

“Nearly as old as the idea of protection for plant varieties”

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**Communauté Internationale des  
Obtenteurs de Plantes Ornementales  
et Fruitières à Reproduction Asexuée**

**International Community of Breeders  
of Asexually Reproduced Ornamental  
and Fruit Plants**

**Internationale Gemeinschaft der  
Züchter vegetativ vermehrbarer  
Zier- und Obstpflanzen**

## CIOPORA has more than 40 years of tradition and experience in the protection of the Intellectual Property of Breeders of asexually reproduced ornamental and fruit varieties

- We are fighting for **better protection** of your varieties  
In 2008, CIOPORA e.g. engaged for better protection of ornamental and fruit tree varieties Egypt, Australia, India, Ethiopia, China and Macedonia.
- CIOPORA fights for an **effective enforcement** of your rights
  - We started an **Anti-Infringement initiative** with a broad communication campaign, enhanced internal and external information sharing, enforcement seminars and the coordination of joint actions against piracy;
  - On request of CIOPORA, UPOV has - for the first time - started discussions on improving the effective enforcement of rights in its member states;
  - On proposal of CIOPORA, the CPVO is organizing seminars on enforcement of PBR in the European Community.
- Our **other main topics** are
  - Delivering solutions for dealing with **Essentially Derived Varieties (EDV)**
  - Engaging internationally in **Biodiversity** matters (e.g. on the introduction of a Access and Benefit Sharing regime)
  - Working on solutions for **Minimal Distances** and **Molecular Techniques**

## CIOPORA is saving your company money

- The Community Plant Variety Office in Europe (CPVO) has **postponed the increase of its examination and annual fees** for varieties protected under its regime until 2009 – inter alia as a result of the work of CIOPORA.
- CIOPORA permanently **questions the level of fees** for the protection of varieties and argues with PBR authorities about decreasing instead of increasing the fee level. As additional service, a **table with an overview over fees** in UPOV countries is available for members.

## CIOPORA is exclusively committed to your interests since we are working

- For **Ornamentals and Fruits only**
  - Knowing the business perfectly well;
  - Not being bound by the restrictions of agricultural species (farmers` rights, national listings, regulated markets);
  - Representing lifestyle and healthy food;
  - Being the only international organization which acts world-wide for the protection of vegetatively propagated ornamental and fruit varieties;
  - Representing ≈ 70% of all Plant Variety Protection titles;
- For **Breeders only, since** we orient our work and activities towards the interests of breeders only although we do of course respect the position of other partners in the business.

## CIOPORA is your optimal voice

- We are **strong** because we have more than 120 members from more than 20 countries in all parts of the world, without any national preferences
- We are engaging all over the world and are **globally accepted** as **independent** and **non-party** representative of all breeders of vegetatively reproduced ornamental and fruit varieties
- We **have close contacts** to UPOV, the intergovernmental organization for the protection of new varieties of plants and to several national PBR offices world wide
- We are persistent: **Without CIOPORA's** constant activities, numerous national governments would **not move forward** in terms of Plant Variety Protection

**We work for you even though you might not have asked us for doing so yet – but do you really want to benefit from our services on the expense of your colleagues?**

**You believe membership in other organizations represent your interests well enough? Only as a member in CIOPORA you will enjoy the following benefits:**

- **CIOPORA's information services**
  - Position papers on various topics (e.g. EDV, Anti-Infringement, Biodiversity);
  - Guidelines on applications for customs actions;
  - Administrative information on Plant Breeder's Rights (list with addresses of PBR authorities, list with fees, contacts to custom authorities);
  - Newsletters with updates on legislative developments and CIOPORA activities;
- **CIOPORA's networking services**
  - Exchanging ideas and information with the CIOPORA office and other members (e.g. about your experiences on registration and enforcement of rights, on potential infringements etc.);
  - Visiting the Annual General Meetings, which will keep you abreast of developments in plant variety protection (and related rights);
  - Making interesting commercial contacts with other members;
- **CIOPORA's participation services**
  - As a member your voting rights will permit you to influence the policy and the decisions of CIOPORA;
  - You might get involved in one or more of the several internal working groups;
  - You might shape the future of CIOPORA.

**You believe a membership is too expensive?**

- The membership fee amounts only between 0.1% and 0.3% of your turnover and ensures you a wide variety of benefits.
- In relation to other costs, the membership fee is rather insignificant: The applications for PBR in the European Community and its maintenance for 25 years costs ca. 7.500 EUR per variety – and CIOPORA is constantly working on keeping these cost as low as possible.
- Breeding a new variety takes about 5 years and costs ten thousands of Euros/US-\$ - money which can only be earned back with efficient protection. CIOPORA is supporting you in realising your license fees e.g. by successfully taking influence on PBR legislation.
- Without efficient enforcement mechanisms for your rights, your PBR certificate is just an expensive piece of paper without any value – CIOPORA is heavily engaging in Anti-Infringement activities.

**You believe the work is done anyway?**

- This is what growers without licenses also do think ...
- Without sufficient funding the work cannot be continued.
- An increasing work-load demands for more members and rising contributions.