

or TRUE? FALSE?

GEVES only examines ornamental species

TRUE FALSE

GEVES also carries out testing for agricultural, vegetable, vine, forest and grass species for listing in the French Catalogue and/or plant variety protection, based on Distinctness-Homogeneity-Stability (DUS) trials.

A PVR is a patent

TRUE FALSE

Patents and PVRs are intellectual property rights with different conditions, scope and exceptions. Plant variety rights (PVR), also known as plant breeders' rights (PBR), grant the holder an exclusive right to certain acts in relation to the protected variety: production, reproduction, conditioning, offering for sale, selling, marketing, exporting, and importing. PVRs also grant the holder the right to exclude all other parties from using the protected variety without authorisation. However, unlike patented varieties, varieties protected by a PVR can be used freely for plant breeding purposes, thereby facilitating access to genetic diversity.

At the end of the DUS examination an identity card for the variety is produced

TRUE FALSE

If the variety is uniform and distinct, it is described based on phenotypic characteristics (morphological, biochemical or pathological) set out in the protocol for that species. The official variety description is equivalent to an identity card for the variety.

Plant variety protection is mandatory for marketing

TRUE FALSE

It is not mandatory to protect a variety in order to market it. The UPOV (International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants) system defines in its Convention that the plant variety right is independent of any measure taken to regulate within its territory the production, certification and marketing of material of varieties or the importing or exporting of such material. This regulation is administered by an appropriate, specialised and independent system. In France, the CTPS (Permanent Technical Committee for Plant Breeding) proposes to the Ministry of Agriculture the varieties authorised to be registered for marketing. Unlike agricultural, vegetable, fruit, vine, forest and grass species, ornamental species do not require marketing authorisation (there is no list for ornamental species).

Conservation of Plant Genetic Resources

GEVES supports the collection of plant genetic resources in France and the stakeholders maintaining them, with the aim of fostering the conservation and enhancement of these resources. GEVES houses the National Coordination Structure for Cultivated Species and Crop Wild Relatives. Its activities include:

- Official recognition by the French State of curators of plant genetic resources collections
- Identifying plant genetic resources of importance and establishing a national collection
- Organising calls for projects with support from the French Ministry of Agriculture

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Variety

EXPERTISE

Ornamental, Aromatic
and Medicinal Species

> Why?

> Where and how?

> Which species?

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Public Interest Group
associated with:

INRAE



WHY DOES GEVES CONDUCT TESTING FOR ORNAMENTAL VARIETIES?

Plant Variety Rights (PVR) are a form of intellectual property used to protect new plant varieties. For be eligible for protection, plant varieties must be tested to ensure they are distinct, uniform and stable (DUS). GEVES, the French examination office, carries out DUS testing for the protection of ornamental, perfume, aromatic and medicinal species.

These tests can be requested by the CPVO (EU protection) or by EU examination offices (national protection). Candidate varieties are cultivated in open fields or in greenhouses and compared to commonly known varieties. They are closely observed by GEVES according to specific criteria.



What is a PVR (Plant Variety Right)?

A PVR is an intellectual property right which grants the holder exclusive rights to their variety (with certain exceptions) for a period of 25-30 years depending on the species. For a PVR to be granted, the variety must meet the following criteria:

- Novelty
- Denomination
- (DUS) Distinctness Uniformity Stability

Did you know?

In support of the seed and plant sector, GEVES has developed different tests to ensure **quality plant material**:

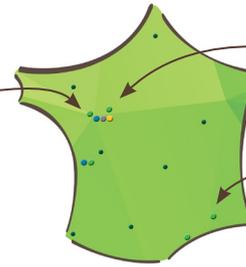
- Purity and counting
- Micro-cleaning
- Seed germination in optimal and adverse conditions
- Bulblet germination
- Seed viability testing
- Variety resistance testing (e.g. basil resistance to *Peronospora behlbarii*)
- Seed health:
 - Nematology for bulbs, bulblets, cloves, rhizomes and tubers
 - Virology for cyclamens
 - Bacteriology: dill, coriander, parsley
 - Mycology: dill, basil, lavender, parsley
- Research projects using genotyping and biochemistry
- Customised research projects

WHERE AND HOW ARE VARIETIES TESTED?

Specialised trial sites

GEVES has a range of trial stations covering different soil types and climate conditions in order to adapt to climate evolutions and different genera. Our stations are located close to areas of ornamental production in France, and work in collaboration with the seed sector and technical institutes.

Anjouère Experimental Unit
Domaine de l'Anjouère-La Pouëze
49370 ERDRE-EN-ANJOU



Brion Experimental Unit
Domaine de la Boisselière
49250 LES-BOIS-D'ANJOU

Cavailon Experimental Unit
4790 route des Vignères
84250 LETHOR

In vivo Reference Collections

- Ensure that a candidate variety is distinct from commonly known varieties, with or without protection
- Allow us to assist third parties in case of litigation or fraud
- Established for a wide range of genera: *Hydrangea*, *Lavandula*, *Lagerstroemia*, *Oleander*, *Buddleia*, *Berberis*, *Abelia*, *Weigela*, *Pyracantha*, *Forsythia*, *Thyme*, *Mint*...
- Thanks to dedicated work by our experts and collaboration with city arboretums

A key role in harmonising regulations

- Member of the CTPS Section for Ornamental, Perfume, Aromatic and Medicinal Plants
- Scientific expertise in collaboration with INRAE, our founding partner
- Leading experts in UPOV and CPVO working groups



List of Species STUDIED AT GEVES

- A** *Abelia*, *Acacia*, *Albizia*, *Amsonia*, *Anthemis*, *Aristolelia*, *Aronia*, *Arundo*, *Astrantia*
- B** *Bellis*, *Berberis*, *Bergenia*, *Billardiera*, *Boltonia*, *Buddleja*
- C** *Callistemon*, *Camellia*, *Capsicum*, *Caryopteris*, *Ceanothus*, *Cenchrus*, *Choisya*, *Cistus*, *Coreopsis*, *Coridothymus*, *Chrysanthemum* (natural season)
- D** *Dasiphora*, *Deutzia*, *Dorycnium*
- E** *Echinacea*, *Elaeagnus*, *Epimedium*, *Escallonia*
- F** *Forsythia*
- G** *Genista*
- H** *Helenium*, *Helianthus*, *Heliopsis*, *Heliotropium*, *Heptacodium*, *Hibiscus*, *Hydrangea*
- I** *Iberis*, *Ipomoea*
- K** *Kniphofia*
- L** *Lagerstroemia*, *Lamprocapnos*, *Laurus*, *Lavandula*, *Lavatera*, *Leucanthemum*, *Lomelosia*
- M** *Magnolia*, *Mahonia*, *Malus*, *Mentha*, *Michelia*, *Musa*
- N** *Nerium*, *Nicotiana*
- O** *Ocimum*, *Ophiopogon*, *Osmanthus*
- P** *Penstemon*, *Persicaria*, *Philothea*, *Photinia*, *Phygelius*, *Physostegia*, *Pittosporum*, *Pyracantha*, *Pyrus*
- R** *Rhodanthemum*, *Rosmarinus*
- S** *Salvia*, *Saxifraga*, *Scabiosa*, *Solanum*, *Spiraea*, *Sixalix*
- T** *Tagetes*, *Talinum*, *Thymus*
- W** *Wahlenbergia*, *Weigela*, *Westringia*

