



PVP Course

Plant Variety Protection Course

nak  tuinbouw



The course aims at facilitating the introduction and practical implementation of Plant Breeders' Rights (Plant Variety Protection) in countries where legislation on this matter is being developed or has recently been passed.

Plant Breeders' Rights

The development of new plant varieties through plant breeding is a long term investment of 10 till 15 years. Intellectual property rights on the resulting plant variety through Plant Breeders' Rights provide the breeder of a new plant variety the exclusive rights to exploit it and to prevent others from doing so illegally.



All member states of the World Trade Organisation adhere to the agreement of Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs), which contains the minimum standards for intellectual property rights (IPR), including those for plant varieties.

Many countries are therefore developing and implementing a legal framework for the protection of plant varieties in an intellectual property rights system. Besides developing legislation, the implementation of a Plant Breeders' Rights system has far reaching consequences of a legal, institutional, technical, financial and commercial nature.

Content of the course

The following subjects will be introduced through lectures and discussions in working groups:

Legal aspects: legal framework, UPOV system, other *sui generis* systems, patents, legislation relating to genetic resource use

Institutional aspects: procedures and administration, organisational set-up, variety registration systems, collaboration in testing

Technical aspects: DUS principles, UPOV technical guidelines, field testing, biochemical/ molecular techniques, statistics, data analysis, reporting, variety denomination

Exploitation of Plant Breeders' Rights: exploitation of rights, royalty collection systems, enforcing rights, farm saved seed

Practical trainings on DUS testing form part of the course and visits will be made to seed certification services, breeding companies and the Aalsmeer flower auction.

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Organizers

Naktuinbouw is responsible for DUS testing of all varieties of agricultural, ornamental and vegetable crops for Plant Breeder's Rights in the Netherlands, on behalf of the Dutch Board for Plant Varieties and the European Community Plant Variety Office and for entry of agricultural and vegetable varieties on the Dutch National List. Naktuinbouw organizes this course in collaboration with Wageningen UR Centre for Development Innovation, part of Wageningen University and Research Center.

UPOV Distance Learning Course

Participants that register timely and have been accepted are invited to take part, free of charge, in the UPOV Distance Learning Course (DL-205) 'Introduction to the UPOV System of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention'.

Admission

Applicants should have a position in the variety registration system or have a position that will give them such responsibilities in the near future. Countries that have recently developed a plant variety protection law, or those that are currently in the process of developing such legislation, will be given priority.

Applicants should have an agricultural or horticultural education at a minimum of BSc level or a legal education supplemented with practical experience in agriculture and horticulture. A good working knowledge of English is essential to be admitted.

Date & Place

The course will be held from June 18th till June 29th 2012 in Wageningen, the Netherlands.

Fees and accommodation

The course fee is € 2795. The fees include administration costs, lecture materials and field trips, but exclude board and lodging. Participants will be accommodated at Hof van Wageningen with full board and lodging. Prices are available on request.

NFP Fellowships

A limited number of fellowships offered by Nuffic (Netherlands Fellowship Programme) is available for nationals of certain countries. Applicants must first apply to Wageningen UR Centre for Development Innovation for admission to the course. When the applicant is admitted, the applicant will receive within a week an admission letter. In case the applicant is not admitted, the applicant will also be informed. The admission letter is not needed to apply for a fellowship.

To apply for a NFP fellowship the applicant has to apply through the Scholarship Online (SOL) application system. Applications for NFP fellowships should be submitted before **1 October 2011**. The applicant will be informed by NUFFIC whether the application has been accepted. More information can be found on www.nuffic.nl/nfp and <http://www.nuffic.nl/international-students/scholarships/scholarships-administered-by-nuffic/the-netherlands-fellowship-programmes/nfp-country-list>

Application

The admission deadline for application directly to Wageningen UR Centre for Development Innovation, with funding other than a NFP fellowship, is **11 May 2012**. Early application is strongly recommended!

For additional information and online application go to http://www.cdi.wur.nl/UK/services/Courses/Overview_Courses_2012/