



CPVO

Community Plant Variety Office

Introduction to the role of the Community Plant Variety Office

Francesco Mattina, Acting President

European Parliament, AGRI Committee, 30 November 2021



Outline

- What is a Plant Variety Right?
- Characteristics of the EU System and the role of the CPVO
- Advantages of a Regional System and Key Statistics
- Contribution to society & support to key EU policy objectives
- Examples



What is a plant variety right?

- **A plant variety right is not a patent!**
- It's a sui generis type of IP right designed to encourage people to develop and disseminate new varieties of plants
- The CPVR system is laid down by Council Regulation (EC) No 2100/94 of 27 July 1994
- **Breeder's exemption**
- **Farmer exemption – farm saved seeds:** Only possible for varieties belonging to a list of 21 agricultural species and under well specified circumstances



The characteristics of the EU system

- **Duration of protection:** 25 years or 30 years for vines, potatoes, trees, flower bulbs, woody small fruits and woody ornamentals
- The right to make an application is **open to anyone in the world**
- The EU system **co-exists with national systems**, breeders can choose between national or EU-wide protection
- **Provisional protection** covers the period between the official publication of the application and the granting of the CPVR

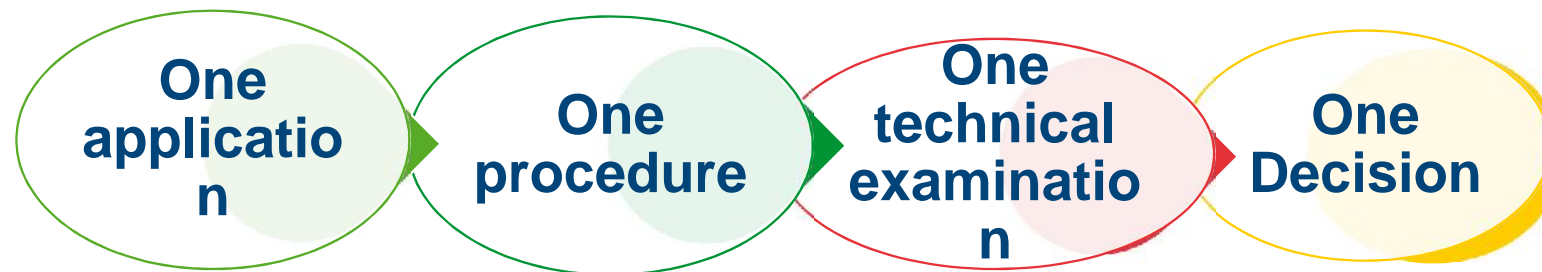


What is the CPVO?

- The Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO) administers the EU system of plant variety rights (CPVR), which is based on the UPOV 1991 Convention
- The CPVO is a decentralised EU agency
 - *Operational since 27 April 1995*
 - *Established in Angers, France*
 - *About 50 employees, 13 different nationalities*
 - *Fully self-financed, based on users' fee collection. The 2021 budget is approx. €20M*
- The CPVO works in all 23 official languages of the EU. Applicants can use any of these languages when filing an application
- The CPVO operates under the authority of an Administrative Council (1/MS + 1 EU)



The advantage of a centralised Regional System



**One Right with a uniform effect in
27 Member States**



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Community Plant Variety Office



DUS examination offices in the EU



The red dots represent the headquarters of entrusted Examination Offices carrying out DUS technical examinations on behalf of the CPVO

Key statistics since the creation of the CPVO in 1995



75 000 applications

60 000 CPVR granted

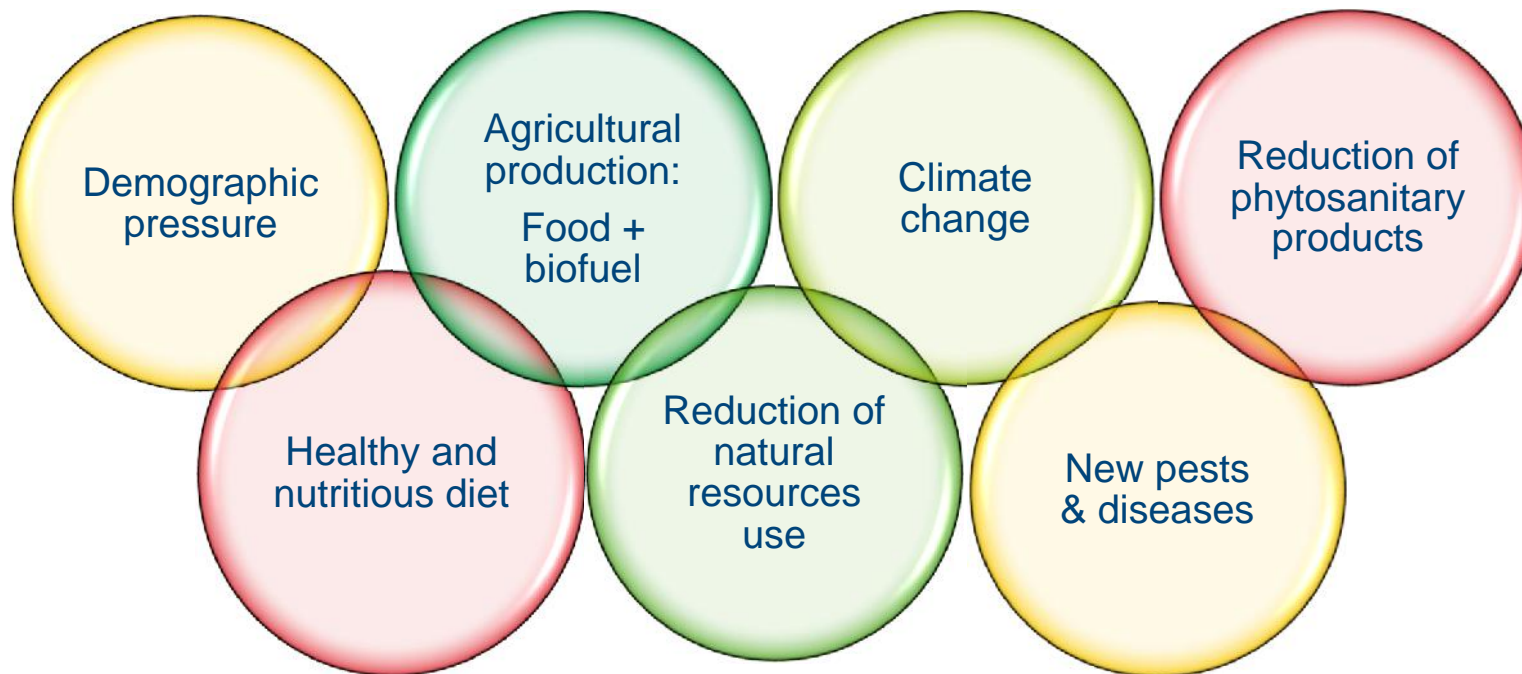
30 000 still valid

Already more than **3 000** applications received in 2021

Over **98% of online applications**



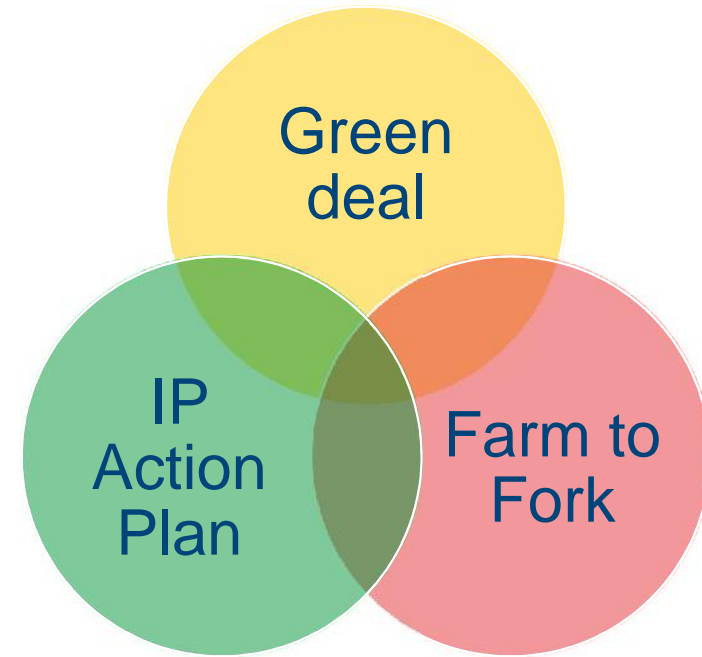
Why is plant innovation important?





Alignment with the EU political priorities

UN SDGs



2021 international year of fruits & vegetables



Supports the



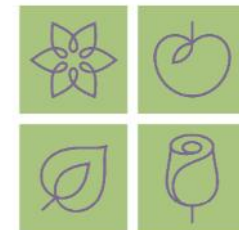
International scope and cooperation



 IPKey



UPOV



CIOPORA





Examples of new protected varieties

Environmental Sustainability and Impact of Fungicides in European Viticulture

3.5 millions of ha of vineyards in the EU

- 3.3% agricultural land in EU
- 60,000 tons of fungicides are used in EU viticulture
- 65% of all fungicides used in EU agriculture

(Eurostat report 2007)

[Source: courtesy of Professor Michele Morgante, University of Udine]



Institute of Applied Genomic University Of Udine (It) Grapevine Breeding Program

- Crossings
- Selection for resistance
- Selection for agronomic traits
- Microvinifications
- Field trials and microvinifications in different environments
- PVR protection and licensing
- Worldwide marketing and sales

[Source: courtesy of Professor Michele Morgante, University of Udine]

New protected varieties for a fungicide-free wine and a sustainable viticulture



Sauvignon Nepis



Sauvignon Kretos



Sauvignon Rytos



Fleurtai



Soreli



Cabernet Volos



Cabernet Eidos



Merlot Khoros



Merlot Kanthus



Julius

[Source: courtesy of Professor Michele Morgante, University of Udine]



Drought resistance

- Spring bread wheat 'Filon' developed by Florimond Desprez is known for its tolerance to drought.
- It was granted CPVR in September 2017

[Source: FILON-ble-tendre-hiver-FT-bdef.pdf \(semencesdefrance.com\)](https://semencesdefrance.com/filon-ble-tendre-hiver-ft-bdef.pdf)

 Blé Tendre d'Hiver
FILON



En savoir plus...

Obtenteur : **Florimond Desprez**
Année d'inscription : **2017**
Classe qualité : **BPS**
Type : lignée
Barbu : non

Caractéristiques physiologiques

 Tolérant Piétin Verse	 Résistant Rouille Brune	 Peu sensible Fusariose	 Résistant Mosaïques	 Tolérant Chlorotoluron	 Résistant Cécidomyies
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Caractéristiques Agronomiques

Résistance au Froid	(5,5)	Assez sensible à peu sensible
Hauteur	3,5	Courte
Verse	5,5	Assez sensible à peu sensible
Germination sur pied	6	Peu sensible
Piétin Verse	3	Sensible à assez sensible
Oïdium	7	Assez résistant
Rouille jaune	6	Peu sensible
Secteria tritici	5,5	Assez sensible à peu sensible



Disease resistance

CPVO Technical Protocols for vegetables often include disease resistance characteristics that are regularly revised, allowing the protection of varieties adapted to pathogens in constant evolution

The screenshot shows the Enza Zaden website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'News & Events', 'Products & Services', 'Careers & Learning', and 'This Is Enza Zaden'. Below the navigation bar is a large image of lettuce heads. The main content area features a heading 'Philemo' with the code '[E01E.11389]' and a list of characteristics:

- Philemo has a medium to large head size with a well developed frame and slightly upright plant and head shape.
- Slow bolting with a high ITB tolerance.
- This variety is suitable for late Spring until early Autumn in North West Europe.

CPVO TP for lettuce includes resistance to 14 races of Bremia and other diseases

Example of lettuce with Bremia resistances is the 'Philemo' developed by ENZA Zaden Beheer B.V.

[Source: Philemo \(enzazaden.com\)](https://enzazaden.com)



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