D1 Plant Breeding Draft Standards

Background of the development of Plant Breeding Draft Standards

The plant breeding standards were part of the "Plant Breeding and Multiplication Draft Standards" section of the 2002 IBS. This section was amended in the course of the revision of the 2002 IBS. Following IFOAMs decision to relocate draft standards (for explanation see Draft Standards Section of the IFOAM website) the plant breeding standards were removed in the Final Revision Draft of the 2002 IBS, Version 20th May 2005 (Committee Final Draft+Changes).

The following plant breeding draft standards represent the last version as published in the Committee Final Draft that was circulated for stakeholder comment in October 2004.

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Explanatory Note: This section refers to breeding of organic varieties, not simply use of organic seed

General Principles
Organic plant breeding and variety development is sustainable, enhances genetic diversity and relies on natural reproductive ability.

Organic plant breeding is a holistic approach that respects natural crossing barriers and is based on fertile plants that can establish a viable relationship with the living soil. Organic varieties are obtained by an organic plant breeding program.

The objectives of organic plant breeding are to maintain and further diversify organic production.

Recommendations
Plant breeders should use breeding methods that are suitable for organic farming. All multiplication practices should be under certified organic management.

Breeding methods and materials should minimize depletion of natural resources.

Standards shall require that:

D1.1
To be an organic variety, only suitable methods of breeding shall be used as listed in appendix D1. All multiplication practices except meristem culture shall be under certified organic management.

Appendix D1 Plant Breeding Draft Standards

Draft list of plant breeding methods

	Variation induction techniques	**Selection techniques**	**Maintenance and multiplication**
Suitable and	• combination	• mass selection	• generative propagation

IFOAM Head Office: Charles-de-Gaulle St. 5, 53113 Bonn, Germany
Tel. +49-228-926 50 10 Fax +49-228-926 50 99 headoffice@ifoam.org www.ifoam.org

permitted for organic plant breeding	breeding • crossing varieties • bridge crossing • backcrossing • hybrids with fertile F1 • temperature treating • grafting style • cutting style • untreated mentor pollen	• pedigree selection • site-determined selection • change in surroundings • change in sowing time • ear bed method • test crossing • indirect selections • DNA diagnostic methods	• vegetative propagation - partitioned tubers - scales, husks, partitioned bulbs, brood bulbs, bulbils - offset bulbs etc. - layer, cut and graft shoots - rhizomes • meristem culture

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