

PVP Course

Plant variety protection course

nak  tuinbouw

 WAGENINGEN UR
For quality of life

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, has recently been passed or who are considering to develop a system.

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.

Programme of the course might change to incorporate new insights.

Participants will be granted a Certificate of participation.



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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 (CPVO) and for entry of agricultural and vegetable varieties on the Dutch National List. Naktuinbouw organizes this course in collaboration with Centre for Development Innovation, Wageningen UR.

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'.

Target Audience

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. We also welcome employees of the legal departments in the agricultural industry.

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. Participants are expected to be proficient in English.

Date & Place

The course will be held from 15 till 26 June 2015 in Wageningen, the Netherlands.

Fees and accommodation

The course fee is € 3.290. Fee includes all course related costs such as materials, excursions and administration, but exclude board and lodging. Participants will be accommodated at Hof van Wageningen with full board and lodging. For prices, see the cost estimate on www.wageningenur.nl/cdi. Nuffic Scholarships include travel and full board and lodging. Centre for Development Innovation, Wageningen UR is unable to assist you in obtaining financial support.

Nuffic Scholarships

A limited number of scholarships are available from Nuffic, the Netherlands organisation for international cooperation in higher education. For residents of certain countries, Nuffic can offer NFP scholarships via the Netherlands Fellowship Programme (NFP) for this course. Nuffic also offers a StuNed scholarship especially for residents of Indonesia or a MENA scholarship for residents of Algeria, Iraq, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Egypt, Libya, Jordan and Tunisia. If you want to apply for a scholarship you must meet a number of criteria. Please visit for more information about the NFP scholarships www.nuffic.nl/nfp, the StuNed scholarships www.nuffic.nl/stuned or the MENA scholarships www.nuffic.nl/mena.

Application

For a NFP, MENA or StuNed scholarship apply directly at Centre for Development Innovation, Wageningen UR via www.wageningenur.nl/cdi. You will receive a confirmation and more information within a week. Early application is recommended as some procedures to finalise subscription (f.e. funding, visa) can take some time.

After that, applications for a scholarship must be submitted by registering in Atlas, the application system of Nuffic that will open at September 4. In the received admission letter you will find a weblink for Atlas. As application takes time and requires several documents, we recommend you to start it as soon as possible.

Application deadlines

- The NFP, MENA and StuNed Scholarships application deadline is 21 October 2014.
- 17 April 2015 is the admission deadline for application directly to Centre for Development Innovation, Wageningen UR with funding other than Nuffic Scholarships.