



New Zealand
Plant Variety Rights
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I. GENERAL INFORMATION

I.A CLOSING DATES – NOTICE TO BREEDERS ENTERING VARIETIES IN CENTRAL DUS TRIALS

CONDUCTED BY THE PVR OFFICE

You will need to meet the following deadlines in order to have your variety included in the central trials to be established in 2016.

Peas – Make application by 15 July 2016

Potatoes - Make application by 1 August 2016

Spring Cereals – Make application by 10 August 2016

Spring sown Forage Brassicas - Make application by 1 September 2016.

I.B NEW WEBSITE

IPONZ has released its new website, which has been redeveloped to improve content and make information and tools easier to access.

As the leading source of information about Intellectual Property (IP) in New Zealand, the IPONZ website is used by a wide range of individuals and businesses, from beginners who do not know about IP and those who know a little but need support, to experienced agents and businesses who advise others.

IPONZ has reviewed content, enhanced search capability across the site and improved the structure and flow of information for users at all levels. For the first time, we have included information to improve business knowledge and understanding of IP with a Māori element, information for particular industries and information in preparation for the launch of Geographical Indications.

The new website is now also optimised for a range of devices.

If you have any queries on the new website, or would like to provide any insights or feedback, please email info@iponz.govt.nz.

I.C UPOV MEMBER STATE RATIFIES THE 1991 ACT OF THE CONVENTION

Kenyan plant variety protection law is now in conformity with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention and came into force on 11 May 2016. Kenya has become the fifty sixth member of UPOV to become bound by the 1991 Act of the Convention.

I.D SURRENDER VERSUS CANCELLATION OF A RIGHT FOR A GRANTED VARIETY

The on line system provides for notification that an annual renewal for a grant is due and payment can be made. Some variety owners, having decided that they wish to surrender the Right, do not make payment, knowing that the Right will be automatically cancelled in due course.

The practical outcome of surrendering or cancelling the Right is the same, but should be recognised that surrendering a Right is a voluntary action by the variety owner where cancellation is an official action resulting from the non-payment of the annual renewal fee.

For the situation where a variety owner does not wish to maintain a variety Right, it is recommended that the Right be surrendered using the on line system and the cancellation process not be used by default.

I. E USE OF AN ADDITIONAL CHARACTERISTIC FOR EXAMINATION OF RYEGRASS VARIETIES

At the request of an applicant, the additional characteristic, Aftermath Heading , may now be assessed in addition to the routinely assessed characteristics for ryegrass varieties. Applicants are requested to notify PVRO that they wish Aftermath Heading to be assessed for their variety, no later than 1 February each year, to ensure that growing requirements for this characteristic are incorporated into the trial planting.