



Providing guidance on Plant variety protection Experience in the Netherlands

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Plantbreeding in the Netherlands



- The Netherlands Breeding sector is world market leader for:
 - Vegetables
 - Ornamentals
 - Potatoes
- 24% of value of world export of seeds and propagating material from the Netherlands
- 47% of European use of Seeds and propagating material is from the Netherlands
- Annually approx. 1600 applications for new varieties
 - 1000 applications for Community PBR
 - 600 applications for National PBR

Plantbreeding in the Netherlands

The Netherlands:

- Approximately 350 breeding companies – turnover approx. 2.5 billion Euro (prox 3 Billion \$)
- Many of them Small and Medium Sized Enterprises
- 15 – 20% of their annual turnover is spent on R&D
- Annual private investment is € 250 – 350 million (\$ 350 – 475) million



Rise of the Dutch PVP system

Anno 2015

- Holland has a thriving plant breeding industry:
 - Especially: vegetables, ornamentals, potatoes,
 - Important global player
 - High investments in R&D
 - Return on investment by worldwide IP protection is essential




Annual number of applications

	2013	
Ornamentals	972	+ 11.2%
Agriculture	144	+ 9.9 %
Vegetables	788	+ 20.3*
Total	1.904	+14.6 %
(CPVO)	3297	+ 14.9%)


Content

- **How to become a DUS examiner?**
- **UPOV Distance Learning Course(s)**
- **Plant Variety Protection Course**
- **Internship at Naktuinbouw**
- **Help desk**





How to become a DUS examiner

- **Specialized knowledge and experience**
- **Not part of any education curriculum**
- **What is needed:**
 - **Knowledge of the PBR principles**
 - **Knowledge of the DUS principles**
 - **Practical training**
 - **Possibilities to contact other experts once the DUS examiner starts to work**



Knowledge on the PBR principles


- UPOV distance learning course DL 205
- On-line course Twice per year
- Objective of the course is to provide a comprehensive introduction to the UPOV system of plant variety protection under the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants. The course comprises 11 modules.
- Tutoring by UPOV experts






Variety Protection Course

- **Objective of the course: facilitate the introduction and practical implementation of Plant Breeders' Rights in countries where legislation on this matter is being developed, has recently been passed or who are considering to develop a system.**
- **Course in cooperation with UPOV, CPVO, the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs, Plantum and Wageningen University**



Plant Variety Protection Course

- **Content of the course:**
 - Legal and policy framework: International treaties, UPOV model, Farmer's privilege, Breeder's Exemption, PVP system in operation, Patents... etc
 - Technical aspects: DUS testing systems, DUS principles, Trial lay-out, reference collection, Statistics, Denomination, Molecular techniques...etc.



WAGENINGENUR
For Quality of Life

Plant Variety Protection Course

- **Content of the course cont.:**
 - Exploitation of Plant Breeders' Rights,
 - Enforcement using Molecular techniques
 - Visits to DUS testing authority Naktuinbouw, seed certification services, Breeding companies and the Aalsmeer flower auction.

Plant Variety Protection Course

- 16 editions and circa 350 participants worldwide





Plant Variety Protection Course.


- **Duration: 2 weeks**
- **Participants are invited to take part, free of charge, in the UPOV Distance Learning Course (DL-205)**
- **Course fee prox: €3200. Board & Lodging prox: €1500**
- **Deadline Application: around 15 April**
- **Scholarships available (2015): NFP, MENA, StuNed.**

– For more information about scholarships:

<http://www.studyinholland.nl/scholarships/scholarships-administered-by-nuffic/mena-scholarship-programme>


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PVP Course on location.

- **Based on the Wageningen course a tailor-made PVP course can be given in a region or country. Duration: 1-2 weeks**
- **Pending funding**
- **PVP on location in Maleisia, Tanzania and in ARIPO. Planned for OAPI**



Other training options


- **DUS tarining on specific crops on location**
- **Awareness building through seminars**
- **Capacity building o administration, enforcement**
- **Study visit in the Netherlands to study a working PVP system etc**



Practical Training; Internship at Naktuinbouw

- **Naktuinbouw, The Netherlands**
- **Max. 4 Interns per year**
- **Objective of the internship:** to share expertise with colleagues from abroad to study the methods Naktuinbouw applies in DUS tests for ornamentals and vegetables.



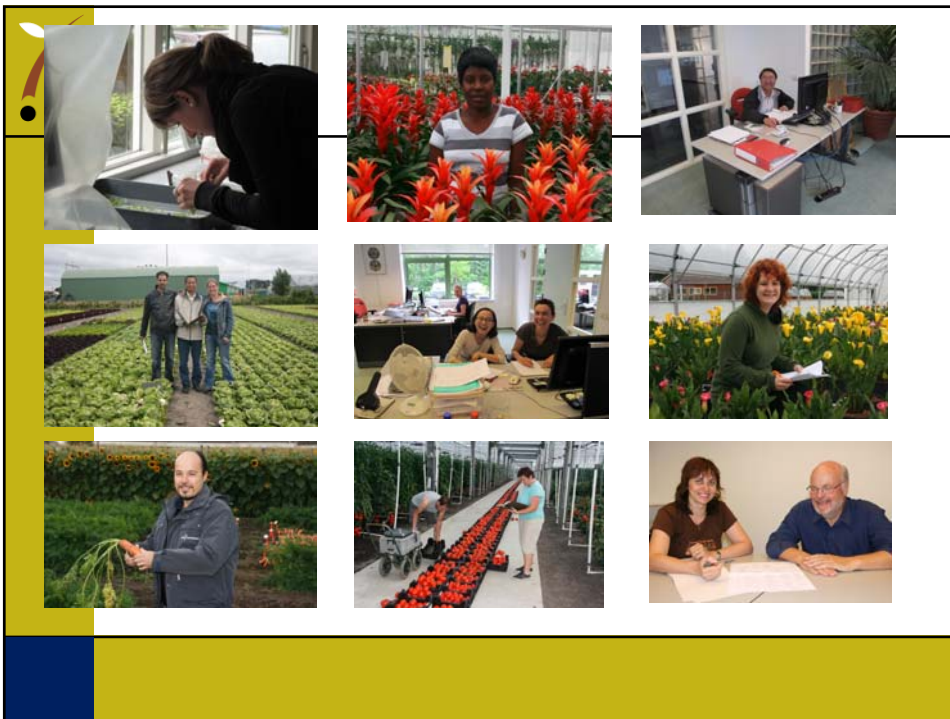
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- **Content of the Internship:** program will be designed together with the candidate. All different aspects of DUS testing from administration, management of reference collections, sample management, trial planning, observations, descriptions and archiving can be part of the intership.
 - **Duration: 2 to 3 weeks**




Internships

- Intern is expected to cover his/her own travel costs
- Naktuinbouw provides lodging and a
- Small daily allowance for food.


- And a Dutch bicycle to get around.






Help desk for DUS testing

- **Naktuinbouw, The Netherlands**
- **Objective** : to help solving DUS practical problems that colleagues can encounter.
- Behind the Help Desk is the **experienced DUS test team** of Naktuinbouw ready to answer questions on administrative and practical matters.



Free of charge
Offered in **Dutch** and in the four **UPOV** official languages: **English, France, German and Spanish.**



Lessons learned

- **Finances are a constant worry**
- **Not always best candidates are trained**
- **Trained DUS experts disappear sometimes to other jobs**
- **New and potential UPOV members have often high expectations**
- **Always try to understand the home situation of the candidates**
- **Make the candidates feel welcome and at home. That will increase the succes of the training**



More lessons learned

- **Some things do not work in practice; e.g. theory of reference collections when no material is available or can be obtained.**
- **Tendency to do everything in the country; bilateral cooperation not popular**
- **Gap between legal and UPOV theory and practice on the ground.**
- **Never try to 'export' your own system**

Quality in Horticulture