Plant varieties protection law: Not a law one encounters every day – but still vital for the survival of many breeders.

**Field of application**
Propagation of new varieties of crops and ornamental plants.

**Exclusions**
All varieties of plants which are not listed in the species directory of the law on the protection of plant varieties.

**Duration**
The duration of protection for plant varieties is 25 or, in exceptional cases, 30 years.

**Requirements**
The plant variety must be new, sufficiently uniform, stable and distinct, and must have a name capable of registration.

**Application and examination**
This is performed by the Federal Office for Plant Varieties in Hanover. The application must be accompanied by plants or seeds, because compliance with the requirements is checked by growing the plants.