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| International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants |  |

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| Technical Committee  Fifty-Fifth Session Geneva, October 28 and 29, 2019 | TC/55/INF/2  Original: English  Date: August 21, 2019 |

UPOV information databases – matters for information

Document prepared by the Office of the Union

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# Executive summary

The purpose of this document is to provide an update on developments concerning the GENIE database, UPOV Codes and the PLUTO database.

Matters for consideration by the Technical Committee (TC) on the UPOV Code system; UPOV Codes and the PLUTO database are presented in document TC/55/5 “UPOV information databases”.

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The following abbreviations are used in this document:

CAJ: Administrative and Legal Committee

TC: Technical Committee

TWA: Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops

TWF: Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops

TWO: Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees

TWP(s): Technical Working Party(ies)

TWV: Technical Working Party for Vegetables

WG-DEN: Working Group on Variety Denominations

# GENIE DATABASE

## Background

It is recalled that the GENIE database (<http://www.upov.int/genie/en/>) has been developed to provide, for example, online information on the status of protection (see document C/[session]/6), cooperation in examination (see document C/[session]/5), experience in DUS testing (see document TC/[session]/4), and existence of UPOV Test Guidelines (see document TC/[session]/2) for different GENera and specIEs (hence GENIE), and is used to generate the relevant Council and TC documents concerning that information. In addition, the GENIE database is the repository of the UPOV codes and also provides information concerning alternative botanical and common names.

# UPOV Code System

## Guide to the UPOV Code System

The “Guide to the UPOV Code System” is available on the UPOV website (see <http://www.upov.int/genie/en/pdf/upov_code_system.pdf>).

## UPOV code developments

In 2019, to August 6, 2019, 171 new UPOV codes were created. The total number of UPOV codes in the GENIE database as of August 6, 2019 was 9,012.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Year | | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | |  | | | | | | | | |
|  | 2010 | 2011 | | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019  (to August 6) |
| New UPOV codes | 114 | 173 | | 212 | 209 | 577 | 188 | 173 | 440 | 242 | 171 |
| Amendments | 6 | 12 | | 5 | 47\* | 37 | 11 | 16 | 1 | 5 | 0 |
| Total UPOV Codes | 6,683 | 6,851 | | 7,061 | 7,251 | 7,808 | 7,992 | 8,149 | 8,589 | 8,844 | 9,012 |

\* including changes to UPOV codes resulting from the amendment of the “Guide to the UPOV Code System” concerning hybrids (see document TC/49/6).

## TWP checking

Section 3.3 (e) of the “Guide to the UPOV Code System” provides the following:

“(e) New and amended UPOV codes will be presented to the relevant Technical Working Parties (TWP(s)) for comment at their first available session. If the TWP recommends any change, this will be treated as an amendment according to paragraph (d), above”.

In accordance with the procedure set out in Section 3.3 (e) of the Guide to the UPOV Code System, the Office of the Union prepared tables of UPOV code additions and amendments, for checking by the relevant authorities, for each of the TWP sessions in 2019.

Experts of the Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees (TWO), Technical Working Party for Vegetables (TWV) and Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops (TWF), have been requested, and the Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops (TWA) will be requested, to check the amendments to UPOV codes and the new UPOV codes or new information added for existing UPOV codes and to submit comments by December 31, 2019.

# PLUTO DATABASE

## Program for improvements to the PLUTO database

The background to this matter is provided in document TC/54/6 “UPOV Information databases”, paragraphs 58 to 59.

The annex to this document provides a summary of the contributions to the PLUTO database from 2015 to 2019 and the current situation of members of the Union on data contribution.

## Search tools

Matters concerning the possible development of a similarity search tool for variety denomination purposes are reported in document TC/55/INF/7 “Variety Denominations”.

## Content of the PLUTO Database

Matters concerning content of the PLUTO database are reported in document TC/55/INF/7 “Variety denominations – matters for information”.

[Annex follows]

REPORT ON DATA CONTRIBUTED TO THE PLUTO DATABASE BY MEMBERS OF THE UNION AND OTHER CONTRIBUTORS AND ASSISTANCE FOR DATA CONTRIBUTION

| Contributor | Number of applications for PBR in 2017 | Number of new data submissions to PLUTO in 2015 | Number of new data submissions to PLUTO in 2016 | Number of new data submissions to PLUTO in 2017 | Number of new data submissions to PLUTO in 2018 | Number of new data submissions to PLUTO in 2019 (to August 6) | Situation at August 6, 2019 |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| African Intellectual Property Organization | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | A reminder e-mail with instructions for contribution was sent in July 2019, following receipt of incomplete data. |
| Albania | 0 (2016) | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Latest data under preparation. |
| Argentina | 299 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | A reminder e-mail was sent in August 2019. |
| Australia | 343 | 5 | 7 | 5 | 22 | 11 |  |
| [[1]](#footnote-2)\*Austria | 0 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 4 |  |
| Azerbaijan | 19 (2014) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | A reminder e-mail was sent in July 2019. |
| Belarus | 33 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | A reminder e-mail was sent in July 2019. |
| \*Belgium | 3 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 4 |  |
| Bolivia (Plurinational State of) | 13 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | A reminder e-mail was sent in August 2019. |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | 0 | n.a. | n.a. | 0 | 0 | 0 | Data under preparation. |
| Brazil | 339 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 5 | 7 |  |
| \*Bulgaria | 48 | 12 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 7 |  |
| Canada | 310 | 7 | 11 | 11 | 10 | 8 |  |
| Chile | 115 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 5 |  |
| China | 4,465 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | A reminder e-mail was sent in July 2019. |
| Colombia | 124 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | A reminder e-mail was sent in July 2019. |
| Costa Rica | 5 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 5 |  |
| \*Croatia | 13 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 |  |
| \*Czech Republic | 57 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 6 | 5 |  |
| \*Denmark | 7 | 12 | 11 | 10 | 7 | 8 |  |
| Dominican Republic | 5 (2009) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | A reminder e-mail was sent in July 2019. |
| Ecuador | 81 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | A reminder e-mail was sent in August 2019. |
| \*Estonia | 10 | 9 | 3 | 3 | 9 | 5 |  |
| \*European Union | 3,422 | 10 | 13 | 7 | 11 | 5 |  |
| \*Finland | 14 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 |  |
| \*France | 158 | 13 | 11 | 8 | 8 | 9 |  |
| Georgia | 17 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | A reminder e-mail was sent in August 2019. |
| \*Germany | 39 | 11 | 12 | 8 | 9 | 7 |  |
| \*Hungary | 16 | 16 | 19 | 14 | 11 | 12 |  |
| \*Iceland | 0 (2012) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |
| \*Ireland | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 |  |
| Israel | 53 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 7 |  |
| \*Italy | 5 | 8 | 6 | 6 | 3 | 3 |  |
| Japan | 1,019 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 |  |
| Jordan | 3 (2016) | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | A reminder e-mail was sent in July 2019. |
| Kenya | 71 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | A reminder e-mail was sent in July 2019. |
| Kyrgyzstan | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Latest data under preparation. |
| \*Latvia | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 |  |
| \*Lithuania | 18 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 4 |  |
| Mexico | 265 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 2 |  |
| Montenegro | n.a. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | A reminder e-mail was sent in July 2019. |
| Morocco | 101 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Data under preparation. |
| \*Netherlands | 763 | 10 | 11 | 8 | 9 | 7 |  |
| New Zealand | 135 | 6 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 4 |  |
| Nicaragua | 22 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Participated in the training course in 2015.  A reminder e-mail was sent in July 2019. |
| North Macedonia | n.a. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Participated in the training course in 2014 and planned to submit data upon receipt of applications.  A reminder e-mail was sent in July 2019. |
| \*Norway | 19 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 4 |  |
| Oman | 0 (2015) | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | A reminder e-mail was sent in July 2019. |
| Panama | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | A reminder e-mail was sent in August 2019. |
| Paraguay | 62 (2016) | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | A reminder e-mail was sent in August 2019. |
| Peru | 38 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | A reminder e-mail was sent in August 2019. |
| \*Poland | 110 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 3 | 3 |  |
| \*Portugal | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 |  |
| Republic of Korea | 748 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 3 |  |
| Republic of Moldova | 30 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 7 |  |
| \*Romania | 38 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 |  |
| Russian Federation | 807 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 2 |  |
| Serbia | 66 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 0 | A reminder e-mail was sent in August 2019. |
| Singapore | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | No data submitted.  A reminder e-mail was sent in July 2019. |
| \*Slovakia | 8 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 3 |  |
| \*Slovenia | 0 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 3 |  |
| South Africa | 268 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 4 |  |
| \*Spain | 40 (2016) | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 3 |  |
| \*Sweden | 4 | 11 | 12 | 11 | 9 | 6 |  |
| \*Switzerland | 75 | 6 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 5 |  |
| Trinidad and Tobago | 0 (2016) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Participated in the training course in 2014.  A reminder e-mail was sent in July 2019. |
| Tunisia | 62 (2016) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | A reminder e-mail was sent in July 2019. |
| \*Turkey | 216 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 |  |
| Ukraine | 1,345 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 9 |  |
| \*United Kingdom | 183 | 11 | 13 | 10 | 12 | 7 |  |
| United Republic of Tanzania | 40 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | A reminder e-mail was sent in July 2019. |
| United States of America | 1,557 | 17 | 16 | 12 | 12 | 10 |  |
| Uruguay | 54 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | A reminder e-mail was sent in August 2019. |
| Uzbekistan | 36 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | A reminder e-mail was sent in August 2019. |
| Viet Nam | 266 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Data under preparation. |
| OECD | - | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 |  |

[Appendix follows]

PLUTO DATABASE COVERAGE

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Year | | | | |
|  | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 (to August 6, 2019) |
|  | Number of UPOV members that contributed to the PLUTO database for the indicated year1 | 61 | 59 | 54 | 49 | 43 |
|  | Percentage of UPOV members that contributed to the PLUTO database for the indicated year | 82% | 80% | 72% | 65% | 57% |
| A | Total number of PVP applications2 | 15,017 | 16,455 | 18,306 | n.a. | n.a. |
| B | Number of PVP applications accounted for by contributors to PLUTO database for indicated year1,2 | 14,823 | 16,095 | 17,410 | n.a. | n.a. |
| C | Percentage of PVP applications accounted for by contributors to PLUTO database for indicated year (B/A) | 99% | 98% | 95% | n.a. | n.a. |
| D | Number of PVP applications included in PLUTO database3 | 11,587 | 12,269 | 12,547 | 10,759 | 2,887 |
| E | Percentage of PVP applications included in PLUTO database (D/A) | 77% | 75% | 69% | n.a. | n.a. |

Notes:

1. Contributors provide data for previous years. Therefore, a contributor providing data in, e.g. 2017, will be considered to have contributed data for 2015, 2016 and 2017.

2. See document C/52/7 Rev. “Plant variety protection statistics for the period 2013-2017 (Revision)”.

3. Status of information in the PLUTO database at August 6, 2019

Row “C” provides an indication of the “theoretical” completeness of the PLUTO database on the basis of the UPOV members contributing data.

Row “E” provides an indication of the actual completeness of data in the PLUTO database, reflecting:

(i) UPOV members that do not contribute to the PLUTO database; and

(ii) contributors that have not provided complete data.

[End of Annex and of document]

1. \* Data provided via the CPVO. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)