



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 2023 –

Summer-sown Forage Brassicas	Make application by 1 January 2023
Clover	Make application by 15 January 2023
Grasses	Make application by 1 February 2023

### I.B HOLIDAY CLOSING OF THE PLANT VARIETY RIGHTS OFFICE

The Plant Variety Rights Office will close at end of business on Friday, 23 December 2022 and re-open on Wednesday, 4 January 2023.

### I.C THE PLANT VARIETY RIGHTS OFFICE DECLARED CLOSED ON MONDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2022 IN COMMEMORATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II MEMORIAL DAY.

Pursuant to section 28 of the Plant Variety Rights Act 1987, through authority of the Secretary, the Plant Variety Rights Office was closed on Monday 26 September 2022

### I.D PLANT VARIETY RIGHTS ACT REVIEW

The Plant Variety Rights Bill was introduced to Parliament in May 2021 and is currently at the Committee Stage. Further information is available on the New Zealand Parliament website [https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/bills-and-laws/bills-proposed-laws/document/BILL\\_111271/plant-variety-rights-bill](https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/bills-and-laws/bills-proposed-laws/document/BILL_111271/plant-variety-rights-bill)

An exposure draft for Regulations to support the new PVR regime was released for public consultation in the first quarter of 2022. The draft Regulations have since been further developed and provided to Ministers. It is anticipated that the Regulations will come into force at the same time as the Bill.

Following on from the PVR Fees discussion document, released for public consultation in the first quarter of 2022, further review of new fees was carried out with a final fees proposal now provided to Ministers. It is anticipated that the new fees will come into effect in the first quarter of 2023.

### I.E TECHNICAL FOCUS GROUP MEETING 2022

The annual meeting of the Plant Variety Rights Technical Focus Group was held on Wednesday 10 August at the Canterbury Agriculture and Science Centre, Lincoln, hosted by Plant and Food Research. This meeting provides the opportunity for the sharing of information and views between breeders, applicants, industry and PVRO. This year's meeting included a presentation from Plant and Food Research on their breeding activities and use of intellectual, a presentation from Landcare

Research on the breeding of low fertility varieties of *Agapanthus* and a field visit to the National *Phormium* collection. The meeting report will be available on the website later in October.

#### I.F TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP FOR PASTURE SPECIES MEETING 2022

The meeting was held on Thursday 25 August at MBIE, Cashel St, Christchurch.

The DUS testing of pasture and fungal endophyte varieties increasingly requires collaboration and information sharing between plant breeders and PVRO to identify varieties of common knowledge and plant characteristics suitable for DUS purposes. The full report has been completed and circulated to participants. The report can be made available to other interested persons on request.

Please contact Jacquie Broadhead [Jacquie.Broadhead@pvr.govt.nz](mailto:Jacquie.Broadhead@pvr.govt.nz)

#### I.G INVOICES FOR APPLICATION FEES MADE VIA UPOV PRISMA

The payment of an invoice issued for the application fee for a variety originally applied for via UPOV PRISMA can now be made by credit card for registered users of the IPONZ system. Previously the payment of ad hoc invoices of this type could only be made by direct debit. This change will provide greater flexibility and convenience for any user with an IPONZ login.