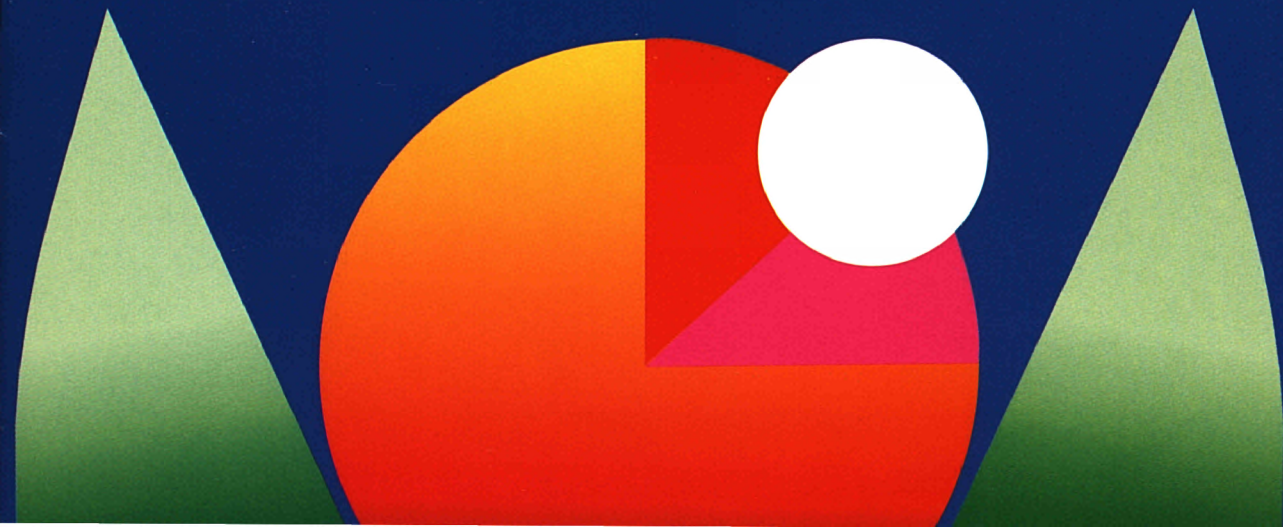




ANNUAL REPORT 1995

Community Plant Variety Office







Annual report 1995

Community Plant Variety Office

A great deal of additional information on the European Union is available on the Internet. It can be accessed through the Europa server (<http://europa.eu.int>).

Cataloguing data can be found at the end of this publication.

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Contents

Introduction by Bart Kiewiet, President of the CPVO	4
Preface by Louis Van Eylen, Chairman of the Administrative Council	6
The basic regulation	7
Meetings of the Administrative Council	10
The <i>mandataire</i>	13
The staff of the CPVO	14
The task forces	15
External contacts	17
The Official Gazette	18
The financial situation	19
Annexes	21

Introduction



Council Regulation (EC) No 2100/94 on Community plant variety rights ('the basic regulation') entered into force on 1 September 1994. After years of preparation, the European Commission published a draft in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* on 28 September 1990. The diplomatic conference at which the revision of the UPOV convention (Union internationale pour la protection des obtentions végétales — 1978 act) was to be discussed was yet to be held at that time. At the insistence of Member States, discussion of the draft was put on hold pending the outcome of that conference. Once the revision of the UPOV convention had become a reality on 19 March 1991, work got under way on the draft regulation.

During the second half of 1991, the draft had its first reading in a Council working party. Various factors such as the position of the European Parliament and debates about 'farmers privileges', together with the sheer complexity of the subject, meant that it was much later than originally expected before discussions were completed.

The Community plant variety rights system became operational with effect from 27 April 1995. From that date, it has been possible upon a single application to obtain protection for plant varieties valid throughout the European Community. The implementation and application of the Community regime are carried out by an independent Community office with its own legal personality: the Community Plant Variety Office (the Office).

The introduction of a Community system did not signal the end for national legislation on plant variety protection. The considerations underlying the adoption of the basic regulation make clear that national intellectual property regimes for plant varieties continue to be regulated by the legislation of Member States.

I was not directly involved in the operations of the Office in the starting phase. From a distance, as a member of the Administrative Council, I was in a very good position though to observe the limited staff making great efforts to cope with the flood of applications. This was only possible thanks to the sound preparatory work of the task forces and, not least, to the many hours invested by the individual members of staff and the *mandataire* to do the job.

I would like to thank the personnel and the *mandataire* for the devoted and professional way in which they contributed to the achievements of 1995. I want to thank also the members of the Administrative Council and the task forces, and the services of the European Commission for their contributions to the achievements of the Office in 1995.

Unfortunately, there has been a significant delay in publishing this annual report. Priority was given to other tasks of the Office such as the granting of titles. I expect that the publication of the 1996 annual report will take place before the end of 1997.

Bart Kiewiet
President
Brussels, June 1997

Preface

On the occasion of the first annual report of the Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO), I would like to express my satisfaction about the results achieved by its staff during the first months of operation. As *mandataire* during that period, I participated in the daily work of the CPVO and was an eye witness to the efforts made to run the Community plant variety protection system.



As the number of applications received shows, the Community plant variety rights system proved an immediate success. The staff of the Office was not given the opportunity to become accustomed gradually to the work it had to perform. With rather primitive tools, especially as far as IT was concerned, the staff of the Office had to digest within a few weeks many hundreds of applications for Community protection.

Taking into account those difficult circumstances, I think that the staff of the CPVO did a great job. I would like to thank my predecessor as *mandataire*, Mr Dieter Obst, for the important work he did in that, and other capacities, to make the launch of the CPVO possible.

As the annual report shows, the main part of the activities of the Administrative Council concerned administrative and financial matters. The administrative and financial infrastructure of the Office had to be built up from scratch. Although the Commission was a great help in this respect, the lack of proper, tailor-made software to run the accounting system was the cause of many problems in the financial management of the Office.

As far as the technical part of the work was concerned, the staff of the CPVO was able to make use of the sound advice of the national plant breeders' rights authorities. In the future too, cooperation between the CPVO and national offices will be essential to the proper functioning of the CPVO.

I hope this annual report will be the first in a long line.

Louis Van Eylen
Chairman of the Administrative Council

The basic regulation

The basic regulation can, broadly speaking, be divided into two parts:

- (a) the section containing substantive provisions relating to the right; and
- (b) the section covering procedural and institutional aspects, including the Office, the application and appeal procedures, technical examinations, fees and transitional provisions.

In this annual report, special attention will be given to the procedural and institutional part of the regulation.

(a) The substantive part

This part corresponds largely to the relevant provisions of the UPOV convention. The most important new elements of the convention, such as the broader scope of breeders' rights and the rules concerning rights in respect of derived varieties were incorporated into the regulation.

(b) The procedural and institutional part

Decisions on applications for plant variety rights are taken by a committee of three members of the Office's staff under the authority of the President of the Office. The present composition of the committee is two technical experts and one lawyer.

The first stage on the way to a decision is a 'formal examination' to establish, among other things, whether the application complies with certain specified conditions and whether the fees due have been paid. If this obstacle is successfully overcome, the next stage is the 'substantive examination', part of the purpose of which is to consider whether the variety is novel and whether the proposed variety denomination is suitable. If the substantive examination is satisfactory, there follows a 'technical examination' which covers the requirements of distinctness, uniformity and stability (DUS).

The technical examination is not, in fact, carried out by the Office but by one or more competent offices appointed by the Administrative Council in accordance with a special procedure. It is clear that breeders have every interest in examination offices being designated on the basis of technical considerations with expertise, independence and efficiency being determining factors. Efforts must also be made to ensure that the expertise relating to different crop groups is not concentrated in a single place.

The choice of an examination office from the list of designated offices in each individual case is the responsibility of the Office.

In 1995 the selection of examination offices was in a transitional phase. This meant that, with regard to applications of Community origin, as a rule a variety was examined where it would have been examined had the application been a national one.

In this connection, it should be pointed out that in 1995 the great majority of varieties, for which an application for Community plant variety rights was made, had already been examined by the competent national office in connection with a national application for protection or release on to the market. In these cases the national choice of the applicant was followed.

It is open to anyone to lodge with the Office within specified time limits an objection in writing to the grant of a Community plant variety right. The grounds for objection are limited to allegations that either one of the four criteria set out in Articles 7 to 11 of the basic regulation (distinctness, uniformity, stability or novelty) is not satisfied, or one of the various impediments relating to the variety denomination listed in Article 63 is present. Objectors become parties to the proceedings for the grant of the Community right and are entitled to access to all relevant documents.

Except in two specific instances where a direct action may be brought before the Court of Justice of the European Communities against decisions of the Office, a right of appeal against such decisions lies with a board of appeal consisting of a chairman appointed by the Council of the European Union and two other members selected by the chairman from a list established by the Council. Any person may appeal, either against a decision addressed to him or against a decision which, although addressed to someone else, is of direct and individual concern to him. After examining the appeal, the board may exercise any power within the competence of the Office or remit the case to the Office which is bound by the board's decision. Actions may be brought before the Court of Justice of the European Communities against decisions of the board.

The Community Plant Variety Office has an Administrative Council which consists of representatives of the 15 Member States and the European Commission, and, briefly, monitors the activities of the Office, advises it on matters for which it has responsibility and issues general guidelines.



An important area of competence of the Administrative Council is also, as mentioned above, the designation of competent offices to undertake technical examinations for categories of plants.

The regulation outlaws dual protection, i.e. neither national protection for new varieties nor any patent may be granted for a variety subject to Community protection.

The basic regulation does not prohibit a variety for which a national plant variety right has been issued, or for which such an application has been made, from being the subject of an application for Community protection. The novelty requirement of course applies here, but it is possible, where national protection already applies when Community protection is granted, to leave this lying dormant. The national right may then be reactivated if the Community protection comes to an end.

From the financial point of view, the basic regulation governs two areas:

(a) The main principles of the financial operation of the Office

- an annual, balanced budget;
- revenue based on fees payable by applicants, and, to the extent necessary, a subsidy from the general budget of the EU (the principle of self-financing of the Office);
- the Administrative Council as the budgetary authority of the Office (adoption and discharge of the budget);
- control of the implementation of the budget by a financial controller appointed by the Administrative Council and by the Court of Auditors.

(b) The fees charged by the Office for acts provided for under the basic regulation as well as for each year of the duration of the protection rights

The basic regulation and an implementing 'fees regulation' establish all the matters for which fees are due (application fees, technical examination fees, annual fees, fees for processing requests, fees laid down by the President of the Office and surcharges), the amounts of fees and the method of payment.

Meetings of the Administrative Council

The Administrative Council (AC) had eight meetings in 1995. Before going into detail about the most important decisions taken in 1995, some information is given regarding meetings of the AC which took place in the first months of its existence in 1994.

1994

The first meeting of the Administrative Council took place on 21 October 1994 in Brussels. This meeting was convened on the initiative of the European Commission, which also provided the secretariat. Dr Däschner, the German representative, acted as first (provisional) chairman. Under his chairmanship, the rules of procedure of the Administrative Council of the Community Plant Variety Office were established on the basis of a draft prepared by the services of the European Commission.

In the same meeting Mr Louis Van Eylen (Belgium) and Mrs Giovanna Morelli Gradi (Italy) were appointed as chairman and vice-chairman of the Administrative Council for a period of three years.

In the next meeting of the Administrative Council on 23 November 1994, Mr Dieter Obst of the European Commission was appointed *mandataire* of the Office for a period ending on 28 February. In that capacity he was entitled to exercise, under the authority of the Administrative Council, some of the functions and powers of the president of the Office. The tasks of the *mandataire* will be described in more detail later in this annual report.

On the initiative of the *mandataire*, a meeting of experts was held in Brussels on 12 December 1994. The purpose of this meeting was the establishment of task forces to execute preparatory work for the Office within the framework set up by the Administrative Council. A more detailed description and the composition of these task forces are given on pages 15 and 16.

A third meeting of the Administrative Council was held on 19 and 20 December 1994, the most important point of discussion being the budgetary situation of the CPVO in 1995.

1995

In its first meeting of 1995 on 16 and 17 March 1995, the Administrative Council appointed its chairman, Louis Van Eylen, *mandataire* of the Office to succeed Mr Obst.

Within the consultation procedure referred to in Article 114(2) of Regulation (EC) No 2100/94, the Administrative Council expressed, with certain reservations, a favourable opinion on a draft regulation, prepared by the European Commission, concerning implementing rules for proceedings before the Office.

In April 1995, meetings of the Administrative Council were held on 4, 11 and 24 April respectively.

In the first meeting a favourable opinion was expressed concerning an amended draft Commission regulation on fees payable to the Office.

In the second April meeting the Administrative Council adopted by secret ballot an opinion establishing a list of seven candidates for the post of president of the Office, considered as *ex aequo*, adopted the budget for the Office for the year 1995 and approved model forms to be used *vis-à-vis* or by the Office in respect of applications, technical questionnaires and proposals for variety denominations.

In the same meeting the Administrative Council adopted technical guidelines for some major species.

The extraordinary meeting on 24 April resulted in the following decision:

In the absence of a formal decision regarding the seat of the Office, its provisional address is in Brussels and shall be set up preferably on the premises of one of the Community institutions.

As a result of this decision, the Office started its operations from a limited number of offices in a building of the European Commission: rue de la Loi 102, Brussels.

The next (extraordinary) meeting of the Administrative Council took place on 21 June 1995. The Council was consulted on the draft implementing rules relating to the agricultural exemption provided for in Article 14(3) of Regulation (EC) No 2100/94.

On 17 and 18 July 1995 the Administrative Council discussed a draft protocol between the European Parliament and the satellite agencies. On the modalities of the DUS tests performed on behalf the Office, the Administrative Council expressed the opinion that the choice of examination office for an individual examination belongs to the Office. The cost of the technical examination should not be the only criterion for the choice of examination office; other criteria, in particular technical criteria, are essential.

The meeting of the Administrative Council on 5 and 6 October 1995 dealt with a request of the European Commission to repay the subsidy of ECU 300 000 granted to the Office to cover its setting-up costs. The Administrative Council decided to ask for clarification from the Commission before taking a decision on the request.

A provisional system for the designation of examination offices was established.

In this meeting the amending budget for 1995 was approved.

The last meeting of the Administrative Council in 1995 took place on 18 and 19 December. The main item dealt with in this meeting was the adoption of the budget for 1996.

Composition of the Administrative Council in 1995

Chairman of the Administrative Council: Mr Louis Van Eylen (B)

Members of the Administrative Council

B	Mrs Françoise Bedoret	NL	Mr Bart Kiewiet
DK	Mr Flemming Espenhain		Mrs Anja Van der Neut
	Mr J. Andersen	A	Mr Herbert Etz
D	Mr Walter Däschner		Mr Reiner Hron
	Mr Rudolf Elsner	P	Mr T. Ribeiro Correa
EL	Mr Michael Gavras		Mr C. Pereira Godinho
	Mr Theodosius Kastrissios	FIN	Mr Arto Vuori
E	Mr G. Artolachipi		Mr Olli Rekola
	Mr R. Lopez de Haro	S	Mr Karl Olov Öster
F	Miss Nicole Bustin		Mrs Ulrike Hansson
	Mr Pierre-Yves Bellot	UK	Mr David Boreham
IRL	Mr John Carvill		Mr John Ardley
	Mr Ignatius Byrne		
I	Mrs Giovanna Morelli Gradi	COMMISSION:	
	Miss G. Salerno		Mr Fernando Mansito
L	Mr Marc Weyland		Caballero
	Mr Carlo Conter		Mr Dieter Obst



The *mandataire*

It was decided in November 1994 that during the absence of a president some of his tasks would be performed by a *mandataire*.

The *mandataire*, first Dieter Obst and later Louis Van Eylen, was in charge of carrying out certain tasks and was entitled for those purposes to exercise, under the authority of the Administrative Council, some of the functions and powers of the president. These tasks included:

- representation of the Office;
- establishment of a first contact point for the Office;
- arrangements with the Commission concerning the availability of subsidies from the general budget of the European Union for 1994 as well as, where appropriate, for 1995 and 1996;
- preparation of draft budgets for 1995 and 1996;
- arrangements for the temporary employment of minimum human resources, as agreed by the Administrative Council;
- acquisition of minimum equipment for work and communications, as agreed by the Administrative Council;
- management, in compliance with relevant provisions, of revenues and expenditure, and implementation of budgets adopted by the Administrative Council.

The *mandataire* acted under the authority of the Administrative Council and reported in each meeting of that body on actions taken.

The staff of the CPVO

When the Office began operating, no decision had been taken on its definitive location. It had proved impossible at that time to reach unanimity on this point within the framework of an intergovernmental conference. The consequence was that the Office had to operate from a limited number of rooms in a building of the European Commission in the rue de la Loi in Brussels. Another factor that complicated the functioning of the Office was the absence of a president and a vice-president. This problem was solved at the end of 1994 with the appointment by the Administrative Council of the *mandataire* with the task of managing the Office as long as no president was appointed. Since the *mandataire* had to combine this function with his normal professional duties, much responsibility fell to the young and relatively inexperienced staff of the Office.

Two small units were created: one technical unit managed by Mr Theobald and one administrative and financial unit managed by Mr Gribomont.

In the months preceding the real launch of the Office on 27 April 1995, a number of task forces (see pages 15 and 16) set up by the Administrative Council prepared the introduction of the Community plant variety rights system.



The task forces

To prepare the operations of the Office, the following task forces were established in December 1994 within the framework set up by the Administrative Council.

Task Force 1: *Compilation of provisional technical guidelines*

Composition: Dr Bould (UK), Mr Elena (E), Dr Fuchs (D), Mr Ghijsen (NL), Mr Godinho (P), Mr Guiard (F), Mrs Lioussa (EL), Mrs Löscher (D), Mr O'Donnell (IRL), Ms Rasmussen (DK).

Tasks

The compilation of provisional guidelines based upon available guidelines (established at UPOV level and/or agreed among several Member States). Where discrepancies between guidelines in use exist at the international level, an attempt should be made to consolidate the guidelines, failing which the differences should be recorded.

Where guidelines for specific plant species are not available, guidelines should be drawn up for those species which are considered important, at the discretion of the experts within the task force.

All guidelines shall contain in particular:

- protocols for the testing;
- list of characteristics to be tested;
- criteria for the delivery of an opinion on DUS;
- requirements as to the standard and size of samples to be delivered by breeders.



Task Force 2: *Level of fees*

Composition: Mr Ardley (UK), Ms Bustin (F), Mr Espenhain (DK), Dr Rutz (D), Mr Van Beukering (NL)

Tasks

In the absence, at this stage, of any element which would permit proper calculation, the level of the initial fees should be established on the basis of a sound balance between economic requirements, bearing in mind the principle of self-financing, and the psychological element of attractiveness to breeders. The work should take into account the results of discussions on the draft fees regulation to be adopted by the Commission.

Task Force 3: *Forms and application procedures, including instructions for samples*

Composition: Mr Boulineau (F), Mr Elena (E), Mr Godinho (P), Ms Hoegh (DK), Mr Sotoriou (EL), Mr Staward (UK), Mr Theobald (D), Mr Van Beukering

Tasks

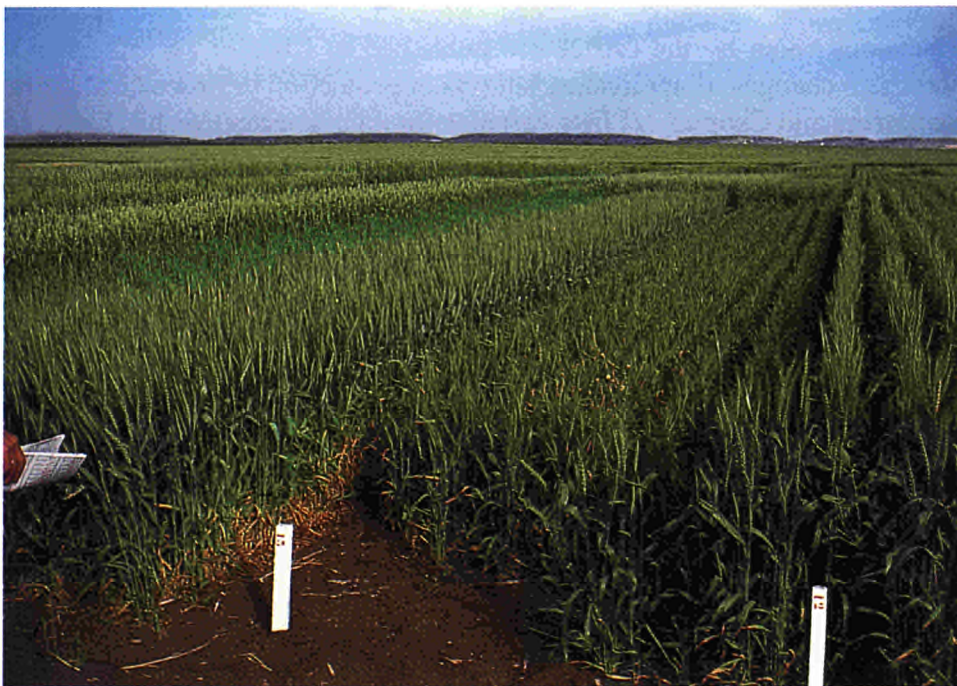
The application forms and all other elements of application procedures should be developed. This work shall include details of the manner of payment of the application fee (in liaison with Task Force 2), as well as the technical questionnaire (in liaison with Task Force 1). The instructions on the delivery of samples shall refer to the addresses and the manner of the delivery.

External contacts

External contacts made by members of the staff in 1995 were few due to the workload of the Office in the starting phase. Nevertheless, members of the staff attended the meeting of the Technical Committee of UPOV in Geneva, as part of the EU delegation. The *mandataire* had the opportunity to attend the meeting of the Council of UPOV and to inform the delegations about the launch of the Office.

Members of the staff were invited to the annual meeting of Comasso (Association of Plant Breeders of the European Community) in Brussels, where the *mandataire* took the opportunity to inform the members of Comasso about the work of the Office.

Representatives of several breeding companies as well as members of national authorities visited the Office in 1995.



The Official Gazette

On 19 September 1995, the first edition of the Official Gazette of the Office was published. The Gazette contains the essential information entered in the Office registers relating to applications received and any consequent grant of protection. In addition, it provides information to ensure that users have a reliable source of knowledge about the legal framework within which the Office operates.

By the end of 1995, the CPVO had organised the exchange of official gazettes with most of the national offices of the UPOV member States. There were 324 subscriptions to the Official Gazette at the end of 1995.

The Official Gazette is a multilingual publication in all official languages of the European Union. It is subdivided into two different parts; Part A contains information on individual varieties and Part B contains information of more general interest. The way information is published in Part A follows exactly the set-up recommended by UPOV.

Chapter I contains information about applications for Community plant variety rights received by the Office. A distinction is made between applications filed under Article 116, the so-called 'transitional' regime, and under the 'normal' regime.

Chapter II refers to proposals for variety denominations. An applicant is required to propose a denomination for the variety which must be approved by the Office and which is open to objections from any third person. The user of the Official Gazette can assume that, in principle, a published proposal for variety denomination has already been subject to a preliminary examination by the Office but not a definitive decision.

Chapter III is reserved for the withdrawal of applications for a Community plant variety right.

Decisions taken by the Office are published in Chapter IV. Chapter V indicates changes of applicants, holders of protection or procedural representatives and Chapter VI lists varieties for which protection has been terminated.

In Part B the Office publishes information on amounts and dates of payment of fees, time limits for objections and appeals, as well as references to test guidelines adopted by the Administrative Council, the list of examination offices and so forth.

In edition 1995 2/3 of the Gazette (published on 26 February 1996), the names of 966 applicants were listed. The same edition referred to a provisional decision of the Administrative Council on the entrustment of competent offices in Member States of the European Union with responsibility for technical examination on behalf of the Office. This decision illustrates the close cooperation between the Office and the existing national examination offices responsible for DUS testing in their respective countries.

The financial situation

Introduction

The year 1995 saw the real launch of the Office: the implementation of procedures, the establishment of an infrastructure and the appointment of personnel were the major concerns. However, numerous important issues had yet to be settled, in particular concerning the appointment of the president and the vice-president and the choice of the official seat of the Office.

The process began of developing a financial regulation for the Office.

Financial analysis

Income

The 1995 income of the Office fell into three main categories:

- **Fees collected**

The Office's operation is based on a system of fees collection. Each amount corresponds to a category of service delivered to the applicants.

The approximate amount of fees received in 1995 amounted to ECU 3 323 791.56

The net amount of fees definitely collected amounted to ECU 3 119 129.37

The difference resulted from double payments, wrong amounts, and examination fees or application fees paid for files registered in January 1996.

- **EC subsidy**

The European Commission granted ECU 300 000 to the Office in order to cover its start-up expenses.

- **Interests on bank accounts**

The Office has two bank accounts with the Générale de Banque SA in Brussels. These accounts are managed in multicurrencies, currently ecus and Belgian francs.

The rates of interest for these accounts were based on the existing framework contract between the European Commission and the Générale de Banque SA.

Received interest on the current account in 1995 amounted to ECU 47 117.03

Expenditure

Not all the expenditure provided for in the 1995 budget was completely committed for the reasons already mentioned above. The Office's launch

involved some operating expenses and some investments which, in fact, took place, or will take place mainly during the budget years 1996, 1997 and 1998.

- **Labour costs**

On 31 December 1995, the staff of the Office comprised the *mandataire*, whose work for the Office was not remunerated, and six auxiliary agents.

- **Rents, installation of building, removal**

The premises of the Office were leased by the Commission until 31 December 1996. Maintenance expenditure was included in the rental price. The official seat of the Office not being fixed, the amount planned for the removal and connected expenses was not used in 1995.

- **Technical expenditure**

Expenditure concerning the technical operation of the Office was not committed nor even budgeted for 1995, in particular with regard to the technical examinations of plant varieties for which the costs would only be borne in 1996.

- **Carry-over of appropriations**

There was a carry-over of appropriations from 1995 to 1996 in the sum of ECU 97 524.47. This carry-over concerned 1995 financial commitments for which a legal commitment (order, contract, etc.) had been concluded before 31 December 1995.

Conclusion

The year 1995 was a launch period and many factors will emerge or change in the coming years.

The years 1996 and 1997 will be reference years with regard to the volume of transactions generated by the Office, which will make it possible to determine better its needs in terms of operating costs in relation to income and will enable the Office to set up a policy of short-term investments, in particular on the basis of the profit identified in 1995. If it appears that no structural balance exists between costs and income, this should have consequences for the level of fees.

In any event, with the present (January 1998) knowledge of the number of applications in the years following 1995, it does not seem premature to conclude that the CPVO will be able to operate on a full cost recovery basis.

Annexes



Plant species

Aeschynanthus
Allium ascalonicum
Alstroemeria
Anthurium
Astilbe chinensis
Begonia elatior
Bougainvillea glabra

Brassica oleracea conv. *capitata*
var. *alba*
Brassica oleracea conv. *botrytis*
var. *cymosa*
Chrysanthemum frutescens
Clematis

Dendranthema

Euphorbia milii
Forsythia intermedia
Gerbera
Gladiolus
Hibiscus rosa sinensis
Iris
Kalanchoe blossfeldiana
Lactuca sativa
Lilium

Examination office

Bundessortenamt, Hanover, D
GEVES, La Minière, F
CPRO-DLO, Wageningen, NL
CPRO-DLO, Wageningen, NL
CPRO-DLO, Wageningen, NL
Bundessortenamt, Hanover, D
Institute of Plant and Soil Science,
Tystofte, DK

CPRO-DLO, Wageningen, NL

CPRO-DLO, Wageningen, NL
Bundessortenamt, Hanover, D
Plant Variety Rights Office,
Cambridge, UK
Plant Variety Rights Office
Cambridge, UK

Bundessortenamt, Hanover, D
GEVES, La Minière, F
CPRO-DLO, Wageningen, NL
CPRO-DLO, Wageningen, NL
Bundessortenamt, Hanover, D
CPRO-DLO, Wageningen, NL
Bundessortenamt, Hanover, D
CPRO-DLO, Wageningen, NL
CPRO-DLO, Wageningen, NL

Myosotis

Plant Variety Rights Office,
Cambridge, UK

Osteospermum ecklonis

Bundessortenamt, Hanover, D

Pelargonium peltatum

Bundessortenamt, Hanover, D

Pelargonium zonale

Bundessortenamt, Hanover, D

Saintpaulia

Bundessortenamt, Hanover, D

Scaevola

Bundessortenamt, Hanover, D

Solanum tuberosum

CPRO-DLO, Wageningen, NL

Spathiphyllum

CPRO-DLO, Wageningen, NL

Tulipa

CPRO-DLO, Wageningen, NL

Situation of the Community Plant Variety Office at 31 December 1995

Applications

	Transitional regime	Normal regime	Total	%
Agricultural species	463	450	913	29.7
Vegetable species	219	230	449	14.6
Ornamental species	612	866	1 478	48.0
Fruit species	112	123	235	7.6
Others	0	0	0	
Total	1 406	1 669	3 075	



**Number of applications:
(status at 31 December 1995)**

Main agricultural species

<i>Zea mays</i>	191
<i>Solanum tuberosum</i>	175
<i>Triticum aestivum</i>	107
<i>Helianthus annuus</i>	89
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i>	79

Main vegetable species

<i>Lactuca sativa</i>	94
<i>Brassica oleracea.</i> <i>conv. botrytis var. botrytis</i>	59
<i>Pisum sativum</i>	52
<i>Brassica oleracea</i> <i>conv. capitata var. alba</i>	40
<i>Phaseolus vulgaris</i>	33

Main ornamental species

<i>Rosa</i>	293
<i>Pelargonium</i>	166
<i>Chrysanthemum</i>	152
<i>Tulipa</i>	77
<i>Dianthus</i>	76

Main fruit species

<i>Prunus persica</i>	60
<i>Malus Mill</i>	45
<i>Fragaria</i>	37
<i>Prunus salicina</i>	18
<i>Prunus armenica</i>	16

**Applications according to the country of origin
of the applicant
(status at 31 December 1997)**

Belgium	34
Denmark	232
Germany	468
Greece	0
Spain	46
France	592
Ireland	10
Italy	62
Luxembourg	0
Netherlands	1 046
Austria	14
Portugal	0
Finland	4
Sweden	54
United Kingdom	179
Non-EU countries	334





The Community Plant Variety Office

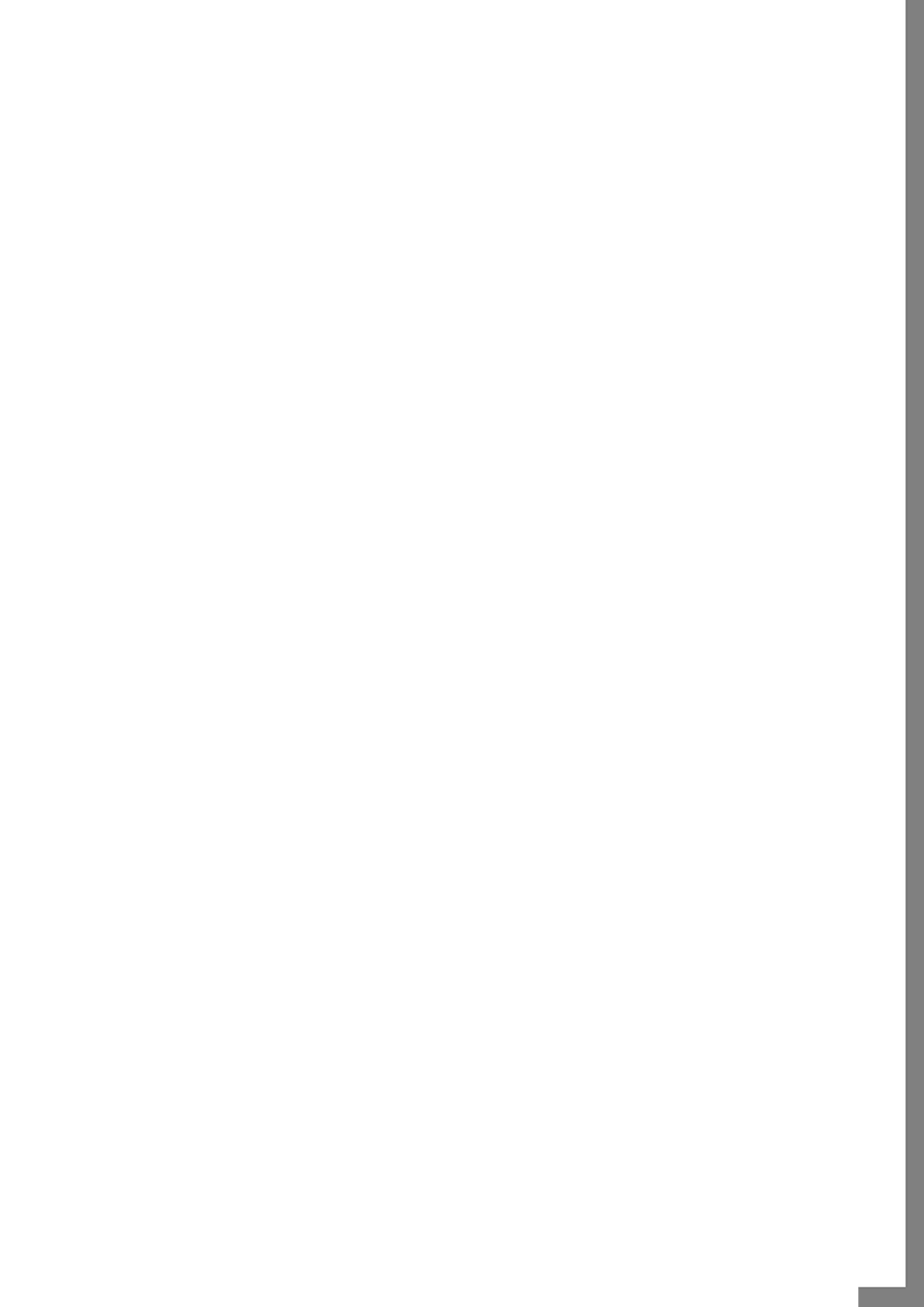
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