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INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

GENEVA

COUNCIL

**Twelfth Ordinary Session
Geneva, December 6 to 8, 1978**PROGRESS REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE
TECHNICAL COMMITTEEprepared by the Office of the Union

1. The Technical Committee, formerly called "the Technical Steering Committee" and hereinafter referred to as "the Committee," held its twelfth session from November 13 to 15, 1978, under the chairmanship of Mr. A.F. Kelly (United Kingdom). The draft report of that session is contained in document TC/XII/6.
2. The main results achieved during the twelfth session are set forth hereinafter.

Data Recording and Interpretation

3. The Committee discussed at length the different methods used in the member States for the testing of distinctness, homogeneity and stability. The results achieved so far are reproduced in document C/XII/9. They will be sent to the professional organizations in the field of plant breeding and the seed trade for comments before being rediscussed at the thirteenth session of the Committee.
4. Once the discussion on the data recording and interpretation with respect to distinctness, homogeneity and stability has been completed, it is intended to include the results in a revised version of the General Introduction to the Guidelines for the Examination of Distinctness, Homogeneity and Stability of New Varieties of Plants (at present, document TG/1/1).

Test Guidelines

5. As a result of the successful conclusion of the work of the Technical Working Parties, the Committee adopted Test Guidelines for 6 further species at its twelfth session. With the adoption of the latter, UPOV has now established Test Guidelines for a total of 59 species. All of these Test Guidelines also contain a form for a Technical Questionnaire on the species concerned. For details, see the Annex to this document.
6. Recently the different Technical Working Parties prepared first drafts for 13 further Test Guidelines. These drafts have already been sent to the professional organizations in the field of plant breeding and the seed trade for comments.

Offers for Cooperation in Examination and Statistics on the Exchange of Examination Reports

7. The Committee took note of the volume of exchanges of examination reports during the period from July 1, 1977, to June 30, 1978. The statistics on this exchange of examination reports are reproduced in document C/XII/7.

8. The Committee further discussed the updating of the list of offers for cooperation in examination and took note of a number of suggestions made by ASSINSEL on the subject of cooperation in the examination of vegetable varieties. The revised list of offers for cooperation in examination, which indicates also the genera and species eligible for protection in each member State, is reproduced in document C/XII/6. In this context, the Committee took the view that more emphasis should be placed in future on the regionalized testing of varieties and on the more frequent exchange of existing test results between member States.

9. The Committee studied a proposal made by ASSINSEL on the grouping of vegetable species for the purpose of variety denominations and decided to continue the discussion of the technical aspects of such grouping during its coming session, on the basis of comments requested from its members.

Supervision of the Work of the Technical Working Parties

10. The Committee continued to supervise the work of the Technical Working Parties for Agricultural Crops, for Vegetables, for Ornamental Plants, for Fruit Crops and for Forest Trees, especially with a view to their achieving the greatest possible efficiency in this. It gave guidance on a number of points and answered some questions raised by the Working Parties, instructed them on the main aspects of their future work and approved their programs. It agreed that, in choosing the species for which Test Guidelines should be elaborated, preference should be given in general to those crops for which cooperation in examination between two or more offices, or even regionalized testing, was already practiced or envisaged. It furthermore emphasized the need to revise, in the light of the experience gained, a number of Test Guidelines adopted in the preceding years and underlined the need to harmonize the reference collections used in the offices of the different member States. Finally it encouraged the Technical Working Parties to prepare working papers of new Test Guidelines, wherever possible, within small groups of experts or by correspondence.

Program for the Future

11. The Committee decided to continue its discussion on data recording and interpretation, to revise the General Introduction to the Guidelines for the Examination of Distinctness, Homogeneity and Stability of New Varieties of Plants, to continue to supervise the work of the Technical Working Parties and to give advice and answer questions submitted by them. It also decided to study the Test Guidelines, newly drafted or revised, and to examine the technical aspects of the grouping of vegetables for naming purposes and the possibilities of increasing the cooperation in examination, including in particular the regionalized testing of varieties.

12. The Council is invited to take note of the progress made by the Committee since the Council's last ordinary session.

[Annex follows]

ANNEX

Document Number of the Test Guidelines or Draft Test Guidelines
(the latter with the indication "(proj.)" after the Document Number)
Prepared or To Be Prepared by the Office of the Union (as of November 15, 1978)

Number

* TG/1/1	General Introduction/Introduction Générale/Allgemeine Einführung
* TG/2/1	Maize/Mais/Mais
* TG/3/1	Wheat/Blé/Weizen (applicable to Triticum durum only)
* TG/3/5	Wheat/Blé/Weizen (Triticum aestivum)
* TG/4/1	Ryegrass/Ray-grass/Weidelgras
- TG/4/2(proj.)	Ryegrass/Ray-grass/Weidelgras (revised draft)
* TG/5/1	Red Clover/Trèfle violet/Rotklee
* TG/6/1	Lucerne/Luzerne
* TG/7/1	Garden Pea/Pois Potager/Gemüseerbsen
* TG/8/1	Broad Bean/Fève/Puffbohne
* TG/9/1	Runner Bean/Haricot d'Espagne/Prunkbohne
* TG/V/2	Euphorbia fulgens/Euphorbia/Korallenranke
* TG/11/1	Rose/Rosier/Rose
* TG/12/1	French Bean/Haricot/Bohne
* TG/13/1	Lettuce/Laitue/Salat
* TG/14/1	Apple/Pommier/Apfel
* TG/15/1	Pear/Poirier/Birne (+ TG/15/1 Corr.)
* TG/16/1	Rice/Riz/Reis
* TG/17/1	African Violet/Saintpaulia/Usambaraveilchen
* TG/18/1	Elatior Begonia/Begonia elatior/Elatior Begonie
* TG/19/4	Barley/Orge/Gerste (+ TG/19/4 Corr.)
* TG/20/4	Oats/Avoine/Hafer
* TG/21/4	Poplar/Peuplier/Pappel
* TG/22/3	Strawberry/Fraisier/Erdbeere
* TG/23/2	Potato/Pomme de terre/Kartoffel
* TG/24/2	Poinsettia/Poinsettie
* TG/25/3	Carnation/Oeillet/Nelke
- TG/26/2(proj.)	Chrysanthemum (Perennial)/Chrysanthème vivace/Chrysanthemum (mehrjährig)
* TG/27/3	Freesia/Freesie
- TG/28/3(proj.)	Pelargonium/Pelargonie
* TG/29/3	Alstroemeria/Alstroemère/Inkalilie
* TG/30/3	Bent/Agrostide/Straussgras
* TG/31/3	Cocksfoot/Dactyle/Knaulgras
* TG/32/3	Common Vetch/Vesce commune/Saatwicke
* TG/33/3	Kentucky Bluegrass/Pâturin des prés/Wiesenrispe
* TG/34/3	Timothy/Fléole des prés, Fléole diploïde/Wiesen-, Zwiebellieschgras
* TG/35/3	Cherry/Cerisier/Kirsche
* TG/36/3	Rape/Colza/Raps (+ TG/36/3 Corr.)
* TG/37/3	Turnip/Navet/Herbst-, Mairübe
* TG/38/3	White Clover/Trèfle blanc/Weissklee
* TG/39/3	Meadow-, Tall Fescue/Fétuque des prés, Fétuque élevée/Wiesen-, Rohrschwingel
* TG/40/3	Black Currant/Cassis/Schwarze Johannisbeere
* TG/41/4	European Plum/Prunier européen/Pflaume
* TG/42/3	Rhododendron
* TG/43/3	Raspberry/Framboisier/Himbeere
* TG/44/3	Tomato/Tomate
* TG/45/3	Cauliflower/Chou-fleur/Blumenkohl
* TG/46/3	Onion/Oignon/Zwiebel
* TG/47/2	Streptocarpus/Drehfrucht
* TG/48/3	Cabbage/Chou pommé/Kopfkohl (+ TG/48/2 Corr.)
* TG/49/3	Carrot/Carotte/Möhre
* TG/50/3	Vine/Vigne/Rebe
* TG/51/3	Gooseberry/Groseillier à maquereau/Stachelbeere
* TG/52/2	Red and White Currant/Groseillier à grappes/Rote und Weisse Johannisbeere
* TG/53/3	Peach/Pêcher/Pfirsich
* TG/54/3	Brussels Sprouts/Chou de Bruxelles/Rosenkohl
* TG/55/3	Spinach/Epinard/Spinat
* TG/56/3	Almond/Amandier/Mandel
- TG/57/1(proj.)	Flax, Linseed/Lin/Lein
* TG/58/3	Rye/Seigle/Roggen
* TG/59/3	Lily/Lis/Lilie
* TG/60/3	Beetroot/Betterave rouge/Rote Rübe
* TG/61/3	Cucumber, Gherkin/Concombre, Cornichon/Gurken
* TG/62/3	Rhubarb/Rhubarbe/Rhabarber
- TG/63/1(proj.)	Black Radish/Radis noir/Rettich
- TG/64/1(proj.)	Radish/Radis/Radieschen
- TG/65/1(proj.)	Kohlrabi/Chou-rave/Kohlrabi
- TG/66/1(proj.)	Lupins/Lupinen
- TG/67/1(proj.)	Sheep's Fescue, Red Fescue/Fétuque ovine, Fétuque rouge/Schafschwingel, Rotschwingel
- TG/68/1(proj.)	Berberis/Berberitze
- TG/69/1(proj.)	Forsythia/Forsythie
- TG/70/1(proj.)	Apricot/Abricotier/Aprirose
- TG/71/1(proj.)	Hazelnut/Noisetier/Haselnuss
- TG/72/1(proj.)	Willow/Saule/Weide

* Adopted

- Professional Organizations to comment

Stages of Test Guidelines (as of November 15, 1978)

Technical Working Party Stage	Agricultural Crops	Forest Trees	Fruit Crops	Ornamental Plants	Vegetables
adopted (total 59)	Barley Bent Cocksfoot Common Vetch Kentucky Bluegrass Lucerne Maize Meadow Fescue, Tall Fescue Oats Potato Rape Red Clover Rice Rye Ryegrass Timothy Turnip White Clover Wheat (Triticum aestivum) Wheat (Triticum durum only)	Poplar	Almond Apple Black Currant Cherry European Plum Gooseberry Peach Pear Raspberry Red and White Currant Strawberry Vine	African Violet Alstroemeria Carnation Elatior Begonia Euphorbia fulgens Freesia Lily Poinsettia Rhododendron Rose Streptocarpus	Beetroot Broad Bean Brussels Sprouts Cabbage Carrot Cauliflower Cucumber, Gherkin French Bean Garden Pea Lettuce Onion Rhubarb Runner Bean Spinach Tomato
Professional Organizations to comment (total 14)	Flax, Linseed Lupins Ryegrass (revised) Sheep's Fescue, Red Fescue	Willow	Apricot Hazelnut	Berberis Chrysanthemum Forsythia Pelargonium	Black Radish Kohlrabi Radish
in preparation (total 9)	Maize (revised)	Picea abies	Blackberry Citrus	Narcissus Rose (revised) Thuja	Cornsalad Garden Peas (revised)
planned	Oil Radish Poppy (Sugar Beet) Tobacco	Abies Douglas fir Larix conifers Pinus nigra Poplar (revision)	Chestnut Japanese Plum Plum Root-stocks	Anthurium Carnation (revision) Chamaecyparis Cypress Dahlia Fuchsia Gerbera Gladiolus Iris Juniper Kalanchoe Poinsettia (revision) Tulip	Capsicum Celeriac Celery Dill Leek Lettuce (revision) Parsley

[End of Annex and of document]