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

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| Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees  Fifty-Sixth Session Virtual meeting, April 29 to May 2, 2024 | TWO/56/4  Original: English  Date: March 26, 2024 |

Partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Aloe

Document prepared by an expert from the Netherlands

Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance

The purpose of this document is to present a proposal for a partial revision of the Test Guidelines for Aloe (document TG/310/1).

The Technical Working Party for Ornamentals (TWO), at its fifty-fifth session[[1]](#footnote-2), agreed that the Test Guidelines for Aloe (*Aloe* L.) should be partially revised (see document TWO/55/11 “Report”, Annex II).

The following changes are proposed:

1. Removal of the asterisk from all flower characteristics: 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 30, 33, 36, 37, 41, 43 and 45
   1. The reason for this removal is the fact that in our experience part of the varieties selected for their ornamental leaves, especially from hybrid origin, are not flowering or it takes many years to start flowering and the flowering characteristics are sometimes not very distinctive. Especially for the ornamental types the leaf characteristics are often enough unique to establish the distinctness from other varieties of common knowledge.
2. As a consequence to this removal, we can add to the grouping characteristics the following text: ‘If plants of a variety under optimal growing conditions do not flower within one or two growing seasons and they are clearly distinguishable on vegetative characteristics, the items d, e and f with characteristics18, 25 and 41 are optional.
3. As a consequence to this removal we have to adapt the information in 8.1 – Explanations covering several characteristics
   1. The following sentence has been added: ‘If the observations are chosen to be made on non-flowering plants this should be done at the end of the growing season after full development of the leaves.’
4. As a consequence to this removal we have to adapt the information on the TQ
   1. We want to know on forehand if the flowering characteristics of the variety are not very relevant and/or the variety is not flowering in the first year.
   2. We have to make clear that the following characteristics are not compulsory in case a variety does not flower or has difficulty to flower under optimal growing conditions and/or they are clearly distinguishable from other varieties on vegetative characteristics: 5.4 (18), 5.5 (25) en 5.6 (41).

The proposed changes are presented below in highlight and underline (insertion) and ~~strikethrough~~ (deletion).

## Removal of the asterisk from all flower characteristics

|  |  | English | français | deutsch | español | Example Varieties Exemples Beispielssorten Variedades ejemplo | Note/ Nota |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 18. ~~(\*)~~ (+) | **VG** | **Inflorescence: branching** | Inflorescence : ramification | **Blütenstand: Verzweigung** | **Inflorescencia: ramificación** |  |  |
| **QL** |  | absent | aucune | fehlend | ausente | Ice Cap | 1 |
|  |  | primary | primaire | einfach | primaria | Twice as Nice | 2 |
|  |  | secondary | secondaire | doppelt | secundaria | Koeleman’s Orange | 3 |
|  |  | tertiary | tertiaire | dreifach | terciaria | Coral Red | 4 |
| **19. ~~(\*)~~** | **VG/MS** | **Inflorescence: number of racemes** | Inflorescence : nombre de grappes | **Blütenstand: Anzahl Blütentrauben** | **Inflorescencia: número de racimos** |  |  |
| **QN** |  | one | une | eine | uno | Rooiklip | 1 |
|  |  | two | deux | zwei | dos | Bountiful Bronny | 2 |
|  |  | three to five | trois à cinq | drei oder fünf | de tres a cinco | Goldibells | 3 |
|  |  | six to ten | cinq à dix | sechs bis zehn | de seis a diez | Etam | 4 |
|  |  | more than ten | plus de dix | über zehn | más de diez | Lake Kyle | 5 |
| **20. ~~(\*)~~ (+)** | **VG/MS** | **Inflorescence: length** | Inflorescence : longueur | **Blütenstand: Länge** | **Inflorescencia: longitud** |  |  |
| **QN** |  | very short | très courte | sehr kurz | muy corta |  | 1 |
|  |  | short | courte | kurz | corta | Twice as Nice | 3 |
|  |  | medium | moyenne | mittel | media | Royal Claret | 5 |
|  |  | long | longue | lang | larga | Firechief | 7 |
|  |  | very long | très longue | sehr lang | muy larga | Erik the Red | 9 |
| **22. ~~(\*)~~** | **VG** | **Peduncle: color** | Pédoncule : couleur | **Blütenstandsstiel: Farbe** | **Pedúnculo: color** |  |  |
| **PQ** |  | greenish only | verdâtre seulement | nur grünlich | solo verdoso | Twice as Nice | 1 |
|  |  | greenish and reddish | verdâtre et rougeâtre | grünlich und rötlich | verdoso y rojizo | Ice Cap | 2 |
|  |  | reddish only | rougeâtre seulement | nur rötlich | solo rojizo | Orange Jade | 3 |
|  |  | brownish | brunâtre | bräunlich | amarronado | Lemon Drops | 4 |
| **23. ~~(\*)~~ (+)** | **VG** | **Lateral raceme: attitude** | Grappe latérale : port | **Seitliche Blütentraube: Haltung** | **Racimo lateral: porte** |  |  |
| **QN** |  | erect | dressée | aufgerichtet | erecto | Ruby Blaze | 1 |
|  |  | semi-erect | demi‑dressée | halbaufgerichtet | semierecto | Red Parade | 2 |
|  |  | horizontal | horizontale | waagerecht | horizontal | Red Horizon | 3 |
| **25 ~~(\*)~~ (+)** | **VG** | **Terminal raceme: shape** | Étage terminal : forme | **Terminale Blütentraube: Form** | **Racimo terminal: forma** |  |  |
| **PQ** |  | capitate | capité | kopfförmig | capitada | Baby Cloud | 1 |
|  |  | corymbose-capitate | corymbe‑capité | doldentraubig | corimboso-capitada | Lemon Drops | 2 |
|  |  | capitate to conical | capité à conique | kopfförmig bis kegelförmig | capitada a cónica | Little Joker | 3 |
|  |  | conical | conique | kegelförmig | cónica | Orange Jade | 4 |
|  |  | conico-cylindrical | cylindro‑conique | kegelförmig-zylindrisch | cónico-cilíndrica | Hilko | 5 |
|  |  | cylindrical | cylindrique | zylindrisch | cilíndrica | Southern Cross | 6 |
| **26. ~~(\*)~~ (+)** | **VG** | **Terminal raceme: ratio length/width** | Étage terminal : rapport longueur/largeur | **Terminale Blütentraube: Verhältnis Länge/Breite** | **Racimo terminal: relación longitud/anchura** |  |  |
| **QN** |  | very low | très bas | sehr klein | muy baja |  | 1 |
|  |  | low | bas | klein | baja | Goldibells | 3 |
|  |  | medium | moyen | mittel | media | Havenga’s Pride | 5 |
|  |  | high | élevé | groß | alta | Eiffel | 7 |
|  |  | very high | très élevé | sehr groß | muy alta |  | 9 |
| **27. ~~(\*)~~ (+)** | **VG** | **Terminal raceme: density of flowers** | Étage terminal : densité des fleurs | **Terminale Blütentraube: Dichte der Blüten** | **Racimo terminal: densidad de flores** |  |  |
| **QN** |  | sparse | lâche | locker | laxa | Ice Cap | 3 |
|  |  | medium | moyenne | mittel | media | Twice as Nice | 5 |
|  |  | dense | dense | dicht | densa | Lake Kyle, Winter Festival | 7 |
| **30. ~~(\*)~~** | **VG** | **Immature flower bud: main color** | **Bouton floral immature : couleur principale** | **Unreife Blütenknospe: Hauptfarbe** | **Botón floral inmaduro: color principal** |  |  |
| **PQ** | **(b) (c)** | RHS Colour Chart (indicate reference number) | Code RHS des couleurs (indiquer le numéro de référence) | RHS-Farbkarte (Nummer angeben) | Carta de colores RHS (indíquese el número de referencia) |  |  |
| **33. ~~(\*)~~** | **VG** | **Mature flower bud: main color** | **Bouton floral mature : couleur principale** | **Reife Blütenknospe: Hauptfarbe** | **Botón floral maduro: color principal** |  |  |
| **PQ** | **(b) (d)** | RHS Colour Chart (indicate reference number) | Code RHS des couleurs (indiquer le numéro de référence) | RHS-Farbkarte (Nummer angeben) | Carta de colores RHS (indíquese el número de referencia) |  |  |
| **36 ~~(\*)~~** | **VG** | **Pedicel: main color** | Pédicelle : couleur principale | **Blütenstiel: Hauptfarbe** | **Pedicelo: color principal** |  |  |
| **PQ** | **(b)** | greenish | verdâtre | grünlich | verdoso | Ice Cap | 1 |
|  | **(e)** | yellowish | jaunâtre | gelblich | amarillento | Lemon Drops | 2 |
|  |  | orange | orange | orange | naranja | Bushwhacker | 3 |
|  |  | reddish | rougeâtre | rötlich | rojizo | Little Joker | 4 |
|  |  | brownish | brunâtre | bräunlich | amarronado | Andgol | 5 |
| **37. ~~(\*)~~ (+)** | **VG** | **Flower: basal swelling** | Fleur : gonflement de la base | **Blüte: basale Schwellung** | **Flor: hinchazón basal** |  |  |
| **QN** | **(e)** | weak | faible | gering | débil | Leo8544 | 1 |
|  |  | medium | moyen | mittel | media | Pink Lady | 3 |
|  |  | strong | fort | stark | fuerte | Yellow maculata | 5 |
| **41. ~~(\*)~~** | **VG** | **Outer perianth segment: main color of outer side** | **Enveloppe extérieure du périanthe : couleur principale de la face extérieure** | **Äußeres Blütenhüllensegment: Hauptfarbe der Außenseite** | **Segmento externo del perianto: color principal de la cara externa** |  |  |
| **PQ** | **(b) (e)** | RHS Colour Chart (indicate reference number) | Code RHS des couleurs (indiquer le numéro de référence) | RHS-Farbkarte (Nummer angeben) | Carta de colores RHS (indíquese el número de referencia) |  |  |
| **43.  ~~(\*)~~** | **VG** | **Inner perianth segment: main color of apex of inner side** | Enveloppe intérieure du périanthe : principale couleur du sommet de la face intérieure | **Inneres Blütenhüllensegment: Hauptfarbe der Spitze der Innenseite** | **Segmento interno del perianto: color principal del ápice de la cara interna** |  |  |
| **PQ** | **(b)** | white | blanc | weiß | blanco |  | 1 |
|  | **(e)** | green | vert | grün | verde | Ice Cap | 2 |
|  |  | yellow | jaune | gelb | amarillo | Twice as Nice | 3 |
|  |  | red | rouge | rot | rojo |  | 4 |
|  |  | purple | violet | purpurn | púrpura | Koeleman’s Red | 5 |
|  |  | brown | brun | braun | marrón | Koeleman’s Orange | 6 |
| **45. ~~(\*)~~** | **VG** | **Filament: anthocyanin coloration** | Filament : pigmentation anthocyanique | **Staubfaden: Anthocyanfärbung** | **Filamento: pigmentación antociánica** |  |  |
| **QN** | **(f)** | absent or weak | nulle ou faible | fehlend oder gering | ausente o débil | Bekkies, Ice Cap | 1 |
|  |  | medium | moyenne | mittel | media | Majesty | 2 |
|  |  | strong | forte | stark | fuerte | Red Parade | 3 |

## Changes to the grouping characteristics in Chapter 5.3

*Current wording:*

5.3 The following have been agreed as useful grouping characteristics:

(a) Leaf: spots on upper side (characteristic 11)

(b) Leaf: color of marginal zone of upper side (characteristic 13)

(c) Leaf: marginal teeth (characteristic 14)

(d) Inflorescence: branching (characteristic 18)

(e) Terminal raceme: shape (characteristic 25)

(f) Outer perianth segment: main color of outer side (characteristic 41) with the following groups:

Gr. 1: white

Gr. 2: green

Gr. 3: yellow

Gr. 4: orange

Gr. 5: pink

Gr. 6: red

*Proposed new wording:*

5.3 The following have been agreed as useful grouping characteristics:

(a) Leaf: spots on upper side (characteristic 11)

(b) Leaf: color of marginal zone of upper side (characteristic 13)

(c) Leaf: marginal teeth (characteristic 14)

(d) Inflorescence: branching (characteristic 18)

(e) Terminal raceme: shape (characteristic 25)

(f) Outer perianth segment: main color of outer side (characteristic 41) with the following groups:

Gr. 1: white

Gr. 2: green

Gr. 3: yellow

Gr. 4: orange

Gr. 5: pink

Gr. 6: red

*Remark: If plants of a variety under optimal growing conditions do not flower within one or two growing seasons and they are clearly distinguishable on vegetative characteristics, the items d, e and f with characteristics 18, 25 and 41 are optional.*

## Revision of chapter 8.1 “Explanations covering several characteristics”, explanation covering all characteristics

*Current wording:*

Unless otherwise indicated, observations should be made at the time of full flowering.

*Proposed new wording:*

Unless otherwise indicated, observations should be made at the time of full flowering.

If the observations are chosen to be made on non-flowering plants this should be done at the end of the growing season after full development of the leaves.

## Addition to chapter 10.4.3 – Technical Questionnaire

*Proposed addition:*

4.3 Flowering of the variety

4.3.1 Plants of the variety have difficulty to flower under optimal growing conditions and/or *they are clearly distinguishable from other varieties on vegetative characteristics* [ ]

## Addition to item 10.5 – Technical Questionnaire

*Proposed addition:*

*Remark: The following characteristics are not compulsory in case plants of a variety have difficulty to flower under optimal growing conditions and they are clearly distinguishable from other varieties on vegetative characteristics: 5.4 (18), 5.5 (25) en 5.6 (41).*

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1. held via electronic means, from June 12 to 16, 2023. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)