



PROTOCOL FOR DISTINCTNESS, UNIFORMITY AND STABILITY TESTS

***Weigela* Thunb.**

WEIGELA

UPOV Species Code: WEIGE

Adopted on 26/10/2020

I - SUBJECT OF THE PROTOCOL

The protocol describes the technical procedures to be followed in order to meet the Council Regulation 2100/94 on Community Plant Variety Rights. The technical procedures have been agreed by the Administrative Council and are based on general UPOV Document TG/1/3 and UPOV Guideline TG/148/2 dated 4th November 1994 for the conduct of tests for Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability. This protocol applies to all vegetatively propagated varieties of ***Weigela Thunb***, but primarily to the varieties of hybrids between:

***Weigela coraeensis* Thunb.**
***Weigela floribunda* (Sieb. Et Zucc.) K. Koch**
***Weigela florida* (Bunge) A.DC. and**
***Weigela hortensis* (Sieb. Et Zucc.) K. Koch**

II - SUBMISSION OF PLANT MATERIAL

1. The Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO) is responsible for informing the applicant of

- the closing date for the receipt of plant material;
- the minimum amount and quality of plant material required;
- the examination office to which material is to be sent.

The applicant is responsible for ensuring compliance with any customs and plant health requirements.

2. Final dates for receipt of documentation and material by the Examination Office

The final dates for receipt of requests, technical questionnaires and the final date or submission period for plant material will be decided by the CPVO and each Examination Office chosen.

The Examination Office is responsible for immediately acknowledging the receipt of requests for testing, and technical questionnaires. If no or unsatisfactory plant material is submitted the CPVO should be informed as soon as possible.

3. Plant material requirements

Survey of final dates for request for technical examination and sending of Technical Questionnaire by the CPVO as well as submission date of plant material by the applicant, and quantity of plant material to be supplied by the applicant in one sample.

	Request of examination	Plant material	
FRANCE	15/10	Before 15/11	8 plants (two years old) on own roots

Quality:.....The plant material supplied should be visibly healthy, not lacking in vigour or affected by any important pest or disease, especially virus.

The plant material must not have undergone any treatment unless the CPVO and the examination office allow or request such treatment. If it has been treated, full details of the treatment must be given.

Labelling of sample:- Species

- File number of the application allocated by the CPVO
- Breeder's reference
- Examination reference (if known)
- Name of applicant
- The phrase "On request of the CPVO".

III - CONDUCT OF TESTS

1. Variety collection

A variety collection will be maintained for the purpose of establishing distinctness of the candidate varieties in test. A variety collection may contain both living material and descriptive information. A variety will be included in a reference collection only if plant material is available to make a technical examination.

Pursuant to Article 7 of Council Regulation No. 2100/94, the basis for a collection should be the following:

- varieties listed or protected at the EU level;
- varieties protected in other UPOV Member States;
- any other variety in common knowledge.

It is the responsibility of Examination Office to keep the variety collection up to date.

2. Material to be examined

Candidate varieties will be directly compared with other candidates for Community plant variety rights tested at the same Examination Office, and with appropriate varieties in the variety collection. When necessary an Examination Office may also include other candidates and varieties.

3. Characteristics to be used

The characteristics to be used in DUS tests and preparation of descriptions shall be those referred to in Annex 1. All the characteristics shall be used, providing that observation of a characteristic is not rendered impossible by the expression of any other characteristic, or the expression of a characteristic is prevented by the environmental conditions under which the test is conducted. In the latter case, the CPVO should be informed. In addition the existence of some other regulation e.g. plant health, may make the observation of the characteristic impossible.

The Administrative Council empowers the President, in accordance with Article 23 of Commission Regulation N° 1239/95, to insert additional characteristics and their expressions in respect of a variety.

4. Grouping of varieties

The varieties and candidates to be compared will be divided into groups to facilitate the assessment of distinctness. Characteristics which are suitable for grouping purposes are those which are known from experience not to vary, or to vary only slightly, within a variety and which in their various states of expression are fairly evenly distributed throughout the collection. In the case of continuous grouping characteristics overlapping states of expression between adjacent groups is required to reduce the risks of incorrect allocation of candidates to groups. The characters used for grouping are the following:

- a) Plant: growth habit (characteristic 2)
- b) Leaf blade: variegation (characteristic 10)
- c) Flower: number of colours per flower (characteristic 15)
- d) Flower: main colour on inner side (characteristic 16)
- e) Time of first full flowering (characteristic 25)

5. Trial designs and growing conditions

The minimum duration of tests will normally be two growing cycles if the results on distinctness and uniformity are conclusive. Tests will be carried out under conditions ensuring normal growth. The size of the plots will be such that plants or parts of plants may be removed for measuring and counting without prejudice to the observations which must be made up to the end of the growing period.

The test design is as follows:

As a minimum, each test should include a total of 6 plants. Separate plots for observation and for measuring can only be used if they have been subject to similar environmental conditions.

All observations determined by measurement or counting should be made on 6 plants or 10 parts taken from each of 6 plants. All observations on morphological characteristics should be made on one-year-old branches. All observations on the flower should be made at the time of first full flowering and of the leaf should be made after flowering.

The test should normally be conducted at one place. If any important characteristics of the variety cannot be seen at that place, the variety may be tested at an additional place.

6. Special tests

In accordance with Article 83(3) of Council Regulation No. 2100/94 an applicant may claim either in the Technical Questionnaire or during the test that a candidate has a characteristic which would be helpful in establishing distinctness. If such a claim is made and is supported by reliable technical data, a special test may be undertaken providing that a technically acceptable test procedure can be devised.

Special tests will be undertaken, with the agreement of the President of CPVO, where distinctness is unlikely to be shown using the characters listed in the protocol.

7. Standards for decisions

a) **Distinctness**

A candidate variety will be considered to be distinct if it meets the requirements of Article 7 of Council Regulation No. 2100/94.

b) **Uniformity**

For the assessment of uniformity a population standard of 1% with an acceptance probability of at least 95% should be applied.

For vegetatively propagated varieties, the candidate will be considered to be sufficiently uniform if the number of off-types does not exceed 1 in 6 plants examined.

c) **Stability**

A candidate will be considered to be sufficiently stable when there is no evidence to indicate that it lacks uniformity.

IV - REPORTING OF RESULTS

After each growing cycle the results will be summarised and reported to the CPVO in the form of a UPOV model interim report in which any problems will be indicated under the headings distinctness, uniformity and stability. Candidates may meet the DUS standards after one growing cycle but in some cases two or more growing cycles may be required. When tests are completed the results will be sent by the Examination Office to the CPVO in the form of a UPOV model final report.

If it is considered that the candidate complies with the DUS standards, the final report will be accompanied by a variety description in the format recommended by UPOV. If not the reasons for failure and a summary of the test results will be included with the final report.

The CPVO must receive interim reports and final reports by the date agreed between the CPVO and the examination office.

Interim reports and final examination reports shall be signed by the responsible member of the staff of the Examination Office and shall expressly acknowledge the exclusive rights of disposal of CPVO.

V - LIAISON WITH THE APPLICANT

If problems arise during the course of the test the CPVO should be informed immediately so that the information can be passed on to the applicant. Subject to prior agreement, the applicant may be directly informed at the same time as the CPVO particularly if a visit to the trial is advisable.

The interim report and final report shall be sent by the Examination Office to the CPVO.

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ANNEX I

TABLE OF CHARACTERISTICS

CPVO N°	UPOVN °	Characteristics	Examples	Note	
1.	2.	Plant: vigour	very weak	Evita	1
			weak	Eva Rathke	3
			medium	Eva Surpême	5
			strong	Bristol Ruby, Printemps	7
			very strong		9
2.	3.	Plant: growth habit	erect	Bristol Ruby	3
			spreading	Descartes	5
			weeping	Féerie, Fiesta	7
3.	4.	One year old shoot: colour (in winter)	yellowish	Le Printemps	1
			light brown		2
			red brown	Abel Carrière	3
4.	5.	Leaf blade: shape	ovate	Abel Carrière, Le Printemps	1
			elliptic		2
			obovate		3
5.	6.	Leaf blade: width	narrow		3
			medium		5
			broad		7
6.	7.	Leaf blade: incisions of margin	fine	Eva Rathke	3
			medium	Bristol Ruby, Le Printemps	5
			coarse		7

CPVO N°	UPOVN °	Characteristics	Examples	Note	
7.	8.	Leaf blade: undulation of margin	absent or very weak	Descartes	1
			weak		3
			medium	Girondin	5
			strong		7
			very strong	Conquête, Président Duschartre	9
8.	9.	Leaf blade: colour	yellow	Looymansii Aurea, Rubidor	1
			green	Eva Suprême	2
			reddish	Bristol Ruby, Florida Purpurea	3
9.	10.	Leaf blade: intensity of colour	light		3
			medium		5
			dark		7
10.	11.	Leaf blade: variegation	absent	Ballet, Bristol Ruby	1
			present	Kosteriana Variegata, Siebold Variegata	9
11.	12.	Leaf blade: intensity of variegation	very weak	Marginata Alba	1
			weak	Courtamon	3
			medium	Caricature, Vesicolor, <u>Weigela floribunda</u>	5
			strong	Kosteriana Variegata, Siebold Variegata	7
			very strong		9
12.	13.	Leaf blade: blistering	weak	Le Printemps	3
			medium	Beranger	5
			strong	Abel Carriere	7

CPVO N°	UPOVN °	Characteristics	Examples	Note	
13.	14.	Leaf blade: pubescence of lower side	absent or very weak	Candida	1
			weak		3
			medium	<u>Weigela florida</u>	5
			strong	<u>Weigela hortensis</u>	7
			very strong		9
14. (+)	15. (+)	Inflorescence: type	solitary flower	Eva Suprême	1
			simple panicle	Bristol Ruby	2
			compound panicle	Dart's Colour Dream	3
15.	16.	Flower: number of colours per flower	single-colored		1
			bi-colored		2
16.	17.	Flower: main colour on inner side	white	Snow Flack	1
			yellow	Fiana	2
			pink	Pink Princess	3
			red	Red Prince	4
			violet red	Courtadur, Grenadine	5
17.	18.	Flower: secondary colour on inner side	white		1
			yellow		2
18.	19.	Flower: size	small	Eva Rathke	3
			medium	Bristol Ruby	5
			large	Féerie	7
19. (+)	20. (+)	Flower: shape	campanulate	Bristol Ruby	1
			funnel-shaped	Eva Suprême	2

CPVO N°	UPOVN °	Characteristics	Examples	Note	
20.	21.	Sepal: pubescence	absent or very weak	New Port Red	1
			weak	Bristol Ruby	3
			medium		5
			strong		7
			very strong	Eva Rathke	9
21.	22.	Sepal: colour	green	New Port Red	1
			red	Bristol Ruby	2
22.	23.	Corolla: shape of apex of lobes	pointed	Candida	1
			rounded	Eva Suprême	2
23.	24.	Ovary: pubescence	absent or very weak	Bristol Ruby, Eva Suprême	1
			weak		3
			medium		5
			strong		7
			very strong		9
24.	25.	Pistil: length compared to length of corolla tube	same length	Bristol Ruby	1
			longer	Ballet, Eva Suprême	2
25.	26.	Time of first full flowering	very early		1
			early	Féerie	3
			medium	Abel Carrière	5
			late	Bristol Ruby	7
			very late	Descartes, <u>Weigela coraensis</u>	9
26.	27.	Duration of first flowering	short	Féerie	3
			medium	Bristol Ruby, Eva Suprême	5
			long	Le Printemps	7
27.	28.	Second flowering (in autumn)	absent	Féerie	1
			present	Eva Suprême	9

EXPLANATIONS ON THE TABLE OF CHARACTERISTICS

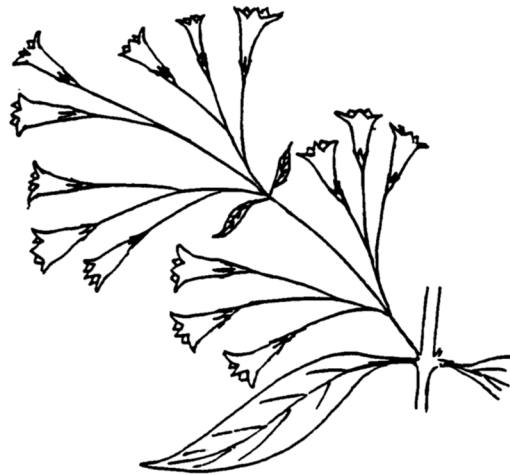
Ad. CPVO 14 / UPOV 15: Inflorescence: type



1
solitary flower



2
simple panicle



3
compound panicle

Ad. CPVO 19 / UPOV 20: Flower: shape



1
campanulate



2
funnel-shaped

LITERATURE

- HOWARD, 1965: "A Check-List of Cultivar Names in Weigela," *Arnoldia* Volume 25, 9-11, pp 49-69
- KRUESSMANN, 1976-77: "Handbuch der Laubgehölze," Bd I + II, Paul Parey, Hamburg
- GROOTENDORST, 1968: "Weigelia," *DENDROFLORA*, Nr. 5, pp 56-60, Boskoop, NL
- BROSSARD, P. CUISANCE, 1984: "Arbres et arbustes d'ornément des régions tempérées et méditerranéennes"
- DE COURTYE, 1992: "Le Weigela," chapitre d'ouvrage "Amélioration des espèces végétales cultivées" par A. Gallais et H. Bannerot, Édition INRA, p. 538

ANNEX II

The Technical Questionnaire is available on the CPVO website under the following reference:
CPVO-TQ/148/1