



TGP/9.1.2.2 Draft 1

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**INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS**  
GENEVA

Associated Document  
to the  
General Introduction to the Examination  
of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability and the  
Development of Harmonized Descriptions of New Varieties of Plants (document TG/1/3)

**DOCUMENT TGP/9**  
**“EXAMINING DISTINCTNESS”**

**Section TGP/9.1.2.2: General Procedures for Determining  
Distinctness: With the Participation of Breeders (France)**

*Document prepared by an expert from France*

*to be considered by the*

*Technical Working Party for Vegetables (TWV), at its thirty-sixth session to be held in  
Tsukuba, Japan, from September 9 to 13, 2002*

*Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops (TWA), at its thirty-first session to be held in  
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from September 23 to 27, 2002*

*Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees (TWO), at its thirty-fifth  
session to be held in Quito, from November 18 to 22, 2002*

*Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops (TWF), at its thirty-third session to be held in  
San Carlos de Bariloche, Argentina, from November 25 to 29, 2002*

## SECTION 9.1.2.2

### GENERAL PROCEDURES FOR DETERMINING DISTINCTNESS: WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF BREEDERS (FRANCE):

#### FRENCH DUS PROCEDURE ON MAIZE WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF THE APPLICANT

##### SUMMARY FOR THE SPECIFIC CONDITIONS AND RULES FOR DECISION

- AIM** :
- To speed up the official studies
  - To get a better involvement of the applicant in the variety description work.
  - To limit the workload.

**CONDITIONS** :

##### OFFICIAL AGREEMENT OF THE APPLICANT BASED ON:

- The presence, for at least 5 years on French territory, of a nursery containing inbred lines, with observations on candidate and examples varieties
- The presence of technical staff able to make the description
  - Regular training courses and an examination to check this ability.

The Technical Committee for National Listing is in charge of the application of this official agreement on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture.

##### APPLICATION FILES

- YEAR 1\* : Declaration of the application
- YEAR 2\* : Submission of all the information as requested for an application without the participation of the applicant.

Additional information on the parental lines (if not already known)

- Genetic origin : compulsory, possibly submitted in a separate document.
- A set of characteristics in addition to those already mentioned in the UPOV Technical Questionnaire (16 additional characteristics)

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\* Year 1: year during which the applicant produces the description on his own premises;

Year 2: year during which the official service produces the description and conducts the DUS study.

- Description of 11 electrophoretic characteristics

Recommendations are made on how to establish descriptions:

- Qualitative characteristics : at least 10 individual observations
- Quantitative characteristics : average value of 10 measurements and indication of the value of the closest example varieties ;
- Electrophoretic characteristics :electrophoretic pattern established on at least 4 grains plus 16 grains if there is any heterogeneity. The recommended method is described in the Handbook published by GEVES.

### **PLANT MATERIAL SUBMISSION**

- YEAR 1: Submission of a small sample (200 kernels ) of each parental line
- YEAR 2: Submission of the different categories (hybrid, - components as for any application without participation of the applicant)  
Submission of 6 non threshed ears of each parental line - - - (if not already known) with at least 100 kernels (70 for flint parental lines)

### **VISIT TO THE BREEDER'S PREMISES**

### **DECISION RULES:**

#### **OFFICIAL AGREEMENT**

- The agreement can be cancelled if any of the conditions are no longer fulfilled
- The agreement can also be cancelled if any applicant does not respect the general rules or if too many discrepancies appear between the descriptions submitted by the applicant in year 1 and those produced by the official service in year 2

#### **DUS REPORT**

- General rules are applicable as soon the description submitted by the applicant is officially validated.
- Validation of the description :

If there is any discrepancy between the description submitted by the applicant and the one established by GEVES, the description made by the applicant is rejected and a third year must be undertaken.

Discrepancies :

- A discrepancy exists if, for any characteristic, the difference between the 2 notes for a given characteristic is higher than the minimum distance considered in the automatic comparison procedure (minimum distance = distance which is used in the software to take into account a difference).
  - For electrophoretic characteristics, no discrepancy is accepted.
- Distinctness
- If it is not a problem to establish a clear distinctness based on the automatic comparison procedure on the direct observations in the trial conducted by GEVES, the inbred line is declared distinct.
- If not, a third year is requested.
- Uniformity and Stability
- If the uniformity of the reference seed-lot fulfils the UPOV requirement and if no more than 1 ear-row is different from the others and the reference seed-lot, the inbred line is declared uniform and stable.
- If there is a lack of uniformity on either the reference seed-lot or the ear rows, a third year is requested.
- If both lack uniformity, the inbred line is declared not uniform and stable.
- Description : in the case of a positive DUS report, the description is established using the description submitted by the applicant and the two descriptions (two locations) made by GEVES.

As soon as an inbred line has a positive report using this procedure, the general rules for conducting the DUS test on a hybrid including this inbred line can be applied.

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