

**OECD SCHEMES  
FOR THE VARIETAL CERTIFICATION OR THE CONTROL  
OF SEED MOVING IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE**

**FOREWORD**

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE LISTING OF VARIETIES ELIGIBLE FOR  
CERTIFICATION UNDER OECD SCHEME RULES**

**INTRODUCTION**

The OECD List of Varieties Eligible for Certification is an official list of varieties which have been accepted by National Designated Authorities as eligible for certification in accordance with the Rules of the OECD Seed Schemes. The Varieties List which is revised annually in accordance with notifications received from Designated Authorities participating in the Schemes includes details of the maintainer(s) of the variety and the name of the country(ies) where the variety has been registered.

The purpose of the Variety List is to provide an informative list, which is not limited and should permit the application of Rules 5.1, 5.1.1.1 or 5.1.1.2 for Basic Seed and Rules 5.2.3, 5.2.3.1 or 5.2.3.2 for Certified Seed in the different Schemes, pertaining respectively to Grass and Legume Seed, Seed Scheme for Crucifer and Other Oil Or Fibre Species, Cereal Seed, Maize and Sorghum Seed, Sugar Beet and Fodder Beet Seed and Seed of Subterranean Clover and Similar Species. Attention is drawn to the different nature of the OECD Vegetable Scheme where seed is generally traded uncertified as Standard Seed.

**DEFINITIONS**

**Maintainer**

The maintainer of a variety is a person or an organisation responsible for maintaining the variety and ensuring that it remains true to type throughout its full life-span and in the case of hybrid varieties that the formula for hybridisation is followed. Maintenance may be shared.

*Note: For listing purposes, the maintainer can be the national office of the company responsible for the variety even when the maintenance process for the variety takes place at another location.*

**Country of Registration**

The country of registration is the country where the variety is registered on the National Official Catalogue, following satisfactory tests for distinctness, uniformity and stability.

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## Designated Authority

The Designated Authority of the Country of Registration is responsible for:

- (1) Ensuring that the variety to be OECD listed has been registered on the National Official Catalogue;
- (2) Communicating the name of the person(s) or organisation(s) responsible for the maintenance of the variety;
- (3) Liaising with the maintainer of the variety;
- (4) Providing written agreement for the multiplication of seed outside the Country of Registration to the appropriate Designated Authority;
- (5) Supplying an authenticated standard sample of the variety to be multiplied in order that a control plot can be sown to provide an authentic reference of the variety;
- (6) Supplying an official description of the variety to be multiplied, and, in the case of a hybrid variety, a description of the parental components;
- (7) Authenticating the identity of the seed to be multiplied.

## Best Source of Information

The best source of information for a variety is the person(s) or organisation(s) responsible for the maintenance of the variety as designated by the maintainer code but access to the maintainer should normally be through your National Designated Authority.

## Maintainer Code

The maintainer code is a unique alpha-numeric code attributed to each maintainer by the National Designated Authority. The list of maintainers is compiled from the individual countries' lists and comprises the names and addresses, including the country, of each maintainer.

## RULES FOR LISTING

1. The variety list is divided into sections according to the following Schemes:

- Grass and Legume Seed
- Seed Scheme for Crucifer and Other Oil Or Fibre Species
- Cereal Seed
- Beet Seed
- Seed of Subterranean Clover and Similar Species
- Maize and Sorghum Seed

2. The Grass and Legume Seed section is sub-divided into two groups as follows:

- Poaceae* (Graminae)
- Leguminosae* (Leguminosae)

3. The Crucifer and Other Oil Or Fibre Species section is sub-divided into two groups as follows:

- Brassicaceae* (Cruciferae)
- Other species

4. Varieties are grouped by species and are listed in alphabetical order.
  5. For some species, varieties are classified according to either season, use, botanical characteristics or ploidy level.
  6. Every effort must be made to classify varieties where appropriate to the species at the time of application.
  7. The classification details are provided on page 14 and the classification code is included, when available, after each variety name.
  8. Varieties of *Beta vulgaris* are classified according to the breeding method.
  9. Synonyms can be accepted for listing. The synonym will be listed with the name of the country which has notified OECD. The country listed with a synonym may or may not be the country where the synonym has official recognition or use.
  10. Where homonyms within a botanical species are identified the countries involved will be notified and should make urgent contact with each other to resolve the naming. Unresolved homonyms will be listed as:
    - Name
    - Name.
    - Name, etc.
- Attempts to resolve this temporary arrangement should continue as a priority and participating countries are advised that strenuous precautions are required to prevent admixture and confusion of labelling.
11. All varieties must be accompanied by a maintainer code and the Country of Registration.
  12. Where a variety is jointly maintained or is registered by more than one country, deletion of the variety from the list or changes to its classification can only be made by written agreement with all the persons or organisations and the Countries of Registration concerned. Deletion, when requested, will be by removal of reference to the country requesting deletion. This will continue until the final nominating country requests deletion when the usual one year notice of deletion will apply.
  13. Additions to the Variety List of other maintainers or Countries of Registration for a variety, which do not change the classification group, will be accepted. Such additions should be made only by the authority of the country being added.
  14. The Designated Authority of each country is responsible for submitting annually to the OECD Secretariat a list of all varieties on its National Official Catalogue.
  15. All applications for listing should be made on the forms provided using a typescript only. Where an application for listing is made by electronic mail or on disk, it must be supported by a copy on paper signed by a representative of the Designated Authority.
  16. A variety may only be added to the Variety List by a Designated Authority at a time other than that prescribed by the Secretariat if it would otherwise prevent the movement of seed of that variety in international trade. The application must be made in writing to the OECD Secretariat in Paris with an explanation of why it must be done.

## LISTING OF VARIETIES

The following examples illustrate some of the different types of entry which may be encountered in the Variety List. Keys to the symbols used in the classification of varieties and to country code abbreviations for all OECD Member and Non-Member Countries can be found at the end of this Section. Addresses of Maintainers can be found in Annexes IV and V, arranged by number and location respectively. Addresses of Designated Authorities are given in Annex VI.

1. Where a variety (Amerigo) of *Triticum aestivum* is maintained by a maintainer (1413) and is registered only in France, the entry will be as follows:

Amerigo FRA,1413

2. Where a variety (Aberavon) of *Lolium perenne* is registered in more than one country (France and United Kingdom), and where the registrations refer to the maintainer under the same name at the same address (1017), the entry will be as follows:

Aberavon FRA, GBR,1017

3. Where a variety (Adagio) of *Hordeum vulgare* is maintained by more than one maintainer (1373 and 1801), following written agreement, and is registered in both France and Hungary, the entry will be as follows:

Adagio FRA, HUN,1373,1801

4. Where a variety (Sirio) of *Helianthus annuus* which is registered in the United States and maintained by a maintainer (546) has the synonym (Dekalb G-100) notified by Argentina and the synonym (G1001) notified by Morocco, the entry will be as follows:

Sirio USA, 546  
Dekalb G-100 ARG  
G100 MAR

5. Where a variety (Groninger Rode Klaver) of *Trifolium pratense* which is registered in the Netherlands is maintained as a local variety by a maintainer (1398), the symbol (\*) will be added after the variety name and the entry will be as follows:

Groninger Rode Klaver \* NLD, 1398

6. Where a variety (Argon) is maintained by a maintainer (169) but is due to be deleted in the next updating of the Variety List, the symbol (#) will be added after the variety name and the entry will be as follows:

Argon # DEU, 169

7. Other variety characters are designated by symbols, the meaning of these symbols is given in "Key to symbols used in the classification of varieties" on following page.