



1 December 2025

Plant Variety Registration

Guidelines of the Federal Office for Agriculture

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Executive summary

The registration of a plant variety is a prerequisite for the production, certification and commercial marketing of seeds derived from the main agricultural and horticultural crop species in Switzerland.

Purpose of the Guidelines:

These guidelines set out the steps and requirements for registering a plant variety (Figure 1) and the relevant legal basis. They serve as a practical guide for breeders, applicants and testing bodies.

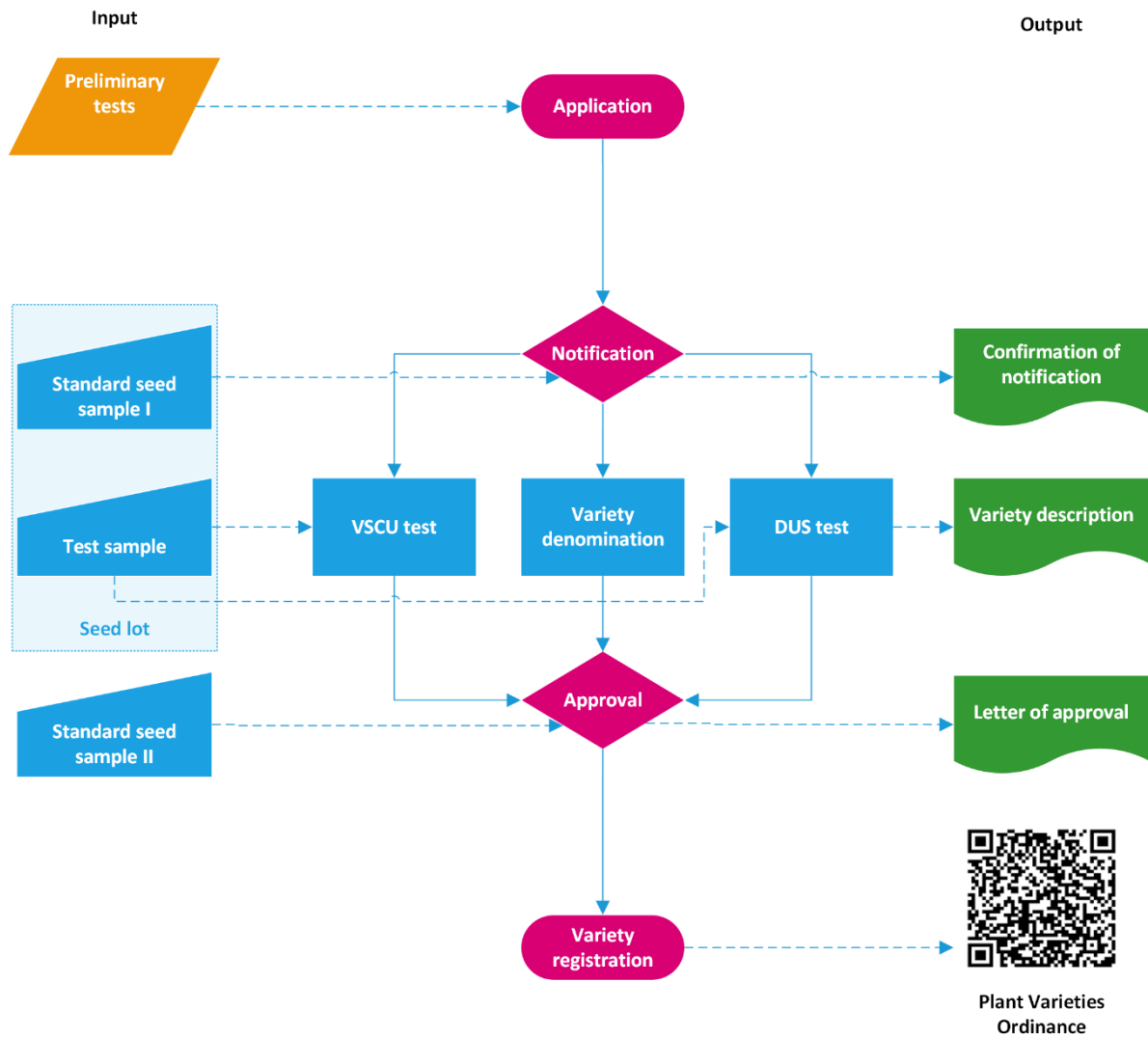


Figure 1 Standard process from application to registration of a variety

Key points:

- 1) **Registration requirement:** Only registered varieties may be placed on the market in Switzerland.
- 2) **Examinations:**
 - a. **DUS Examination** (distinctness, uniformity, stability)
 - b. **VSCU Examination** (value for sustainable cultivation and use – required only for arable and forage plant species)
 - c. **Variety Denomination Examination** (name verification)
- 3) **Application dossier:** Contains CV forms A and B, the Technical Questionnaire, additional forms that may be required, and the Power of Attorney form.
- 4) **Deadlines:** The application must be submitted by the specified deadlines to ensure that testing can commence.
- 5) **Breeder's responsibilities:** The breeder must be able to provide the results of relevant preliminary tests required for VSCU testing, supply test samples and standard seed samples, and maintain the variety.
- 6) **Costs:** Fees for processing an application and for examinations are in accordance with the FOAG Fees Ordinance.

Outcome:

Following successful testing, the variety is registered in the Plant Varieties Ordinance. Registration is valid for 10 years for arable and forage plants, and 30 years for fruit and grapes, and may be renewed.

Further information and forms:



<https://www.blw.admin.ch/en/variety-registration>

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1 LEGAL BASIS

- Ordinance of 7 December 1998 on the Production and Placing on the Market of Plant Propagation Material (Seeds Ordinance) SR 916.151
- EAER Ordinance of 7 December 1998 on Propagating Material for Varieties of Arable Plants, Forage Plants and Vegetables (EAER Ordinance on Propagating Material for Arable and Forage Plants) SR 916.151.1
- EAER Ordinance of 11 June 1999 on the Production and Placing on the Market of Certified Propagation Material and Plants of Fruit And Berries (EAER Ordinance on Fruit and Berry Propagation Material) SR 916.151.2
- EAER Ordinance of 2 November 2006 on the Production and Placing on the Market of Propagation Material of Vines (EAER Ordinance on Vine Propagating Material) SR 916.151.3
- FOAG Ordinance of 12 June 2013 on Catalogues and Lists concerning Plant Varieties used in Agriculture (Plant Varieties Ordinance) SR 916.151.6

The provisions set out in the applicable legal bases remain reserved; these guidelines serves as a practical guide and does not claim to be exhaustive.

2 SCOPE

A variety catalogue is maintained for the following species specified by the Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research (EAER). The Federal Office for Agriculture (FOAG) issues the catalogues and lists of varieties by way of ordinance under the Plant Varieties Ordinance.

- (1) CEREALS
(https://www.fedlex.admin.ch/eli/cc/1999/121/de#annex_1/lvl_u1/chap_A/lvl_1)
- (2) POTATOES
(https://www.fedlex.admin.ch/eli/cc/1999/121/de#annex_1/lvl_u1/chap_A/lvl_2)
- (3) FORAGE PLANTS
(https://www.fedlex.admin.ch/eli/cc/1999/121/de#annex_1/lvl_u1/chap_A/lvl_3)
- (4) OIL AND FIBRE PLANTS
(https://www.fedlex.admin.ch/eli/cc/1999/121/de#annex_1/lvl_u1/chap_A/lvl_4)
- (5) BEETS
(https://www.fedlex.admin.ch/eli/cc/1999/121/de#annex_1/lvl_u1/chap_A/lvl_5)
- (6) VEGETABLES
(https://www.fedlex.admin.ch/eli/cc/1999/121/de#annex_1/lvl_u1/chap_A/lvl_6)

A list of varieties is maintained for the following species specified by the EAER. The FOAG issues the lists of varieties by way of ordinance under the Plant Varieties Ordinance.

- (1) FRUIT AND BERRIES
(https://www.fedlex.admin.ch/eli/cc/1999/417/de#art_1)
- (2) VINES
(https://www.fedlex.admin.ch/eli/cc/2006/789/de#art_2)

3 REGISTRATION IN THE VARIETY CATALOGUE

3.1 General information

Registration in the variety catalogue is subject to the successful completion of the following three examinations:

- Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability (DUS test);
- Examination of Value for Sustainable Cultivation and Use (VSCU test) for cereals, potatoes, forage plants, oil and fibre plants and beets;
- Examination of Variety Denomination.

Varieties whose seeds and propagating material are intended exclusively for export to countries that apply the OECD system for the species in question may be included in List B of the Plant Varieties Ordinance if they demonstrate sufficient suitability for cultivation and use in at least one of these countries.

The breeder or their representative must ensure that the variety is maintained. The method of maintenance breeding may be inspected by the FOAG at any time.

The variety denomination must comply with the provisions set out in Section 3.4.2.

Registration in the variety catalogue under the Plant Varieties Ordinance is valid for ten years. The registration of a variety may be renewed for further periods of ten years each, provided that the requirements relating to distinctness, uniformity and stability continue to be met and that maintenance breeding is upheld. Applications for renewal must be submitted to the FOAG two years before the expiry of the registration.

3.2 Nominated representative

Applicants not based in Switzerland must appoint a representative in Switzerland.

3.3 CV Form D – Application for Recognition of a Testing Network



Preliminary testing of cereal varieties may be carried out in a recognised testing network. The Application for Recognition of a Testing Network (**CV Form D**) and the required supporting documents must be submitted to the FOAG within the deadlines for applying for registration in the Plant Varieties Ordinance.

The testing network must comprise four testing sites, or two sites where the trials are repeated over a period of two years. Furthermore, the testing sites must be representative of Swiss production sites, and the results must be amenable to statistical analysis.

3.4 Application

Application

The application to register a plant variety in the Plant Varieties Ordinance must be submitted to the FOAG, Federal Service for Seed and Propagating Material SFSP (see Section 8).

An application dossier must include the forms listed below (available at <https://www.blw.admin.ch/en/variety-registration>):

- **CV Form A:** Application to Register a Plant Variety in the Variety Catalogue;
- **CV Form B:** Application for a Variety Denomination;
- **Technical Questionnaire;**
- **Power of Attorney** (if the applicant is not the breeder);

- **CV Form E:** Results of Preliminary Testing to Determine Suitability for Cultivation and Use (for cereals, potatoes, forage crops, oil and fibre crops, and beet).

Applications must be submitted by the deadlines set out in Table 1. If these deadlines are not met, the start of testing in the next possible cultivation period cannot be guaranteed.

Table 1 Deadlines for submitting dossiers with and without DUS testing

Species	DUS submission deadline ¹	Submission deadline ²
Winter cereals		
Oats, wheat, spelt, triticale	First Monday in September	
Barley, rye	20 July	20 August
Summer cereals		
Oats, barley, rye, wheat, spelt, triticale	20 December	20 January
Maize	15 January	31 January
Potatoes	30 August	30 September
Forage plant species	15 December	15 January
Winter rape	1 July	30 July
Sugar beets	15 February	28 February
Soy	1 March	1 April

¹ **Submission deadline for dossiers requiring new DUS testing:** To allow for the organisation of DUS testing, the dossier must be submitted at least one month before the normal submission deadline (see Section 3.7).

² **Submission deadline for dossiers with existing DUS testing:** The application dossier must be submitted to the FOAG by this deadline.

3.4.1 CV Form A – Application for Registration in the Plant Varieties Ordinance

The application must be completed in full, signed and submitted to the FOAG (see Section 8) together with the other documents within the deadlines (see Section 3.4).

3.4.2 CV Form B – Application for a Variety Denomination



The proposed variety denomination is reviewed by the FOAG to determine its suitability for use. A variety denomination is suitable if there are no grounds for refusal, in other words:

- There is no prior third-party right to its use.
- The denomination does not cause any difficulties in recognising or reproducing it as such (i.e. it does not consist exclusively of numbers, and does not contain any determiners, exponents or symbols).
- The denomination does not coincide with that of another variety or is not likely to be confused with it.
- The denomination does not contravene public policy, morality, federal law or international treaties.
- There is no misleading information or cause for confusion regarding the characteristics, value or identity of a variety or the identity of the breeder or other entitled persons.

3.4.3 Technical Questionnaire



Technical questionnaires are available on the CPVO website:
<https://online.plantvarieties.eu/TQSearch?order=formName>.

The technical questionnaire must be signed by the applicant.

For applications to register a variety that has already been tested for distinctness, uniformity and stability (DUS), the results should be submitted together with the technical questionnaire.

3.4.4 Power of attorney

Applicants not based in Switzerland or Swiss applicants who are not acting on their own behalf, must complete a Power of Attorney form. A single form can be used for multiple varieties.

The Power of Attorney form must be completed, signed and submitted to the FOAG together with the application and the other documents.

3.4.5 CV Form E – Results of Preliminary Testing to Determine Suitability For Cultivation and Use



The breeder or their representative is responsible for conducting preliminary testing. The information on suitability for cultivation and use is based on the results (**CV Form E**) of preliminary testing carried out within a testing network recognised by the FOAG (see Section 3.3). Preliminary testing may be carried out in Switzerland or in the EU. Preliminary testing lasts for at least one year. In the case of forage plants, such testing is only required for field beans, protein peas and lupins.

If an application concerns a variety already listed in the EU Common Catalogue of Varieties, the results of the official examinations already carried out are recognised as preliminary tests. **CV Form E** is not required.

Depending on the species, preliminary testing may also be conducted in an Agroscope testing network. To this end, applications must be submitted to the relevant crop manager at Agroscope within the specified deadlines (Table 2). The quantities of seed and propagating material are listed under Section 3.6. Unless otherwise stated, the values from the official examination apply.

Table 2 Application deadline for preliminary tests

Species	Submission deadline	Agroscope site
Winter cereals		
Oats, wheat, spelt, triticale	1 September	Changins
Barley, rye	20 August	Changins
Summer cereals		
Oats, barley, rye, wheat, spelt, triticale	20 January	Changins
Maize	15 February	Reckenholz
Potatoes	30 September	Changins
Soy	15 February	Changins
Forage plants (only field beans, protein peas and lupins)	15 January	Reckenholz

3.5 Confirmation of notification – Variety status: ‘Application’

An application for registration in the Plant Varieties Ordinance will be considered if:

- the FOAG has received a complete application dossier;

- the information in the application dossier shows that the variety in question meets the requirements for suitability for cultivation and use (preliminary testing) set out in Annex 2 of the EAER Ordinance on Propagating Material for Arable and Forage Plants;
- Agroscope has received the first standard seed sample for the reference collection; and
- the registration fee has been paid.



The FOAG confirms receipt of applications by issuing a confirmation of notification, invoices the registration fee, and requests the standard seed sample for the reference collection.

3.6 Official Examination of Value for Sustainable Cultivation and Use (VSCU test)



The test cycles are determined by Agroscope's capacity and are carried out annually or sequentially for cereals (Table 3).

Table 3 Test cycles for cereals

Species	Cycle
Wheat, winter barley and maize	Every year
Triticale, rye, spelt, oats and spring barley	Sequentially*

*The data for the relevant test cycles must be obtained from Agroscope.

Test series for grasses and forage legumes (excluding protein peas, field beans and lupins) as well as catch crops are not conducted annually. The start date for each test series is determined by Agroscope.

The test series for sugar beet take place annually, organised by the Swiss specialist office for sugar beet cultivation.

The applicant must supply the required quantity of seed or propagating material for the official examinations as specified in Table 4 at the time of submitting the application. The examination lasts two years; for perennial forage plants, this comprises one sowing year and two years of main use. The duration of the examination may be extended by one year in exceptional circumstances.



The quantities of seed listed in Table 4 for the preliminary tests and the official trials must be supplied in good time for each test year (seed potatoes in the first test year).

Table 4 Quantity, place of delivery and submission deadline for seed and propagating material for VSCU testing

Species	Quantity / requirements	Agroscope site	Submission deadline
Rye, wheat, oats, barley, triticale	10kg of untreated test seed, indicating thousand grain weight and germination capacity	Changins	Winter variety: 25 September ¹ Summer variety: 30 January
Spelt	10kg of untreated test seed, indicating the 100-spike weight and germination rate	Changins	Winter variety: 25 September
Maize ²	15,000 untreated test seed grains, indicating the thousand grain weight and germination rate	Changins	1 March
Potatoes	Preliminary tests: 750 tubers Official trials: 450kg untreated tubers, size 35–55mm	Changins	20 November
Perennial grasses and legumes	3kg of untreated test seed (20kg sainfoin), indicating the thousand grain weight and germination rate	Reckenholz	20 January
Summer annual grasses and legumes ³	4kg of untreated test seed, indicating the thousand grain weight and germination rate	Reckenholz	20 January
Protein peas (summer variety)	20kg of untreated test seed, indicating the thousand grain weight and germination rate	Reckenholz	On request
Protein peas (winter variety), field beans and lupins (winter and summer varieties)	Determined on a case-by-case basis	Changins	On request
Swede, forage rape, forage kale	Determined on a case-by-case basis	Changins	20 January
Rape	3kg of untreated test seed, indicating the thousand grain weight and germination rate	Changins	15 August
Soy	10kg of untreated test seed, indicating thousand grain weight and germination capacity	Changins	15 April
Sugar beet ⁴	-	-	-

¹ Winter barley submission deadline: 7 September.

² For maize varieties submitted for testing for both silage and grain maize, the seed quantity must be doubled.

³ Except protein peas, field beans and lupins.

⁴ Defined by the Swiss specialist authority for sugar beet cultivation.

3.7 Official Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability (DUS test)



The DUS test begins at the same time as the VSCU test, but no later than the first year of the main test. Switzerland does not conduct DUS testing. The FOAG submits these applications for testing to examination authorities in the EU. If a DUS test is to be organised by the FOAG, the application must be submitted by the deadline specified in Section 3.4 (DUS submission deadline). This deadline must be met in order for the FOAG to submit the DUS test under the international cooperation arrangements for variety testing.



Once the examination authority has confirmed the test, the FOAG will ask the applicant to supply seed or plant propagation material; the applicant is responsible for its delivery.



During the DUS test, a variety description is drawn up based on phenological and morphological characteristics.

3.8 Costs

The registration fees and the official examination fees (VSCU, variety denomination and DUS or acceptance of DUS results) are invoiced by the FOAG or Agroscope. Fees are charged in accordance with the FOAG Fees Ordinance (SR 910.11): <https://www.fedlex.admin.ch/eli/cc/2006/415/de>.

3.9 Standard seed sample

When registering a variety, a standard seed sample is created from the DUS test to supplement the variety description. The standard seed sample is used for follow-up cultivation, monitoring maintenance breeding and for sending samples to official bodies abroad. The standard seed sample is submitted to Agroscope in two stages (Table 5):



Standard seed sample I: Following the confirmation of notification, the applicant is requested to supply an initial sample to Agroscope. The material must originate from the same batch as that used for the DUS test.



Standard seed sample II: Upon registration in the Plant Varieties Ordinance, but no later than the end of the propagation season following registration (no later than 30 November), the breeder delivers the remainder of the required quantity to Agroscope in accordance with Table 5.

A new sample must be submitted in order to renew the registration (see Section 3.10.1).

Table 5 Quantity and place of delivery for standard seed samples

Species (untreated material)	Quantities		Agroscope site
	Standard seed sample I	Total	
Cereals, sainfoin	1kg	10kg	Reckenholz
Maize: lines and hybrids	1,500 grains	15,000 grains	Reckenholz
Grasses, small-seeded legumes	400g	4kg	Reckenholz
Large-seeded legumes, soy	2kg	20kg	Reckenholz
Rape	300g	3kg	Reckenholz
Sugar beet*	500g	5kg	Reckenholz
Potatoes	3 tubers	6 tubers	Changins

*Calibrated but unpelleted monogerm or precision seed; calibration size 3.00–4.75mm

3.10 Letter of approval – Variety status: ‘Registered’

3.10.1 Registration in the FOAG Plant Varieties Ordinance



If all the criteria for registration in the Plant Varieties Ordinance are met, the variety is registered by way of ordinance, stating the year of registration and the person responsible for maintenance breeding. The FOAG informs the applicant of the intended registration. In parallel with the registration in Switzerland, the FOAG notifies the European Commission of the variety for registration in the EU's Common Catalogue of Varieties.



Registration of a variety is valid for 10 years. Eight years after registration, the applicant may apply to renew the registration for a further 10 years. The renewal is granted provided that maintenance breeding has been confirmed and a new sample for the standard seed sample (see Section 3.9) has been received by Agroscope. Varieties for which registration is not renewed are removed from the register (variety status: ‘Surrendered’).



The FOAG Plant Varieties Ordinance of 7 December 1998 (SR 916.151.6) can be consulted on the Federal Chancellery's website at <https://www.fedlex.admin.ch/eli/cc/2013/417/de>.

3.10.2 Placing on the market

Seeds and propagating material of species for which a variety catalogue is maintained (see Section 2) may be placed on the market in Switzerland if:

- the variety is listed in the Swiss Plant Varieties Ordinance or, with the exception of genetically modified varieties, in the EU Common Catalogue of Varieties, or an application for registration has been submitted;
- the seed is certified and meets the requirements specified for the respective category;
- the seeds and propagating material were produced by an approved producer.

Under Annex 6 to the Agreement of 21 June 1999 between the Swiss Confederation and the European Community on trade in agricultural products (Agricultural Trade Agreement, SR 0.916.026.81), seeds of varieties listed in the Swiss Plant Varieties Ordinance may be placed on the market within the territory of the EU and the EEA.

By way of derogation, the FOAG may authorise the placing on the market of seed and propagating material of candidate varieties (see Section 6) and niche varieties (see Section 7).

4 CV Form R – WITHDRAWAL OF A VARIETY



If, at any time, the applicant intends to withdraw their application for registration in the Plant Varieties Ordinance, the completed **CV Form R** is to be submitted to the FOAG. The form can be downloaded from the FOAG website at <https://www.blw.admin.ch/en/variety-registration>.

The FOAG confirms the withdrawal of a variety at the end of the annual field season (variety status: ‘Withdrawn’).

5 REGISTRATION IN THE VARIETIES LIST

5.1 General information

For a variety of vine, fruit or berry to be registered in the lists of varieties under the Plant Varieties Ordinance, the following three examinations must be successfully completed:

- Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability (DUS test);
- Examination of freedom from harmful organisms that can be transmitted via propagating material and reduce the quality of products in plant production;
- Examination of Variety Denomination.

The variety denomination must comply with the provisions set out in Section 3.4.2.

The registration is valid for 30 years. The registration of a variety may be renewed for a further period of 30 years if the conditions relating to distinctness, uniformity and stability are still met and material of the variety in question is still available. Applications for renewal must be submitted to the FOAG two years before the expiry of the registration.

5.2 Nominated representative

Applicants not based in Switzerland must appoint a representative in Switzerland.

5.3 CV Form A – Application



The application to register a plant variety in the Plant Varieties Ordinance must be submitted to the FOAG, Federal Service for Seed and Propagating Material SFSP (see Section 3.8).

The application dossier must be submitted by the deadlines (Table 6) using the following forms (available at <https://www.blw.admin.ch/en/variety-registration>):

- **CV Form A:** Application to Register a Plant Variety in the National Variety List (see Section 3.4.1);
- **CV Form B:** Application for a Variety Denomination (see Section 3.4.2);
- **Technical Questionnaire** (see Section 3.4.3);
- **Power of Attorney** (if the applicant is not the breeder, see Section 3.4.4).

Table 6 Deadlines for submitting dossiers

Species	Submission deadline
Vines	15 January
Pome fruit	15 December
Stone fruit, berries (except strawberries)	15 January
Strawberries (vegetatively propagated)	15 May
Strawberries (generatively propagated)	1 October

5.4 Confirmation of notification – Variety status: ‘Application’

An application for registration in the Plant Varieties Ordinance will be accepted if:

- the FOAG has received a complete application dossier, and
- the application fee has been paid.

The FOAG confirms receipt of the application by issuing a confirmation of notification and an invoice for the application fee.

5.5 Official Examination of Nuclear Stock for Freedom from Harmful Organisms

In order to be registered in the lists of varieties for the production of certified material, a clone that has been tested for the absence of viruses and phytoplasmas must be maintained in a nuclear stock. If maintenance in a nuclear stock abroad cannot be demonstrated, the clone must be included in the Agroscope nuclear stock.

Applications for inclusion in the nuclear stock must be submitted by 15 November of the relevant calendar year. Testing for the absence of viruses and phytoplasmas and inclusion in the nuclear stock requires several years.

5.6 Official Examination of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability (DUS test)

Switzerland does not conduct DUS testing. The FOAG submits applications for these to examination authorities in the EU.

Once the FOAG has received confirmation of the test from the examination authority, the applicant is requested to supply the plant propagation material and is responsible for its delivery.

5.7 Letter of approval – Variety status: ‘Registered’

5.7.1 Registration in the FOAG's Plant Varieties Ordinance

Once all the criteria for registration have been met, the FOAG registers the variety in the Plant Varieties Ordinance by way of ordinance.

Registration of a variety is valid for 30 years. Two years before the registration expires, the applicant may apply for the registration to be renewed for a further 30 years. The renewal will be granted provided that material of the variety concerned is still available in a nuclear stock and that appropriate proof has been enclosed with the application.



The FOAG Plant Varieties Ordinance of 7 December 1998 (SR 916.151.6) can be consulted on the Federal Chancellery's website at <https://www.fedlex.admin.ch/eli/cc/2013/417/de>.

5.7.2 Placing on the market

Propagation and planting material of fruits may also be placed on the market in Switzerland even if they are not officially certified. However, a plant passport is generally required.

Vine propagating material may be placed on the market in Switzerland if:

- the variety is registered in the Swiss Plant Varieties Ordinance or, with the exception of genetically modified varieties, is registered in the EU Common Catalogue of Varieties;
- the propagating material is certified and meets the requirements laid down for the relevant category or meets the criteria for classification as standard material; and
- the propagating material was produced by an authorised producer.

If the material does not belong to a variety (e.g. rootstocks), reference must be made to the species concerned or interspecific hybrids.

6 APPROVAL OF CANDIDATE VARIETY SEED

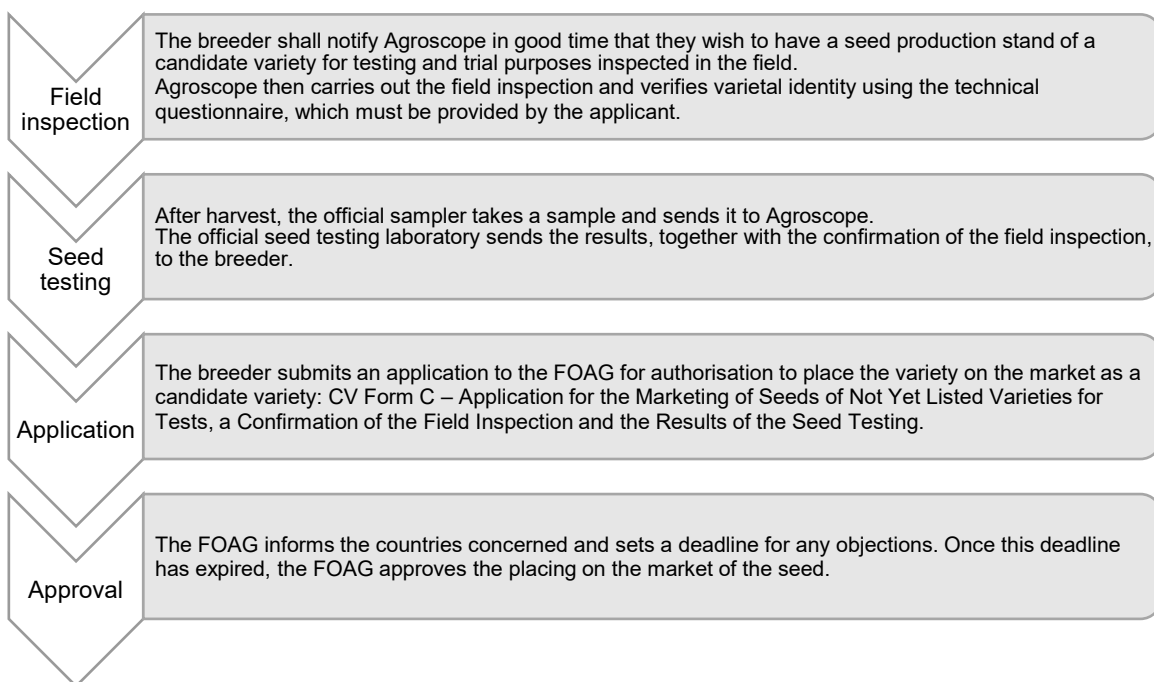
6.1 Candidate varieties of arable and forage plant species

Upon request, a variety may be tested in the field during the examination phase for registration in the variety catalogue. A field inspection, sampling and a quality assessment must be carried out. The FOAG approves the placing on the market of candidate variety seeds. The seed is labelled with an orange label and sealed at the approved seed cleaning facility.

6.1.1 CV Form C – Application



The application must be submitted in the country in which registration of the variety has been applied for. A single application may specify several countries in which the seed is to be placed on the market. The countries concerned may refuse to allow the seeds to be placed on the market within their territory or may set different maximum quantities. The maximum quantities (kg per variety) are linked to the area under cultivation for the crop in the respective country and correspond to 0.05% of the total cultivated area for durum wheat, 0.3% for forage peas, field beans, oats, barley and wheat, and 0.1% for all other crops. If these quantities are insufficient to sow at least 10 hectares, the quantity required for that area may be approved.⁵



6.1.2 Approval

The approval is valid only for the duration of the candidate phase and for a period of one year. It may be extended.

6.1.3 Labelling and sealing

The seed must be labelled with an orange label and must bear the statement 'Variety not yet officially approved; for tests and trials only'.

⁵ The quantities for each country can be consulted on the ESCAA website: [https://www.escaa.org/index/action/page/id/15/title/not-yet-listed-varieties \(d.-2004-842-ec\)](https://www.escaa.org/index/action/page/id/15/title/not-yet-listed-varieties (d.-2004-842-ec)).

7 APPROVAL OF NICHE VARIETY SEED

Since 1 July 2010, niche varieties may be placed on the market in Switzerland without the variety having been registered in the variety catalogue and without the seed having been officially certified. The placing on the market of seed from niche varieties is permitted exclusively within Switzerland.

A niche variety is a local variety, an heirloom variety, an ecotype of forage plants, or any other variety that does not meet the requirements for registration in the variety catalogue. Genetically modified varieties are excluded.

The seed may be placed on the market with a non-official label whose colour does not correspond to any of the colours specified in Article 28 of the EAER Ordinance of 7 December 1998 on Propagation Material for Varieties of Arable Plants, Forage Plants and Vegetables (SR 916.151.1) and which bears the statement 'Authorised niche variety, seed not certified'.

The FOAG sets maximum quantities for seeds and propagating material for arable and forage crops. These are set out in the document, 'Maximum quantities of seed authorised for the marketing of not yet listed varieties', available on the FOAG website at: <https://www.blw.admin.ch/en/variety-registration>.

7.1 CV Form X – Application



The application for authorisation to place niche varieties of seeds and propagating material on the market must be submitted to the FOAG.

The application form **CV Form X** is available on the FOAG website at <https://www.blw.admin.ch/en/variety-registration>.

Any supporting documentation required by the FOAG is crop-specific. For potatoes, for example, results regarding susceptibility to late blight may be taken into account. The FOAG also determines whether a standard sample must be submitted.

7.2 Costs

The FOAG charges a fee for processing an application in accordance with the FOAG Fees Ordinance (SR 910.11): <https://www.fedlex.admin.ch/eli/cc/2006/415/de>.

7.3 Overview of niche varieties

An overview of authorised niche varieties can be found on the FOAG website at <https://www.blw.admin.ch/en/variety-registration>.

8 ADDRESSES

Applications, forms, general information:

Federal Office for Agriculture FOAG

Swiss Federal Service for Seeds and Propagating
Material
Schwarzenburgstrasse 165
CH-3003 Bern

Tel: +41 (0)58 460 53 51

<https://www.blw.admin.ch/en/variety-registration>

Information on DUS testing and plant variety protection:

Federal Office for Agriculture FOAG

Office for Plant Variety Protection
Schwarzenburgstrasse 165
CH-3003 Bern

Tel: +41 (0)58 462 25 24

<https://www.blw.admin.ch/en/plant-variety-protection>

Information on VSCU tests, preliminary tests, test cycles and standard seed samples according to the specified areas of responsibility:

Agroscope, Reckenholz site

Reckenholzstrasse 191
CH-8046 Zürich

Tel: +41 (0)58 468 71 11

www.agroscope.ch/reckenholz

Agroscope, Changins site

Route de Duillier 60
CH-1260 Nyon

Tel: +41 (0)58 460 44 44

www.agroscope.ch/changins

Bern, December 2025

Federal Office for Agriculture

Head of Sustainable Plant Protection and Varieties Section

Olivier Félix