



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

sante.ddg2.g.5(2017)2891611

**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE  
STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANTS, ANIMALS, FOOD AND FEED  
HELD IN BRUSSELS ON 20 APRIL 2017  
(Section Propagating Material of Plants of Fruit Genera and Species)**

*CIRCABC Link:* <https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/dabfec38-eb22-42f2-b50c-13a468c06925>

**A.01 Marketing possibilities of fruit plant propagating material and fruit plants.**

The Commission presented the changes to the previous version of the overview document.

**A.02 Clarifications concerning several provisions of Council Directive 2008/90/EC and its Implementing Directives on the marketing of fruit plant propagating material and fruit plants intended for fruit production.**

The Commission presented an updated version of the clarification document with some modified answers to questions from Member States regarding Directive 2008/90/EC and the Implementing Directives on labelling, registration, and certification.

**A.03 EU variety register: Fru\_it Reproductive Mat\_erial Information System (FRUMATIS).**

The Commission presented the state of play of the EU variety register. Modifications to the EU excel template for submission of national variety registers that were proposed by the Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO) were discussed. A delegate noted that the search function foreseen in the semantic FRUMATIS application contains too many options. The Commission will conduct a survey to receive feedback on the inclusion in the EU excel template of additional optional dates (e.g. arrival date) and of options for the field 'Application Status' (e.g. renewed).

**A.04 Commission/CPVO project on a unique EU IT System on plant varieties (presentation by CPVO).**

The project intends to develop an IT application whereby a unique contribution may be used to submit national data to the Common catalogue and CPVO's Variety Finder. A Working Group comprising Member State experts, stakeholders, Commission and

CPVO staff will elaborate the requirements for this unique EU IT system on plant varieties and follow up on the implementation of the system. The CPVO will enquire whether Member States are interested to participate in this project.

**A.05 Phytosanitary requirements for import of fruit plant propagating material and fruit plants into the EU.**

The Commission presented the new Plant Health Regulation (EU) 2016/2031. The Commission clarified that phytosanitary certificates and plant passports will require information on the presence of Regulated Non-Quarantine Pests. A delegate asked to include in Directive 2014/98/EU on certification requirements a statement regarding practical freedom from all pests which may impair the quality of the fruit plant propagating material and fruit plants concerned. The Commission will look into this request.

**A.06 Common EU approach on import of fruit propagating material and fruit plants from third countries.**

The Commission recalled the need to set up an EU-harmonised system to decide about the equivalence of propagating material and fruit plants produced in third countries. Member States were asked to express their interest by 11 May 2017 to participate in a Working Group that will elaborate equivalence requirements. The Commission requested Member States to submit by 11 September 2017 an overview of third countries from which they would like to import fruit propagating material and fruit plants.

**A.07 Import of strawberry plants of the pre-basic category from the US (presentation by Spain).**

Member States can currently decide about the equivalence of propagating material and fruit plants produced in third countries. A delegate presented their approach to accept strawberry plants of the US as pre-basic material. Several delegates communicated that they have until now only imported non-certified material from non-EU countries.

**A.08 Integration of molecular data into DUS testing (CPVO IMMODUS working group, presentation by CPVO).**

The CPVO delegate explained that the IMMODUS Working Group is a think-tank aiming to develop a strategy on the incorporation of bio-molecular techniques in Distinctness Uniformity Stability (DUS) testing with the ultimate goal to improve the cost efficiency of DUS testing. Out of a total of 7 project proposals received in 2016, two have been retained.

**A.09 Use of molecular markers for the control of varieties during marketing (presentation by Spain).**

A delegate informed Member States about the checks they perform before a variety enters the market. A set of molecular markers is developed to identify all varieties in

the reference collection of varieties. A delegate noted the discrepancy between phenotypic and genotypic characteristics which complicates the use of molecular markers to control the identity of varieties.

**A.10 Existing rules on variety denomination for agricultural and vegetable species (presentation by CPVO).**

The CPVO delegate explained that the current rules only apply to variety denominations of agricultural and vegetable species. Implementing rules may be laid down for varieties of fruit genera and species. In the absence of those rules internationally accepted guidelines apply. The Commission informed that implementing rules may be developed on the basis of the principles used in Commission Regulation (EC) No 637/2009 on the suitability of the denominations of varieties of agricultural plant species and vegetable species.

**A.11 Update on EU quality pest project in collaboration with the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (Presentation by EPPO).**

The EPPO project leader presented the state of play of the EPPO quality pest project. He explained EPPO's approach composed of the development of a methodology to assess the status of the pests, a survey amongst Member States and stakeholders, and the application of the methodology in 6 sectorial expert working groups. In addition, he presented the progress of the work of the seed potato, forestry, and fruit and vine sectorial expert working groups.

**A.12 Exchange of information on national implementation of the EU-harmonised certification scheme.**

A discussion on labelling requirements took place. Eleven Member States indicated that they have developed or intend to develop coloured labels in accordance with Article 2(4) of Directive 2014/96/EU on labelling requirements.

**B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision temporarily authorising certain Member States to certify pre-basic material of specific species of fruit plants referred to in Annex I to Council Directive 2008/90/EC, produced in the field under non-insect-proof conditions, and repealing Implementing Decision (EU) 2017/167.**

The Commission presented the draft Decision and clarified that it concerned an update of the Decision voted in December 2016 with the aim to include Sweden.

**Vote taken:** Favourable opinion.