

Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops

TWF/56/6

Fifty-Sixth Session

Bursa, Türkiye, June 23 to 26, 2025

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COMMENTS ON GUIDANCE AND INFORMATION MATERIALS

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1. The purpose of this document is to report the comments on guidance and information materials made by the Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees (TWO)¹, Technical Working Party for Vegetables (TWV)² and Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops (TWA)³, at their sessions in 2025.

DOCUMENT TGP/5 “EXPERIENCE AND COOPERATION IN DUS TESTING”, SECTION 6 “UPOV REPORT ON TECHNICAL EXAMINATION AND UPOV VARIETY DESCRIPTION” (REVISION)

2. The TWO and TWV agreed with the revision of document TGP/5 “Experience and Cooperation in DUS Testing”, Section 6 “UPOV Report on Technical Examination and UPOV Variety Description”, on the basis of document TGP/5, Section 6 (draft 1) (see documents TWO/57/10 “Report”, paragraphs 7 to 10 and TWV/59/19 “Report”, paragraph 5).

3. The TWA agreed with the revision of document TGP/5 “Experience and Cooperation in DUS Testing”, Section 6 “UPOV Report on Technical Examination and UPOV Variety Description”, on the basis of [document TGP/5, Section 6 \(draft 1\)](#), with the following proposed amendment to the explanation in item 16 (see document TWA/54/7 “Report”, paragraph 7):

“(i) A ~~s~~Similar variety(ies) should be indicated. If no similar variety was identified, “none” should be stated.”

4. The TWO considered how to provide information in the “UPOV Report on Technical Examination” regarding the “Reporting Authority” and agreed that it should normally be the authority that had conducted the technical examination.

5. The TWO agreed to invite the European Union to consider whether to develop proposals to address situations when further information should be provided in the “UPOV Report on Technical Examination”, such as to indicate when the authority providing the report on technical examination was different than the authority that conducted the examination.

6. The TWO considered how to provide information on differences between the candidate and similar varieties when the difference was based on a characteristic that was only available in the “Reporting Authority’s test guidelines” and not in the UPOV Test Guidelines. The TWO recalled the requirements for characteristics to be used in DUS examination, set out in document TG/1 “General Introduction to DUS”, and agreed that it should be indicated when the characteristic in which the candidate differed from the similar variety was only included in the Reporting Authority’s test guidelines.

¹ TWO, fifty-seventh session, held in Roelofarendsveen, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), from March 31 to April 3, 2025.

² TWV, fifty-ninth session, organized by electronic means, from May 5 to 8, 2025.

³ TWA, fifty-fourth session, held in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, from April 19 to 22, 2025.

DOCUMENT TGP/7: DEVELOPMENT OF TEST GUIDELINES (REVISION): GUIDANCE NOTE (GN) 28
“EXAMPLE VARIETIES” – EXAMPLE VARIETIES FOR ASTERISKED QUANTITATIVE CHARACTERISTICS
WHEN ILLUSTRATIONS ARE PROVIDED

7. The TWO and TWV agreed with the proposal to amend document TGP/7, Guidance Note (GN) 28 “Example Varieties”, as provided in document TWP/9/5 and presented by an expert from Germany (see documents TWO/57/10 “Report”, paragraphs 11 to 13, and TWV/59/19 “Report”, paragraphs 6 and 7).

8. The TWO and TWV noted that example varieties would not be needed to clarify the states of expression when these were self-explanatory or could be effectively demonstrated by a diagram or illustration.

9. The TWA agreed with the proposal to amend document TGP/7, Guidance Note (GN) 28 “Example Varieties”, as provided in document TWP/9/5, with paragraphs 2.1 and 3.2.2 amended to read as follows:

“2.1 Example varieties enable examiners to see a characteristic in “real life”. Specifically, example varieties are required for characteristics ~~when the characteristic is identified as~~ which are important for international harmonization of variety descriptions (asterisked characteristics), ~~is that are~~ influenced by the environment and when a diagram or illustration is not effective demonstrating the states of expression.”

“3.2.2 [...] Even if example varieties are not obligatory, or cannot be provided for all states of expression, the indication of example varieties for some states of expression can be ~~a~~ of benefit ~~for~~ to examiners, in particular when the same example varieties have already been indicated for other characteristics.”

10. The TWO thanked the expert from Germany for having developed the proposal to amend document TGP/7, GN 28, in collaboration with TWO experts.

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