



**Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority,  
NASC Complex, New Delhi**

**Recommendations of 15<sup>th</sup> Review Meeting of DUS test centres  
for Kharif crops-2019**

**Venue: NASC Complex, New Delhi**

**Date: 25-26<sup>th</sup> April, 2019**

1. Procedure for registration of plant varieties has been revised *w.e.f* 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018.
2. Completed applications can be received throughout the year but DUS trial will be conducted according to the season and of those materials received before the deadline of the three windows declared.
  - a. Timeline for *Kharif*, *Rabi* and Summer/ Spring season has to be followed by applicants as well as DUS centres
  - b. DUS centers have to communicate to PPV&FRA for timely monitoring of trial at proper stage.
  - c. The planting/transplanting has to follow the design conveyed by the Registry, PPVFRA with the variation only for the zonal check subject to change as per the location identified by the AICCIP if applicable. Within 24 hours of planting/transplanting an email confirmation has to come to PI and Registrar from Co-PI and to Registrar from the PI. It is essential to comply to this legal documentation (as required for confirmation record of a variety being part of a trial in litigations).
3. Consolidated error-free data (PDF format) of the trial including the summary table and detailed plant-wise data of each replication in the prescribed format must reach PPV&FRA within 4 months from the date of harvest of the trial by compiling data from both centres as decided during *kharif* review meeting of 2018 with a proper mention of the file identity as attached with the email to the concerned Registrar. The Registrar concerned will endorse the email under his/her stamp of Authority on the email as well as on data sheets with the date. This shall make up the official certified data. PIs shall own the PDF data from their centre as well as the collaborating PI by attaching the file on his official email ID.
4. Lead center has to ensure to send both soft and hard copy of the consolidated data

5. Immediate reporting of poor-/non-germination, off types or non-uniformity beyond the prescribed level to the concerned registrar of PPV&FRA.
6. As per revised protocol of registration of plant varieties, hybrids will be registered along with parental lines and DUS testing shall be done for parental lines also by the PPV&FRA, while only hybrids shall be tested by the DUS centres.
7. Protocol for stability testing of seed-propagated candidate varieties has been introduced by the Authority. Depending on the nature of the crop, pollination behavior all precautions for fresh seed production on labelled plants during the first year of DUS testing to generate seed of the candidate variety in quantity and quality sufficient to plant the variety for stability testing in both locations during the second year in case of new varieties, along with the original seed supplied by the applicant, and one sample for conserving at the Gene Bank under MTS. For this, one extra replication for seed multiplication shall be planted.
8. Fresh seed production is not required in the case of DUS or Grow-Out testing with extant varieties, where uniformity consistency over the replications and locations shall be noted for the purpose of establishing their stability as well as uniformity on the premise that the applicant has proved the existence of the variety in trade or exploitation by breeders for over one year already prior to submission of application.
9. Fresh seeds of candidate hybrid and all the parental lines (three line or two line as claimed by the applicant in the application) shall be produced at PPV&FRA without involving any DUS center, from the seed of parental lines supplied by the applicant at the time of submission of the application. This will involve all required events for seed production such as, A x R (for F1), A x B (for maintenance of A), R x R
10. Fresh seed of candidate varieties/inbreds shall be produced by the PI of the lead centre at the lead centre. In case the collaborating centre is logistically better placed, the seed shall be produced at the collaborating centre under the close monitoring of the PI by the Collaborating PI. For all legal purposes, the PI and Co-PI where applicable shall be authentic resource for verification, etc., as required in any litigation related to the variety.
11. Variety-specific protocol such as male v/s female stagers for each specific hybrid, or any anthesis related protocol for effecting selfing/crossing/sibmating etc., specific to the species/variety/inbred/parent/hybrid etc., shall be required to be provided by the applicant which has to be obtained as a part of the post-REG number query by the Registry if not enclosed with the application, but prior to trial planning. IF the information is not received from the applicant prior to the deadline of dispatch of seed to

the DUS centres, the variety shall be put on wait for the next season feasibility at the responsibility of the applicant for any eventualities related to viability and quality of seed during the period.

12. Second year evaluation of DUS trial is thus expanded over the composition of the first year number of entries for evaluation of both hybrids and varieties by inclusion of
  - a. New reference variety/ies, if any
  - b. Additional plot in each replication of the candidate hybrid or variety from the seed produced by the Authority or DUS centre, respectively next to the plot of the candidate variety planted with the seeds supplied by the applicant at the time of submission of application.
13. Before submitting the FVs for registration with PPV&FRA, it has to be characterized for one year by the crop breeder at ICAR/ SAU's and to be certified by the breeder for its purity and uniformity and the application has to be forwarded by SAU's or ICAR institutions to the Authority.
14. PPV&FRA will intimate the concerned PI of the Center about the receipt of planting material of new entries of vegetatively propagated crops 10 days in advance for facilitating proper trial layout.
15. Presence of mother plants is required for on-site testing of FVs of perennial crops.
16. No applicant shall be allowed to visit the DUS trial plot unless other-wise permitted by the registry explicitly only to visit own candidate variety plot accompanied by the PI or CoPI and nominee of the registrar if any (Whether for off-type consensus, hybrid seed production or any other problem in contrast to the claim).
17. The pending DUS trial data of different crops till 2016-17 must be submitted to the PPV&FRA before 1<sup>5th</sup> May, 2019.
18. Final AUC and GFR 12A for 2018-19 to be submitted before 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2019 for timely release of funds for 2019-20 PFMS formalities, if any, must be completed soon.
19. It was informed to upload final GFR 12A of 2017-18 and 2018-19 in PFMS website by the institute immediately.
20. It was emphasised that proper communication from DUS centres to PPV&FRA authority be maintained on a legally vettable base, so as to facilitate correct time setting for monitoring, inspection if required or upon judicial order, organize official visit of the applicant if required as decided by the Registrar in consultation with the PI and also for responsibility fixing in case of negligence or non-compliance, considering the "statutory nature" of the procedure of registration and DUS authentication of each variety.

21. All the DUS centres have to compulsorily submit DUS test photographs with good resolution and clarity sufficient to produce in the legal proceedings. Cameras have been provided only with that purpose and cannot be ignored.
22. Time of conduct of DUS tests by IIVR and IIHR centers was clarified and it was decided to be simultaneously conducted in summer only.
23. Reports/photos should be thoroughly checked by PI of the DUS centers before submission.
24. Timely submission of financial and technical reports should be ensured. Submission of both soft and hard copies is required. Soft copy in of DUS data in excel format only should be submitted and a certified hard copy should be submitted.
25. Additional fund requirement if any in case of fencing, polyhouses (eg.polyhouse requirement to prevent papaya ring spot) or any other requirement with substantial justification should be submitted by the DUS centres immediately.
26. If sufficient seed quantity is not submitted by the applicant, such applications will not be considered.
27. Due to technical problems in handling funds through PFMS, fund from PPV&FRA to the cooperating centres will be released through lead centres only.
28. The data submitted by the centres is a legal document and hence to be collected and documented by professionally qualified personnel only.
29. Details of the project staff in the format provided by the authority should be submitted by the DUS centres.
30. Action shall be initiated within the provisions of the Act on the concerned in case of occurrence of any unfortunate event resulting in an otherwise avoidable non-performance or negligence of duty on the part of DUS centres, as the same amount to denying the right of the farmer or plant breeder to be granted as per the Act.
31. Seed of the candidate varieties other than what is required has to be destroyed. All the candidate varieties need not be maintained all the time depending on mode of propagation.

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