

# Plant Variety Protection

## Course



Many countries are developing and implementing a legal framework for protecting plant varieties in an intellectual property rights system. The agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs) under the World Trade Organisation gave an important impetus to this development. The execution of such a legal system requires sound procedures and a profound knowledge of variety testing and variety registration procedures.



Naktuinbouw is responsible for testing varieties of vegetable, agricultural and ornamental crops for Plant Breeders' Rights in the Netherlands, one of the founding members of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV). Because of its long history in agriculture and horticulture, the range of crops registered for Plant Breeders' Rights in the Netherlands is very wide.

The vast experience in variety registration research and in developing procedures for registration of new crops enables Naktuinbouw to assist emerging plant variety protection systems in their human resource development. This makes Naktuinbouw an attractive partner to discuss legislation, to assist in streamlining procedures and to teach the technical knowledge to perform variety registration research at the highest levels.



The first international Course on Plant Variety Protection (PVP) was organised in 1997. Subsequent courses have included experiences of the earlier ones and have been adapted to changing needs.

### Naktuinbouw Training Services

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## Objective

The course aims at facilitating the introduction of plant variety protection in countries where legislation on this matter is being developed, or has recently been passed. This will be achieved through presentations, discussions and practical training, and through visits to key organisations in the operation of a plant variety protection system.

## Programme

The following subjects will be introduced in lectures and discussions:

- legal aspects: UPOV system, other *sui generis* systems, patents, variety release, legislation relating to genetic resource use;
- institutional aspects: procedures and administration, variety registration systems, collaboration in testing;
- technical aspects: D.U.S. principles, UPOV technical guidelines and other botanical principles, field testing, biochemical/molecular techniques, statistics, variety denomination;
- implementation: exploitation of PVP, royalty collection systems, enforcing rights;
- extension and promotion: farmers, breeders, seed suppliers, government officials, consumers, lawyers.

Aspects that will be demonstrated and/or practised by the participants:

- the testing of varieties of field crops and horticultural crops for distinctness, uniformity and stability (D.U.S.);
- the testing of names, and assessment of novelty;
- the use of biochemical and molecular techniques, image analysis in variety registration and photo databases;
- excursions to seed certification services, breeding companies, and variety testing stations.





# Protection Course

## Organisation

The course will be organised by Naktuinbouw, the Netherlands, in close co-operation with Wageningen International and in collaboration with UPOV, the European Community Plant Variety Office, the Dutch Board for plant varieties, and various industry organisations. The course is part of the Wageningen International's training programme 'Conservation, Management and Use of Plant Genetic Resources in Agriculture'. Further information on this training programme can be obtained from [www.cdic.wur.nl](http://www.cdic.wur.nl)



## Admission

Applicants should have a key position in the variety registration process in their home country or a position that will give them such responsibilities in the future. Countries that have recently developed a plant variety protection law, or those that are currently in the process of developing such legislation, will be given priority. Applicants should have an agricultural education at a minimum of BSc level or a legal education supplemented with practical experience in agriculture, and should have a good working knowledge of English.



## UPOV Distance Learning Course

Participants that register timely are invited to take part, free of charge, in the UPOV Distance Learning Course (DL-205) "Introduction to the UPOV System of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention". This course serves as a good preparation for the course in Wageningen.



### Dates & Place

The course will be held from June 16 till 27 2008 in Wageningen.

### Fees and accomodation

The tuition fee amounts to € 2250 (excl. VAT). This includes administration fees, lecture materials and excursions. Accommodation can be provided at the Wageningen International Conference Centre (WICC). A cost estimate including all costs will be sent to you on request.

### Application

Further information and application forms can be obtained from the adress below.

The application deadline is May 16, 2008.

Please send all correspondence to  
**Wageningen International**

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P.O. Box 88, 6700 AB Wageningen,  
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