



United States Department of Agriculture



Plant Variety Protection Office (PVPO) News, Issue 5 - June 2018

New Exhibit C Form Following UPOV Test Guidelines

The U.S. PVPO announces a new Characteristics form (Exhibit C) for Strawberry and Quinoa applications, adopting the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) Test Guidelines. The new format aligns with the UPOV practices to make it even easier for applicants outside the United States to apply for a U.S. Plant Variety Protection Certificate.

The U.S. PVPO requires the Exhibit C form for the objective description of crop varieties using morphological and other characteristics. For most crops, these forms have been in place for 20 or more years. Using the UPOV Test Guidelines for the Exhibit C for Strawberry and Quinoa applications provides the latest valuable information regarding plant characteristics, testing protocols and grow-out trials procedures. The Test Guidelines are regularly reviewed by experts from around the world.

The images below show some of the sections from the Strawberry and Quinoa Exhibit C forms. You can see the electronic forms for both crops by logging into the electronic Plant Variety Protection (ePVP) System (authentication required), or by downloading the PDF versions of the forms from the PVPO website. The links to both are at the bottom of this page.

Experimental Name :
Variety Name :
Crop Kind : Strawberry

ST-470 Main Exhibit A Exhibit B **Exhibit C** Exhibit D Exhibit E

Strawberry

A. Morphology

I. Plant

1. Plant Growth Habit

2. Plant Density of Foliage

3. Plant Vigor

Experimental Name :
Variety Name :
Crop Kind : Quinoa

ST-470 Main Exhibit A Exhibit B **Exhibit C** Exhibit D Exhibit E

Quinoa

A. Morphology

I. Plant

1. Plant Height

II. Leaf

1. Foliage Color

When evaluating Strawberry or Quinoa applications, the U.S. PVPO will consider accepting the Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability (DUS) report from other UPOV countries on a case-by-case basis. If an applicant is interested in submitting a DUS report from another country, please communicate this on the application in the Exhibit C comments section. The U.S. PVPO will contact and work with the applicant to obtain an official DUS report from a relevant Country. For more information on this policy, please contact the U.S. PVPO.

You can find out more about the PVPO, how to apply for protection and the required fees at <https://www.ams.usda.gov/pvpo>. The ePVP System is available at <https://pvpo.ams.usda.gov/>, with instructions on how to authenticate for the system and how to submit applications.

We welcome your suggestions on topics for future newsletters, as well as ideas on how we can improve our service. Please feel free to contact the PVPO if you have any questions, comments or suggestions.

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The USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

For more information, please contact:
Plant Variety Protection Office
Science & Technology Program
Agricultural Marketing Service
United States Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave, SW - Room 4512
Washington, DC 20250
Phone: (202) 260-8983
PVPOmail@ams.usda.gov