



**NEW ZEALAND
INTELLECTUAL
PROPERTY OFFICE**
Plant Variety Rights

New Zealand

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VIII. GENERAL INFORMATION

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

CONDUCTED BY THE PVR OFFICE

You will need to meet the following deadline in order to have your variety included in the central trials to be established in 2017 –

Clover	Make application by 14 January 2017
Grasses	Make application by 1 February 2017
Roses	Make application by 31 March 2017
Winter and Alternate Cereals	Make application by 15 April 2017

VIII.B CHANGES TO SEED REQUIREMENTS FOR GRASS VARIETIES

PVRO has previously had concerns regarding the effect of endophyte present in seed on the expression of morphological characters used in DUS testing and as a precautionary measure introduced a requirement for endophyte free seed in 2010.

Over the last six years, experience with respect to the presence of endophyte in seed and possible impact on DUS testing has been gained in New Zealand and overseas and this combined evidence supports a new conclusion that the presence of endophyte in seed has no or minimal effect on the expression of morphological characters used in DUS testing.

The existing requirement for endophyte free seed no longer applies and from 1 January 2017, seed containing endophyte can be supplied. Should the submitted seed sample contain endophyte, the question in the technical questionnaire regarding the identity and percentage present of endophyte should be completed. For further information

<https://www.iponz.govt.nz/about-ip/pvr/technical-guidance/current/seed-requirement-for-grass-varieties/>

VIII.C UPOV ELECTRONIC APPLICATION FORM (EAF)

The EAF will be launched in January 2017 and will be available for varieties of rose, lettuce, potato and apple fruit varieties. The form will enable breeders to submit application data to participating UPOV members via an online form. The form and individual application data sets will be held in a UPOV server and will be managed by the applicant.

The main benefits of the EAF are:

- allow applicants to read all questions in any of the languages of participating members
- enable applicants to reuse existing application data for subsequent applications
- facilitate exchange of data in a standard format

For New Zealand, the applicant makes the application using the EAF system, which then is transferred from the UPOV server to IPONZ and loaded into the existing case management system for acceptance.

New Zealand participation in the EAF will have no effect on applicants who directly use the IPONZ on line case management system.

VIII.D UPDATED UPOV WEBSITE

The UPOV website, www.upov.int has recently been updated with the new logo, a section on Frequently Asked Questions and new features for breeders, farmers, policy makers and the general public.