



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

New Zealand

Plant Variety Rights

Journal

No. 151 – July to September 2017

Published: 2 October 2017

www.pvr.govt.nz

ISSN 1175-0413

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 deadline in order to have your variety included in the central trials to be established in 2018 –

Summer-sown Forage Brassicas Make application by 1 January 2018.

Clover Make application by 15 January 2018

Grasses Make application by 1 February 2018

I.B HOLIDAY CLOSING OF THE PLANT VARIETY RIGHTS OFFICE

The Plant Variety Rights Office will close at end of business on Friday, 22 December 2017 and re-open on Wednesday, 3 January 2018.

I.C TECHNICAL FOCUS GROUP MEETING

The annual meeting of the Plant Variety Rights Technical Focus Group was held on Wednesday 23 August 2017 in Christchurch. This meeting provides the opportunity for the sharing of information and views between breeders, applicants, industry and PVRO. A copy of the meeting report is available on request.

I.D NEW LINK TO THE UPOV ELECTRONIC APPLICATION TOOL ON THE WEBSITE

The UPOV Electronic Application Tool provides quick and easy transmission of application data for making Plant Variety Protection applications worldwide. Two PVR pages on the website now have the UPOV EAF link.

<https://www.iponz.govt.nz/about-ip/pvr/apply/>

<https://www.iponz.govt.nz/about-ip/pvr/pvr-process/>

I.E ADDITION OF TECHNICAL QUESTIONNAIRES TO THE WEBSITE

The website contains the most regularly used technical questionnaires covering the genera for which the most applications are made. This website list comprises a part of the total number of technical questionnaires held by PVRO. If you make applications more than once or twice a year for varieties belonging to a genera without a website technical questionnaire, contact PVRO and the technical questionnaire may be added.

I. F SURRENDER VERSUS CANCELLATION OF A GRANT

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 the owner surrendering or PVRO officially 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 under the Plant Variety Rights Act 1987 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. The cancellation of a Grant is published and may give a negative impression of that breeder or owner.