comments received by the Office of UPOV on the draft Test Guidelines for Broad Bean and Field Bean (document TG/8/2(proj.)) as reproduced in documents TWV/XVII/5 and TWV/XVII/9 and made the following main changes in document TG/8/2(proj.):

(i) Changes made in the Technical Notes:

Technical Note

1 the third sentence to be supplemented by the words "except where special circumstances justify"

3 the first sentence to be deleted as no member State separates the trials between spring and winter varieties, meaning that some of the varieties were never tested under conditions ensuring normal growth; the Working Party would recommend maintaining one single growing period either in autumn or in spring, but would not object to a change if the Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops found it absolutely necessary to separate the two groups of varieties

8 after this Technical Note, an additional Technical Note to be included reading: "All observations on the seed should be made on seed harvested in the dry stage"

(ii) Changes made in the Table of Characteristics:

Characteristic

1 to receive an asterisk and to read: "Seed: tannin (tested either by fluorescence test or by the vanillin test)" with the example varieties "Feligreen (1)" and "Gruno, Trio (9)"

2 to receive the addition in brackets "at green shell stage" and the additional states "very low (The Sutton) (1)" and "very high" (9)

4 to have the spelling of the example variety "Driemaal Wit" corrected and the example variety for state 7 deleted; the example variety "Driemaal Wit" should throughout the document replace the example variety "Dreifach weisse"

7 to have the word "green" from the states incorporated in the wording of the characteristic; before this characteristic, a new characteristic to be inserted reading: "Foliage: color" with the states "green, bluish green, greyish green"

8 to have the example variety "Alfred" deleted

9 to receive the addition in brackets "basal pair of leaf" and to have the example variety "Erfordia" replaced by "Superaguadulce Tézier"

10 to receive the addition in brackets "as for 9" and to have the example varieties "Talo (3), Ascott (5), Aguadulce (7)"

11 to have the example variety "Maris Beaver" replaced by "Banner"

14 to have the example variety "Staygreen" replaced by "Feligreen"

16 to have the example varieties "Driemaal Wit (1), Maxime (9)"

18 to have the spelling of "Aguadulce" corrected

19, 20 to keep the asterisk

19 to have the last two states read "semi-pendulous, pendulous" and the varieties "Statissa" and "The Sutton" separated by a comma

20 to receive the additional example varieties "Herra (1), Relon (9)" and to have the example variety "Muchamiel" deleted and the spelling of "Manfredini" corrected

21 to receive the additional example varieties "Herra (1), Aguadulce (9)"

22 to receive the addition in brackets "at green shell stage" and the following example varietes "Optica (1), Felissa (3), Witkiem (5), Groene Hangers (7)"

24 to have the spelling of the example variety "Witkiem" corrected

26 to receive the example varieties "Aguadulce (1), Manfredini (2), Maris Bead (3)"

27 to have the states "elliptic, broad elliptic, circular, oblong, square, ovate"

28 to be recorded on one scale only at constant weight and to have the example varieties "Skladia Kleine (1), Minica (3), Felix (5), Express (7), Giant Four Seeded Green Windsor, Histal (9)"

29 to have the first state read: "beige/grey white" and the additional example varieties "Red Epicure (3), Reina Mora (4), Vesuvio (5)"

30 to be deleted

31 to be a homogeneous characteristic and to read: "Seed: black pigmentation of hilum" with the states "absent (Driemaal Wit), present (Talo)"

32 to have the spelling of "Aguadulce" corrected and have the additional example variety "Gruno (7)"

(iii) In the Explanations and Methods, the explanations for characteristics 1, 14 and 29 would read as follows: "Tannin content of testa seems, as far as knowledge goes, to correlate fully with melanin spot on the flower wing. Maintaining of both characteristics in the list is based on the fact

that the observations on these characteristics are made at very different stages and mostly on very different moments. The content of tannin should preferably be tested by means of the vanillin test which is performed by making a little hole in the testa of the seed and touching this hole with a drop of concentrated hydrochloric acid (32%) in which is dissolved vanillin (3 gram per 100 ml acid). If tannin is present the edge of the hole will show rather quickly a red coloration. Another method is to assess fluorescence by using a light for near-UV, wave length 366 nm. Tannin present is judged to correlate with non-fluorescence. It appears that this method, however, demands a greater experience to get consistent results."

Comparison of Pea Variety Descriptions

8. The Working Party noted that seed of eight pea varieties had been sent from the Netherlands to the experts from France, the Federal Republic of Germany, New Zealand, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom (including Scotland). Descriptions on these pea varieties would be sent by December 15, 1984, to Mr. Habben (Federal Republic of Germany) who would prepare a comparison and conclusions of these trials for discussion during the coming session of the Working Party. The information with respect to the number of the first flowering node to be sent to Mr. Habben should not only indicate the state of expression but also the actual number of the first flowering node.

Study on How Tests are Carried Out in the Individual Member States

9. The Working Party agreed that, on the basis of the information in document TWV/XVI/7 and 7 Add., the experts from the Netherlands would prepare a proposal for the harmonization of the testing of tomato varieties, which would be circulated through the Office of UPOV to all the other member States for comments. This proposal and the comments would then form the basis for discussion of that subject during the coming session of the Working Party.

Tolerances for Inbred Plants

10. Once more, no agreement could be reached on tolerances for inbred plants due to the fact that

i) some countries also held inbred plants recognizable as such to be principally off-types;

ii) the same countries also thought that the officially submitted sample of inbred plants should meet the highest standards and for that reason no extra tolerance for inbred plants should be accepted;

iii) on the other hand, in France, 150% of the maximum number of off-types as given in the general introduction for truly self-pollinating plants, is allowed in species for which inbred plants are recognizable in a nursery stage (see TWV/XVII/17).

In view of the heterogeneity of opinions, it seemed pointless to enforce an agreement by voting.

List of Standard Books and Documents

11. The Working Party noted the information given in document TWV/XVII/7. It agreed that this list should be restricted to publications which were specially important for variety testing. That meant that no general publications would be included, such as for instance handbooks on breeding, phytopathology, mathematics etc., except in the cases where they dealt with methods of special significance for d.u.s. testing. Publications giving descriptions of varieties were important, but only if they treated in a reasonably complete way a species or a group of varieties belonging to a species. This list would be divided into groups according to species or groups of species. Within the group, the items would be presented in the alphabetical order of the authors. With the help of what had been collected up to now, a new list would be drafted by the Netherlands. The new proposal would be circulated through the Office of UPOV with the request for the inclusion of further publications. If no comments were received one month after circulation, the list would be considered approved by the member State concerned.

Items for the Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs

12. The Working Party noted that in some vegetable species where a clear classification is possible normally only a few varieties were tested in each species and that because of the low number per test the normal statistical methods gave less possibility of distinguishing between varieties. It therefore drew the attention of the Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs to the problem and asked for help in overcoming those difficulties. For this purpose, the experts from France would prepare by the end of September a working paper, taking onions and carrots as an example, describing the genetic situation of the species and explaining how these two species were tested for distinctness and homogeneity. The working paper would be circulated through the Office of UPOV to the other member States, which would be asked to give their comments by the end of November 1984. The document would then be sent by the end of January through the Chairman and the UPOV Office to the Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs.

Standard Test Guidelines

13. The Working Party noted documents TC/XIX/6 and TWV/XVII/11. The Working Party noted that in the Technical Notes so far used for the individual Test Guidelines, too many paragraphs were just repeated in each document and therefore not read, implying the risk that the whole of the Technical Notes would no longer be read by certain experts. It therefore agreed that it would be worthwhile revising the whole layout of the Technical Notes, with the possible result that some paragraphs dealing with mainly legal matters might be taken out completely and transferred to the General Introduction, while certain other parts might be placed in the section headed "Explanations and Methods." The experts from the Netherlands agreed to prepare a first proposal for the revision of the Technical Notes in which they would particularly try to separate various main groups, namely remarks on legal matters, remarks on the submitted sample, on the conduct of the trials, on the observations, on the grouping, on the list of characteristics and on the Technical Questionnaire. The Working Party considered the need for revision to be rather urgent and therefore agreed that at the same time the proposal made by the experts from the Netherlands was sent to the experts in the Working Party it should also be sent to the experts in the Technical Committee, and that each expert in the Working Party should send his comments on the proposal to his country's expert in the Technical Committee.

14. During the discussions of the Technical Notes and Technical Questionnaire, it was mentioned that the model for a report on technical examination adopted by UPOV (see document ST/IX/4, Annex VII, or Section 23 of the Collection of Important Text and Documents) did not specifically require the use of words in the description and restricted itself to the giving of figures for each state of expression of a given characteristic. The expert from the Federal Republic of Germany intended to ask his country's delegate in the Technical Committee to propose changing that model so that the state of expression was also given in words and not only in figures.

Discussion on Working Papers on Test Guidelines

Working Paper on Test Guidelines for Turnip (Revision)

15. The Working Party agreed to await the outcome of the discussions on the working paper on Test Guidelines for Turnip (revision) in the coming session of the Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops. The result of those discussions should be circulated to the experts of the Working Party and if within four weeks no strong objections to the sending of the document to the professional organizations were received, the document could be circulated to the professional organizations for comments and would only then be discussed, at the coming session of the Working Party. Otherwise, it could not be sent to the professional organizations until after the discussion in the Working Party at its coming session.

Draft Test Guidelines for Swede

16. The Working Party agreed to leave it completely to the Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops to handle the comments received on document TG/89/1(proj.) as stated in document TWA/XIII/6. If the Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops agreed, the document could be sent immediately after its session to the Technical Committee for final adoption.

Working Paper on Test Guidelines for Melon

17. The Working Party noted the documents TWV/XVII/3 and TWV/XVII/4. It made the following main changes in document TWV/XVII/3:

(i) Changes made in the Technical Notes:

Technical Note

3 the third sentence to be replaced by the following sentence: "As a minimum, the examination should include a test with 40 plants in the open or 20 plants in the open and 20 plants in the glasshouse or 30 plants if the test is done in the glasshouse alone."

4(ii) to have the reference corrected to reference to characteristic 21

8 to read: "All observations on the leaf should be recorded on fully developed leaves."

9 to read: "Unless otherwise stated all observations on the fruit should be made on mature fruits. Details on maturity are given in Annex 1 to this document." The Working Party agreed that the expert from Spain would prepare a draft for Annex 1 which would give for the different types of varieties the exact assessment of maturity and send it to the Chairman and the experts from France and Israel for comments.

10 to read: "All observations on the seed should be made on mature and dry seeds after washing and drying in the shade." After Technical Note 10, two additional Technical Notes to be included, the first reading: "Soluble solids should be determined by hand refractometer taking the sample from the center of the edible part in the middle of the fruit." and "The variety description should always state whether the observations have been made in the open or under glasshouse conditions."

(ii) Changes made in the Table of Characteristics:

Characteristic

4, 6, 36, 43, 47 to be deleted

1 to have the additional Note in brackets reading: "first true leaf stage" and the additional states "very short, very long"

2 to receive the addition in brackets reading: "as for 1" and the additional states "very small, very large"

3 to read: "Seedling: green color of cotyledons (as for 1)" with the states "light, medium, dark"

5 to read: "Petiole: attitude (at three leaves stage) with the states "erect, semi-erect, horizontal"

9 to read: "Leaf: prominence of lobing" with the states "weak, medium, strong" and mention of the drawings to be prepared by the Spanish expert

10 to read: "Leaf: green color" with the states "light, medium, dark"

19 to have only the states for the Notes 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9

21 to have the first state changed to "oblate" and to receive the drawing from document TWV/XVII/4

27 to have the word "intensity" replaced by "ease" and the order of the German states reversed

31 to have the word "grooves" replaced by "ribs"

34 to be placed after characteristic 31 and to read: "Fruit: width of ribs"

35 after this characteristic, four additional characteristics to be inserted reading: "Fruit: cork formation" with the states "absent, present", "Fruit: intensity of cork formation" with the states "very weak, weak, medium, strong, very strong", "Fruit: pattern of cork formation" with the states "nettled, linear" and "Fruit: density of pattern of cork formation" with the states "very low, low, medium, high, very high"; the first and third of these additional characteristics to receive an asterisk

37 to have the state "greygreen" added

40 after this characteristic, two additional characteristics to be inserted reading: "Fruit: intensity of dotting" with the states "weak, medium, strong" and "Fruit: intensity of marbling" with the states "weak, medium, strong"

41 to have the states "white, yellow, orange, green"

44 to have the word "pericarp" replaced by "exterior layer of flesh"

46 to have the states "white, cream, light green, light orange, red orange"

48 to have the asterisk deleted

49 after this characteristic, a new characteristic to be inserted reading: "Fruit: number of locules" with the states "three, four, five"

50 to read: "Fruit: content in soluble solids of the flesh"

51 to have the asterisk deleted

53 to read: "Seed: distal part" with the states "pointed, rounded"

57 to 59 to be replaced by the following characteristics:

(a) "Resistance to race 0 of Fusarium oxysporum f. melonis"
(b) "Resistance to race 1 of Fusarium oxysporum f. melonis"
(c) "Resistance to race 2 of Fusarium oxysporum f. melonis"
(d) "Resistance to race 1 and 2 of Fusarium oxysporum f. melonis";
all four characteristics to have the states "absent" and "present"; the methodology for these resistances to be stated in an Annex to the Test Guidelines according to the information given on page 19 of document TWV/XVII/14, to be supplemented by the French experts.

60 to have the method of this characteristic stated as in circular No. U 831 included in the Test Guidelines

61 to have the abbreviation of the virus corrected to "(WMV2)"

(iii) Changes made in the column of the example varieties:

Characteristic	Example Varieties	Note
1	Vedrantais	3
	Luberon, Piñonet Piel de Sapo	5
	Amarillo Oro, Helios	7
2	Vedrantais	3
	Luberon, Piñonet Piel de Sapo	5
	Amarillo Oro, Helios	7

3	Bola de Oro	3
	Piñonet	5
	Vedrantais	7
5	Jaune Canari, Noy	3
	Domus, Galia, Santon	5
	Aroma, Petit Gris de Rennes	7
7	Rochet	3
	Piñonet Piel de Sapo	5
8	Vedrantais	3
	Tendral Tardio	7
10	Rochet	5
	De Bellegarde	7
11	Vedrantais	3
	Tendral Tardio	5
	Makdimon, Marble White	7
14	Doublon	3
	Pharo	5
	Ogen	7
16	Alfa, Sucrin de Tours	1
	Honey Dew, Rochet, Vedrantais	2
17	Honey Dew	1
	Amarillo Oro	2
	Tendral Tardio, Vedrantais	3
19	Galia	3
	Rochet	5
	Tendral Tardio	7
	Banana	9
20	Banana	1
	Galia, Rochet	5
	Tendral Tardio	7
21	Charantais Gros Pécout, Emerald Gem	1
	Delta	2
	Rochet	3
	Tendral Tardio	4
	Banana	5
22	Bola de Oro	1
	Arava	2
23	Charentais Gros Pécout	1
	Bola de Oro	3
	Tendral Tardio	5
	Piñonet Piel de Sapo	7
	Banana	9
26	Bola de Oro, Charantais Gros Pécout	1
27	Tendral Tardio	3
	Vedrantais	5
	Ogen	7
28	Amarillo Oro	1
	Rochet	2
	Charantais Gros Pécout	3
29	Amarillo Oro	1
	Rochet	2
	Charantais Gros Pécout	3

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30	Tendral Tardio	3
	Vedrantais	5
	Ogen	7
31	Honey Dew	1
	Vedrantais	9
32	Top Set	3
	Oloroso	5
	Ogen	7
35	Honey Dew	1
	Bola de Oro	3
	Amarillo Oro	5
	Casaba	7
	Tendral Tardio	9
37	Honey Dew	1
	Amarillo Oro	2
	Tendral Tardio	4
	Doublon	5
39	Honey Dew	1
	Piñonet Piel de Sapo	9
40	Rochet	1
	Piñonet Piel de Sapo	3
40(b)	Categoria, Sapo de Oro	3
	Piñonet Piel de Sapo	5
41	Ogen	2
	Oloroso	3
	Hamilbar	4
45	Galia	3
	Bola de Oro	5
	Tendral Tardio	7
46	White Marble (white)	
	Piñonet (cream)	
	Honey Dew, Ogen (light green)	
	Imperial PMR-45 (light orange)	
	Harvest Queen (red orange)	
48	Casaba, Piñonet	1
	Honey Dew, Ogen	2
	Harvest Queen, Imperial PMR-45	3
49 (a)	Rochet (three)	
	Casaba (five)	
50	Ogen	3
	Doublon	5
	Tendral Tardio	7
51	Doublon	3
	Honey Dew	5
	Tendral Tardio	7
52	Bola de Oro	1
	Ananas Yokneam	2
	Piñonet	3
53	Piñonet	1
	Tendral Tardio	2
54	Tendral Tardio	1
	Piñonet	2

55	Doublon	3
	Piñonet	5
	Tendral Tardio	7
56	Doublon	3
	Piñonet	5
	Tendral Tardio	7
57a.	Jaune Canari	1
	Joker, Piboule, Printadon, Vedrantais	9
57b.	Jaune Canari, Vedrantais	1
	Joker, Piboule, Printadon	9
57c.	Jaune Canari, Joker	1
	Piboule, Printadon, Vedrantais	9
57d.	Jaune Canari, Joker, Printadon, Vedrantais	1
	Piboule	9

(iv) The Working Party agreed to include under paragraph 5 of the Technical Questionnaire the new characteristics 35a. and c. and to correct paragraph 7.1 accordingly.

Working Paper on Test Guidelines for Vegetable Marrow

18. The Working Party noted the documents TWV/XVII/8 and TWV/XVII/8 Rev. and made the following main changes in the document TWV/XVII/8 Rev.:

(i) The document to apply to "Vegetable Marrow, Pumpkin/Courgette/Gartenkürbis, Cucurbita pepo L."

(ii) Changes made in the Technical Notes:

Technical Note

1 the quantity of recommended seed to be "50 g"

4 the total number of plants to be "20 plants"

5 to mention the same characteristics as under paragraph 5 of the Technical Questionnaire

7 to receive an additional sentence reading: "The description of the variety should be supplemented by a shadowgraph of the fruit in the longitudinal section."

9 the minimum sample of typical organs to be "10"

(iii) Changes made in the Table of Characteristics:

Characteristic

1 to read: "Plant: attitude of foliage;" before this characteristic a new characteristic to be inserted reading: "Plant: shape of colyledons" with the states "elliptic, broad elliptic, obovate"

2 to be replaced by the following two characteristics, both to receive an asterisk: "Plant: growth habit" with the states "bush, trailing" and "Plant: secondary branching" with the states "absent, present"

3 to have the asterisk deleted and have the states "light only, dark only, light and dark;" after this characteristic, a new characteristic with an asterisk to be inserted reading: "Stem: tendrils" with the states "absent, present"

5 to receive the additional mention in brackets reading: "at the base"

7 to have the states "inconspicuous, conspicuous;" after this characteristic, a new characteristic to be inserted reading: "Petiole: shape of cross section" with the states "round, angular"

8 to read: "Leaf blade: size" with the stats "small, medium, large"

9 to be deleted and a new characteristic to be inserted instead with an asterisk reading: "Leaf blade: incisions" with the states "absent, present"

11 to have the word "green" from the states incorporated in the characteristic

12 after this characteristic, a new characteristic to be inserted reading: "Leaf blade: area covered by silver spots" with the states "very small, small, medium, large, very large"

13 to have the asterisk deleted and to read: "Female flower: ring at inner side of corolla base (when female and male flowers have appeared)"

14 to have the asterisk deleted and to be split into two characteristics, one for female flowers and one for male flowers; after this characteristic, the following characteristics to be inserted:

a) "Female flower: intensity of color of ring at inner side of corolla base (as for 13)" with the states "weak, medium, strong"

b) "Male flower: ring at inner side of corolla base (as for 13)" with the states "absent or very weak, weak, medium, strong, very strong"

c) "Male flower: length of pedicel" with the states "short, medium, long"

d) "Male flower: color of pedicel" with the states "light green, medium green, dark green"

e) "Male flower: grooving of pedicel" with the states "weak, medium, strong"

f) "Male flower: hairiness of pedicel" with the states "weak, medium, strong"

g) "Female flower: length of sepals" with the states "short, medium, long"

h) "Female flower: color of pistils (before opening)" with the states "yellow, orange;" the Working Party agreed that in the final document the order should be arranged in such a way that first all characteristics of the female flowers were listed and then all characteristics of the male flower

15, 16 to be deleted

18 to have the states "green only, yellow only, green and yellow"

19 to read: "Fruit: intensity of main color of pedicel"

21 to be deleted

22 to read: "Fruit: conspicuousness of mottling of pedicel" with the states "weak, medium, strong"

23 to have the mention in brackets "five days after flowering"

24 to read: "Fruit: maximum diameter (as for 23)"

25 to read: "Fruit: ratio length/maximum diameter (as for 23)"

26 to receive a "(+)" referring to the Explanations and Methods; after this characteristic, a new characteristic to be inserted reading: "Fruit: general shape" with the states "cylindrical, globose, scallop-shaped, club-shaped" with drawings to be prepared by the expert from France

27 to have the states "at half of the length, at two thirds of the length, at the end of the fruit" and to receive drawings for explanation

28 to receive drawings and to read: "Fruit: change of diameter" with the states "sudden, gradual"

29 to receive drawings for explanation

30 to receive the addition in brackets "(on normally set fruits)"; after this characteristic, a new characteristic to be inserted reading: "Fruit: shape of cross section" with the states "round, lobed, ribbed"

31 to read: "Fruit: surface" with the states "smooth, warted"; after this characteristic, two additional characteristics to be inserted reading: "Fruit: size of flower scar" with the states "small, medium, large" and "Fruit: protrusion of flower scar" with the states "absent, present"

32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 43, 44 to have the words "of skin" deleted

35 to receive an asterisk and to read: "Fruit: ground color at 5 days after flowering" and to have an additional state "orange" inserted between "yellow" and "green"

36 to read: "Fruit: intensity of ground color at 5 days after flowering"

37 to read: "Fruit: striping on ribs"

38 to read: "Fruit: color of stripes on ribs" with the additional state "orange" to be inserted before "green"

40 to have the additional state "orange" inserted before "green"

41 to be replaced by three characteristics, all with the states "absent, present" reading: "Fruit: diffuse mottling," "Fruit: mottling in patches" and "Fruit: mottling in linear bands"

42 to have the word "conspicuity" replaced by "conspicuousness"

43 to have the asterisk deleted and to read: "Fruit: final ground color"

44 to read: "Fruit: intensity of final ground color;" after this characteristic, seven further characteristics to be inserted reading:

a) "Fruit: final length" with the states as for characteristic 23
b) "Fruit: final maximum diameter" with the states as for characteristic 24
c) "Fruit: final ratio length/maximum diameter" with the states as for characteristic 25
d) "Fruit: final color of stripes on ribs" with the states as for characteristic 37
e) "Fruit: final color of mottling" with the states as for characteristic 40
f) "Fruit: shape of seed" with the states "broad elliptic, elliptic, narrow elliptic"
g) "Fruit: color of seed" with the states "whitish, yellowish"
h) "Fruit: size of seed" with the states "small, medium, large"

(iii) A number of example varieties which have been mentioned during the session will be included in the new working paper.

(iv) In the Technical Questionnaire, under paragraph 5, the characteristics on the growth habit and on the secondary branching inserted after characteristic 1, characteristics 12, 18 and 39 as well as the general shape of the fruit inserted after 26 would be included. The breeder would also be asked to supply a picture of the fruit.

Status of Test Guidelines

19. The Working Party agreed that the draft Test Guidelines for Curly Kale should be sent to the Editorial Committee and the Technical Committee for final adoption. The same could be done with the draft Test Guidelines for Swede as soon as the Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops had dealt with the comments received on the draft.

20. The Working Party agreed that no draft Test Guidelines would be sent to the professional organizations as a result of its current session. This would apply equally to the working papers discussed during the present session (working papers on Test Guidelines for Melon and for Vegetable Marrow) and to those not discussed for lack of time (working papers on Test Guidelines for Endive, for Leaf Beet, for Tomato (Revision), for Aubergine and for Asparagus). The mailing of the draft Test Guidelines for Turnip (Revision) would depend on whether the Working Party could agree on the changes still to be made by the Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops.

Future Program, Date and Place of Next Session

21. At the invitation of the experts from the United Kingdom, the Working Party agreed to hold its eighteenth session at Cambridge, United Kingdom, from July 9 to 12, 1985, with Subgroup meetings on July 8, 1985, at the same place. The meeting on July 8 would start at 2 p.m. with possible Subgroups on vegetable marrow, melon, water melon and egg plant. The meeting would close on July 12 at 1 p.m. At the session of the Working Party itself, the following items were scheduled for discussion:

(i) Final discussion on the draft Test Guidelines for Turnip (if agreement had not been received beforehand by correspondence);

(ii) Discussion on working papers on Test Guidelines for:

- melon (UPOV to prepare a new draft on the basis of the discussions during the seventeenth session)
- vegetable marrow, pumpkin (UPOV to prepare a new draft on the basis of the discussions during the seventeenth session)
- endive (draft dated 1981-04-15)
- leaf beet (document TWV/XVI/13)
- tomato (revision) (documents TG/44/3, TWV/XVII/12 and TWV/XVII/18)
- water melon (IL to prepare a working paper)
- egg plant (document TWV/XVII/12)
- asparagus (documents TWV/XVII/6 and TWV/XVII/15)
- Chinese cabbage (DE to prepare a working paper)

(iii) Comparison of pea variety descriptions (DE to prepare a summary of the results of the different tests)

(iv) Study on how tests are carried out with respect to tomato in the individual member States (NL to prepare a proposal for comments)

(v) List of standard books and documents (NL to prepare a new list for comments)

(vi) Items for the Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs (FR to prepare a working paper)

(vii) Standard Test Guidelines (NL to prepare a working paper)

Minimum Distances Between Varieties

22. The Working Party noted the documents IOM/I/3, IOM/I/12 and CAJ/XIII/2. It reviewed questions 1 to 13 of Part I of document CAJ/XIII/2 item by item and agreed on the following:

Question 1: In broader terms, the minimum distance between two varieties

(i) must be something which can be proved

(ii) must be about the same as the difference between already existing varieties

(iii) for quantitative characteristics, must be significantly larger than the variation in the characteristic concerned

(iv) must not be so small as to endanger the whole plant variety protection system

Question 2: The Working Party agreed that a characteristic was to be considered important if it was only important for distinguishing the variety.

Question 3: The Working Party held the view that a distinction between a characteristic suitable only for identification purposes and a characteristic also suitable for assessing distinctness might be made in individual Test Guidelines by giving a negative list of characteristics suitable for identification purposes but not acceptable as distinguishing characteristics.

Question 4(a): The Working Party saw no possibility for establishing further general rules common to all plant species or to different groups of plants according to their intended use or their method of propagation nor for establishing common rules for each species. It stressed, however, that despite the practical differences in the testing methods used in different member States, the results of the tests did not differ much.

Question 4(b): The majority of the members of the Working Party did not recommend fixing individual minimum distances for each characteristic in each of the Test Guidelines. Minimum distances would fluctuate according to the possibility of making observations. Normally, routine observations would be made, but where an observation was decisive for the granting of plant variety protection, a more careful observation would be carried out which might result in changes in the Notes attributed to the variety in a previous observation.

Question 5: The Working Party cited the following possible criteria for the admission of further characteristics for the examination of distinctness, homogeneity and stability:

(i) reliable, repeatable, homogeneous, stable and easy to assess,

(ii) already accepted in another member State,

(iii) facilities to execute the test were available,

(iv) needed to distinguish between two varieties,

(v) the breeder claimed it to be the only distinguishing characteristic (if it was a special characteristic and only claimed for a given candidate variety, other varieties--except the one from which the candidate variety could otherwise not be distinguished--need not be tested with respect to that characteristic).

Question 6: The Working Party agreed that genetic differences which did not result in phenotypical or physiological differences should not be taken into account in the examination of distinctness.

Question 7: The Working Party was of the opinion that where an authority was convinced of the originality of a candidate variety it should look more carefully for new characteristics, not only when the breeder requested it but also on its own initiative. However, even in such cases, sophisticated methods such as electrophoresis or biochemical methods should not be used to obtain distinguishing characteristics.

Question 8: The Working Party was not of the opinion that for a hybrid candidate variety the parent lines should be examined in each and every case.

Question 9: The Working Party thought it desirable that hybrids be eligible for protection and not the lines alone.

Question 10: The Working Party agreed that the Test Guidelines were primarily established for describing varieties. However, it would prefer to change that principle if such a possibility could be found.

Question 11: The Working Party noted that in some member States breeders participated in meetings at national level in which drafts for Test Guidelines were discussed or discussions on minimum distances took place. It recommended that such contacts be intensified at national level.

Question 12: The Working Party abstained from comments on mutations as in its field the question of mutations played a very limited role.

Question 13: The Working Party was of the opinion that it depended on the development in the species concerned whether in future in searching for new distinctness criteria the distance within a characteristic should be reduced or it would be preferable to look for new characteristics. If varieties in a species became more homogeneous in certain characteristics, the distances between varieties could be reduced for those characteristics.

Sanitary Status of Plant Material Sent in for Examination

23. The Working Party noted document TWV/XVII/13. It saw few problems in its field with the exception of certain seed borne bacterial diseases (for example, for tomato) and virus diseases (for example, for melon).

Any Other Business

24. Noting that the term of office of the present Chairman would be completed during 1984 at the end of the coming ordinary session of the Council, the Working Party proposed to the Consultative Committee that it propose to the Council Mr. J. Habben (Federal Republic of Germany) as Chairman of the Technical Working Party for Vegetables for the coming three years.

Visits

25. On June 13, 1984, the Working Party visited the Agricultural Research Organization (ARO) at Bet Dagan and the seed firm Hazera at Mivhor. On June 15, the Working Party visited the ARO Experimental Station at Neve Ya'ar. The latter visit was combined in the afternoon with a visit of Nazareth. After the closing of the session, most of the participants participated in an excursion on June 16 to Jerusalem and Bethlehem.

26. This report was adopted by the Technical Working Party for Vegetables at its eighteenth session on July 9, 1985.

[Annex follows]

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS IN THE TECHNICAL WORKING PARTY FOR VEGETABLES, SHEFAYIM, ISRAEL, JUNE 11 TO 15, 1984

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[End of Annex and of document]