



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

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 deadline in order to have your variety included in the central trials to be established in 2024 –

Clover Make application by 15 January 2025

Grasses Make application by 1 February 2025

I.B HOLIDAY CLOSING OF THE PLANT VARIETY RIGHTS OFFICE

The Plant Variety Rights Office will close at end of business on Tuesday, 24 December 2024 and re-open on Friday, 3 January 2025.

I.C TECHNICAL FOCUS GROUP MEETING 2024

The annual meeting of the Plant Variety Rights Technical Focus Group was held on Wednesday 28 August at PVRO, MBIE, Christchurch. This meeting provides the opportunity for the sharing of information and views between breeders, applicants, industry and PVRO. The meeting report will be available on the website in October.

I.D TESTING OF VARIETIES OF FUNGAL ENDOPHYTES

The IPONZ MBIE and AgResearch variety testing agreement for the centralised DUS testing of fungal endophyte varieties, has now concluded and there is no longer a central testing arrangement in place for the genus. Variety testing will now be managed on an application-by-application basis by the Examiner.

I.E PARTICIPATION IN THE EAST ASIA PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION (PVP) FORUM

In 2023 PVRO was invited to participate as an observer in the discussions on development of an East Asia regional electronic system for making PVP applications, managing examination and for cooperation between authorities. As part of the annual East Asia Forum Congress, PVRO recently provided a virtual presentation on the New Zealand experience in using electronic systems for PVP. The Forum recognises that New Zealand has good experience in this area and valued the input.

I. PLANT BREEDING AND RESEARCH ASSOCIATION (PBRA) PLANT BREEDING SEMINAR

The seminar was held on 30 July in Christchurch and was the first for the agricultural seed sector for some years. IPONZ provided two speakers with the first covering wider elements of intellectual property and the services IPONZ provides. The second covered aspects of the examination of agricultural varieties. The presentations received positive comments and several questions. There was a broad consensus among participants that a similar event should occur more regularly.